

## Plutonium Finishing Plant Update

For the Week Ending October 21, 2018

**Summary:** The Plutonium Finishing Plant (PFP) crew continued size-reducing demolition debris on the ground and continued loading waste containers for shipment to the Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility (ERDF). Using newly implemented enhanced controls, ERDF workers safely disposed of the first PFP waste received.

### Accomplishments: (Week of Oct. 15)

- Loaded the debris at the load out line that has been on the ground since December 2017.
- Transferred eight ERDF containers to the Container Transfer Area (CTA). The CTA is a radiologically controlled hand-off location to allow ERDF crews to pick up waste containers from the PFP.
- Shipped a total of 26 m<sup>3</sup> of waste to ERDF.

### Safety Issues or Concerns:

- On Oct. 22, PFP project management held project-wide safety meetings to review recent issues involving respiratory protection issuance and the importance of having a questioning attitude and paying attention to detail.
- During the week of Oct. 15, a PFP worker issued a stop work after the project experienced several failures of newly-purchased lapel air samplers. PFP management and workers resolved the stop work by testing run times and replacing battery chargers. Workers also identified a vibration sensitivity with the pumps, and will limit placement on where individuals can wear pumps to limit vibration sensitivity. PFP industrial hygiene will continue to monitor and perform testing trying to re-create failures, as well as working with the manufacturer to troubleshoot the issues.

### Radiological Issues or Concerns:

- On Oct. 19, after a seven-day decay count, an air sample located in the radiological buffer area near the contamination area boundary recorded 2.7 percent of a DAC (Derived Air Concentration, or level of radiological contamination in the air). The reading was less than the 30 percent of a DAC required for posting as an Airborne Radioactivity Area at the PFP. The PFP team is following enhanced radiological control procedures, including additional surveys and investigatory work. All cookie sheets surveys performed during the work and following the work showed no contamination above action levels, and the nearly 150 follow-up surveys performed showed no contamination above action levels.

### Contamination Discovered Outside the Radiological Buffer Area (RBA):

None

### Bioassays Requested:

None

### Upcoming Work:

- Ensuring infrastructure is in place for winter weather (warming shelters, etc.)
- Size reduction of demolition debris will continue near the northeast corner of the NE corner of the Main Processing Facility (234-5Z).
- No waste load out will occur the week of Oct. 22 as workers place steel plates to slightly raise the elevation of the load out areas; ERDF cans will then be placed on the steel plates for loading. This work, planned since December 2017, will improve safety in the load out areas.
- Workers will continue planning and constructing mock-ups and Management Assessment for higher-risk work.

### Employee Interface:

#### Summary:

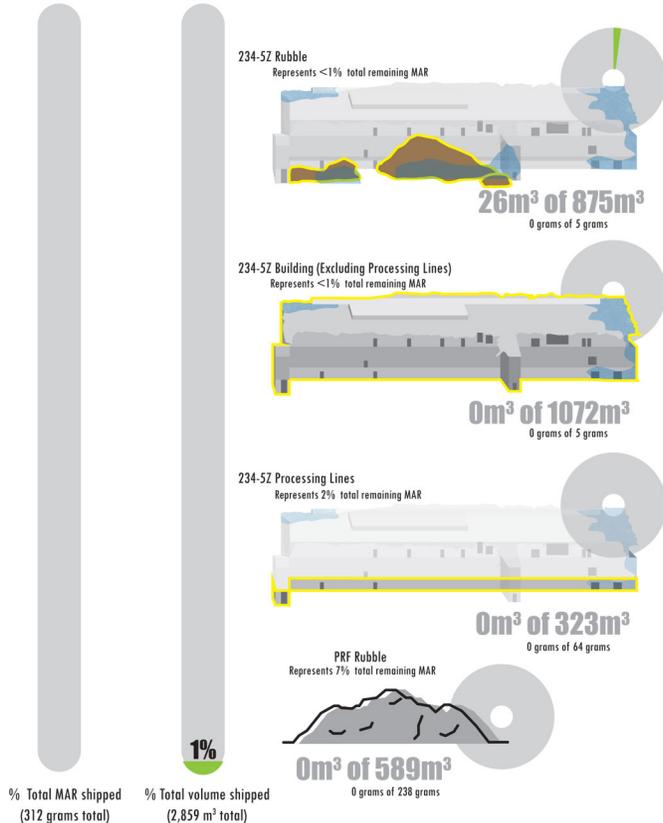
- On Oct. 22, PFP management will brief the HAMMER training facility's Medical Surveillance Subcommittee on the revised PFP demolition approach and enhanced controls.
- During the week of Oct. 15, PFP management held similar briefings to Mission Support Alliance employees.
- PFP management continues holding regular (bi-weekly) roundtables with employees.



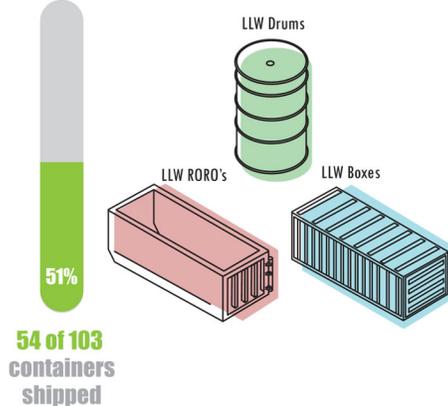
Photos from September (left) and October (right) show the removal of one of debris piles that have been on the ground since December.

# PFP HAZARD REDUCTION PROGRESS

## MAR and Waste Reduction During Demo



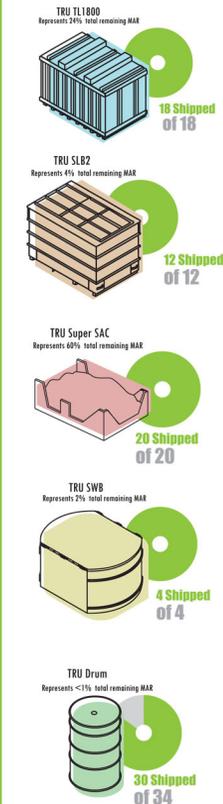
## Loaded Low Level Waste



## Loaded Universal/Hazardous Waste



## TRU Waste Dispositioning During Stabilization



MAR=Material at Risk (Plutonium)

PRF=Plutonium Reclamation Facility

TRU=Transuranic (Waste)

SWB=Standard Waste Box

234-5Z=Main Processing Facility

LLW RORO's=Low-Level Waste Roll-On Roll-Off Containers

SLB2=Standard Large Box 2