By the Numbers
West Valley Demonstration Project

Updated May 2021

The West Valley Demonstration Project (WVDP) is a radioactive waste management and decommissioning project, which is being conducted by the Department of Energy (DOE) at the site of the only commercial nuclear fuel reprocessing plant to have operated in the United States. The Western New York Nuclear Service Center and its facilities are owned by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority. The mission of the DOE is to satisfy three mandates established by Congress in the WVDP Act of 1980.

DOE has completed the first mandate of the Act. The 278 canisters of vitrified high-level waste from the former spent fuel reprocessing plant have been removed from the Main Plant Process Building and placed into vertical storage casks. Demolition and waste disposition of the Vitrification Facility were completed in September 2018 and January 2019, respectively. The deactivation of the Main Plant Process Building continues, and is 91 percent complete. DOE continues to package and ship low-level waste from the WVDP site.

68
surplus facilities have been removed from the site.

>2.4M
cubic feet of low-level waste have been shipped off-site for disposal.

>7 miles
of piping and over 50 tons of vessels and equipment have been removed from predominantly high-hazard areas of the former reprocessing plant.

~36,000 square feet
of asbestos-containing material was removed from the former reprocessing plant.

By 2023
WVDP will focus on completing remaining facility decommissioning activities, including demolition of the last remaining major building – the former Main Plant Process Building.

24M
curies of radioactivity were solidified in 600 tons of glass contained in 275 stainless steel canisters.

28,049
cubic feet of transuranic waste are stored onsite pending availability of an off-site disposal facility.

278 waste containers
of vitrified high-level radioactive waste were removed from the storage cell in the former reprocessing plant, loaded into 56 vertical storage casks, and stored onsite awaiting a permanent repository.

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