

Collaboration Results in Reliable Power for West Valley Cleanup



A crew installs electrical equipment at the West Valley Demonstration Project's new switchgear station.

WEST VALLEY, N.Y. – [EM](#) workers recently installed a new electrical service and distribution system at the [West Valley Demonstration Project](#) (WVDP), providing more reliable power to cleanup operations.

“The completion of this work evolution will not only bring many benefits to the future cleanup of our EM site but also to the West Valley community,” EM WVDP Deputy Director Craig Rieman said. “This infrastructure upgrade will greatly increase the site’s electrical power reliability during future decommissioning and remediation activities now and will provide a reliable source of power for future cleanup activities.”

Rieman added that the infrastructure investment will make electrical power more dependable for the surrounding West Valley area, too.



Workers perform tests at the West Valley Demonstration Project's new switchgear station.

EM and cleanup contractor CH2M HILL BWXT West Valley (CHBWV) collaborated with the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) and the local gas and electricity utility to relocate transmission lines, remove a decades-old electrical substation, and install modern equipment. EM and CHBWV conduct cleanup at the site in cooperation with NYSERDA.

“Our employees and subcontractors did an excellent job in planning and executing this work,” said Linda Michalczak, CHBWV projects manager. “This accomplishment speaks volumes on the importance of solid communication, teamwork, and best practices.”

Crews installed new poles, overhead power lines, and a protective fence. They also built a new electrical substation and switchgear station.

The latest electrical service and distribution system upgrades add to other recent infrastructure improvements at WVDP, including a data center, potable water system, and natural gas distribution system.

-Contributor: Joseph Pillittere



West Valley Employees Paint, Landscape, and Build for Nonprofits

WEST VALLEY, N.Y. – Employees at [EM West Valley Demonstration Project \(WVDP\)](#) recently helped two local nonprofits with landscaping, maintenance, and other work as part of United Way volunteer efforts.

One WVDP team painted three classrooms at Delevan Head Start, and removed weeds, raked leaves, and added mulch to the school's playground. A second team installed a new 120-foot-long wooden fence at Springville Youth, Inc., which offers recreational activities.



West Valley Demonstration Project employees cleared weeds, cleaned, and placed new mulch on the playground at Delevan Head Start.

West Valley Demonstration Project employees construct a fence at the Springville Youth, Inc. facility.



Lettie Chilson, a United Way Day of Caring coordinator and facility manager with WVDP cleanup contractor CH2M HILL BWXT West Valley (CHBWV), said the volunteering speaks to the generosity and kindness of employees and local businesses.

“It shows the positive impact that kindness can have on a community,” Chilson said.

Scott Anderson, CHBWV president and general manager, said he was grateful that employees work hard all week and then give a day’s worth of their free time to worthy causes.

“This clearly demonstrates the commitment our employees have for their community,” Anderson said.

-Contributor: Joseph Pillittere