An operator, inside the fuel receiving and storage facility at the West Valley Demonstration Project, pumps a fogging agent inside a pipe to fix suspected contamination. This work was part of the deactivation of the FRS, along with the removal of asbestos-containing material.

February 10, 2020

Springville Journal Staff

WEST VALLEY – A deactivation and decommissioning crew recently completed the safe removal of asbestos-containing material from inside the fuel receiving and storage facility. The piping and insulation inside the building contained ACM, which needed to be removed in preparation for future demolition. A total of 700 linear feet of piping was removed from the FRS over a period of five months, and the job was completed safely and compliantly. The FRS was used from 1965-1972 to receive and store spent nuclear fuel before it was reprocessed to recover reusable plutonium and uranium.

“This team used their combined knowledge and lessons learned from previous ACM work activities to safely complete this project,” DOE-WVDP Federal Project Director Steve Bousquet said. “The safe and compliant disposition of asbestos-containing material is another important step in the progress towards the future demolition of the FRS.”

D&D Crew Foreman Bill Freaney, commended his crew for their hard work and dedication to safety during the project.

“Working with asbestos-containing material is the most physically-challenging work at the site when you include radiological and industrial hazards, layers of protective clothing and limited mobility. This crew used lessons learned to enhance safety, improve efficiency and reduce exposure to job-related hazards. They put their collective knowledge into practice.”