



Waste Encapsulation Storage Facility: RAP Update

Presented to: River and Plateau
Committee and Tank Waste Committee

Presented by: DOE Management Project

May 2014

Results from Inspector General's Report

- Department goal as of January 2013 is to have a new repository sited by 2026 and operating by 2048
 - Therefore long-term stewardship of the capsules will require interim storage until final disposal can be achieved, no earlier than 35 years from now
- Richland management expresses support for interim dry storage, however due to funding constraints, Richland is driven to fund projects based on priority to meet regulatory milestones.
- “The Department is aware of the current safety conditions associated with the storage of cesium and strontium capsules at WESF and has taken actions to mitigate any risks associated with WESF. Furthermore, we acknowledge the budgetary challenges facing the Department, and its impact on moving the capsules to dry storage. Therefore, we are not making any formal recommendations. However suggest that the Manager, Richland Operations Office, expeditiously proceed with its plans to pursue a dry storage alternative to support transfer of the capsules out of WESF at the earliest possible timeframe.”

Status of Waste Encapsulation Storage Facility (WESF)

- Making progress on moving capsules to dry storage
 - 2017 TPA milestone to “determine a disposition path”
 - PRC has received responses to a Request for Information (RFI)
 - Current schedule is for Design and Procurement to take place in FY'17/18 and Construction in FY'19-22
 - RL would like to accelerate this schedule and has moved capsule dry storage up on RL's priority list but may be resource constrained
 - Due to no current National waste repository, we are planning for the an interim storage lifetime of 150 years

WESF Confinement Ventilation System Status

- November 2012 EM sent a letter to DNFSB providing an update on EM's progress in achieving closure of ventilation system gaps for the top 6 priority facilities, including WESF's K1 and K3 systems
- August 2013 RL issues letter to EM HQ proposing a restructured approach to focus on the K-3 portion of ventilation upgrades (area over the hot cells, canyon, and below-grade ducting)
- December 2013 RL issues letter to CHPRC requesting a proposal to begin engineering and design of K-3 upgrades and grouting the majority of the hot cells (MAR) and contaminated below-grade ducting
- March 14 RL received Change Proposal from CHPRC for DOE technical analysis