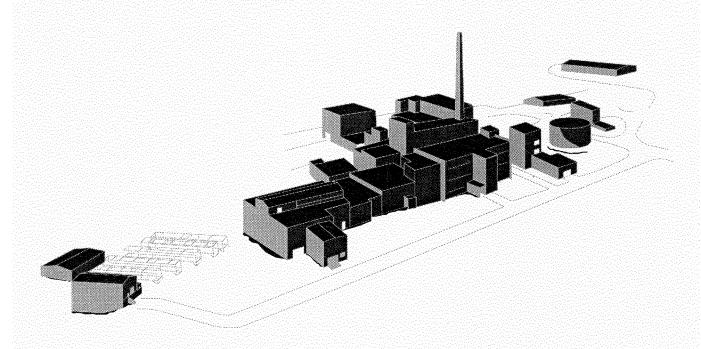
WEST VALLEY DEMONSTRATION PROJECT SITE ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT CALENDAR YEAR 1992



West Valley Nuclear Services Company, Inc. and Dames & Moore

Prepared for:
U.S. Department of Energy
Idaho Operations Office
West Valley Project Office
Under contract DE-AC07-81NE44139

May 1993 Rock Springs Road West Valley, New York 14171

West Valley Demonstration Project Site Environmental Report

for

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West Valley, New York 14171-0191



Department of Energy

Idaho Operations Office West Valley Project Office P.O. Box 191 West Valley, NY 14171

Greetings:

This report, prepared by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) West Valley Demonstration Project (WVDP) Office, contains a summary of radiological and nonradiological monitoring data collected by the Project during the 1992 calendar year. Please note that the monitoring data and the results provided in this report include both the premises being used by the DOE to conduct the Project and the New York State-licensed Disposal Area (SDA), which is controlled by and is the sole responsibility of New York State.

Collection and analysis of air, surface water, soil, and biological samples ensured detection of any possible off-site release of radioactive or hazardous material and provided the basis for a comprehensive evaluation of potential impacts. Radionuclide concentrations in biological samples were below detectable levels or statistically identical to background concentrations. In 1992 the Project again did not exceed or even approach any regulatory limit on effluent radioactivity or radiation dose. Calculated doses to the maximally exposed off-site individual from air- and waterborne releases were 0.05% of the DOE limit.

Nonradiological plant effluents are controlled and permitted by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Releases were below regulatory limits, with two minor exceptions occurring in treated wastewater discharges permitted under the New York State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES).

This 1992 report is the first to contain data from a full calendar year of operation of the new, expanded network of groundwater monitoring wells. While these monitoring data do not indicate a potential for immediate adverse effects on human health or the environment, evaluation of the need to mitigate minor residual contamination indicated by the data is in progress in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

The quality assurance program required by the Department of Energy through its West Valley Project Office includes control of sample collection and laboratory analysis as well as participation in crosschecks with other laboratories. Chapter 5 of this report provides a complete description of the Project's quality assurance program, which is designed to ensure the validity and accuracy of the monitoring data.

The information contained in this report demonstrates that public health and safety are being protected during operation of the WVDP. If you have any questions, please contact the West Valley Nuclear Services Company, Inc. (WVNS) Manager of Community Relations, John D. Chamberlain, at (716) 942-4610.

Sincerely,

T. J. Rowland, Director West Valley Project Office

Preface

Environmental monitoring at the West Valley Demonstration Project (WVDP) is conducted by the West Valley Nuclear Services Company, Inc. (WVNS), under contract to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). The data collected provide an historical record of radionuclide and radiation levels from natural and manmade sources in the survey area. The data also document the quality of the groundwater on and around the site and the quality of the air and water discharged by the Project.

This report represents a single, comprehensive source of off-site and on-site environmental monitoring data collected during 1992 by WVNS environmental monitoring personnel. The data are found in the appendices following this report. Appendix A is a summary of the site environmental monitoring schedule. Appendix B lists the environmental permits and regulations pertaining to the West Valley Demonstration Project. Appendices C through E contain summaries of data obtained during 1992 and are intended for those interested in more detail than is provided in the main body of the report.

Requests for additional copies of the 1992 Site Environmental Report and questions regarding the report should be referred to the WVDP Community Relations Department, P.O. Box 191, Rock Springs Road, West Valley, New York 14171 (716-942-4610).