



West Valley Protects Environment With Erosion Control Measures



An employee walks near a new erosion control measure installed on the north slope of an inactive disposal area at EM's [West Valley Demonstration Project Site](#).

WEST VALLEY, N.Y. – Workers helped safeguard the environment at [EM's West Valley Demonstration Project \(WVDP\) Site](#) by safely installing interlocking concrete blocks to prevent soil erosion at an inactive disposal area closed years ago.

Known as protective armoring, the blocks were placed on a slope along the north side of the disposal area as well as a drainage channel.

"This work will continue to protect the integrity of the disposal area, and prevent any potential harm to the environment from weather-related damage," EM WVDP Director Bryan Bower said.



A crew moves a section of interlocking concrete blocks for placement at a closed disposal area at the **West Valley Demonstration Project Site**.



Workers installed interlocking concrete blocks to prevent erosion along a closed disposal area's north slope, pictured here, at the **West Valley Demonstration Project Site**.

The erosion control project follows the [demolition of a facility housing a former liquid pretreatment system earlier this year](#). An existing protective cover over the disposal area was extended over the site of that facility as part of this project.



The disposal area contains 360,000 cubic feet of buried waste from past spent fuel reprocessing and cleanup operations.

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Celebrating 30 Years of EM: Employee Spotlight

Ken Armstrong

Environmental Management
Consolidated Business Center (EMCBC)
Associate Deputy Director

Ken is the consummate professional – an individual who is completely reliable with outstanding professional judgement. He is directly responsible for overseeing Separations Process Research Unit, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, West Valley Demonstration Project, Moab, Energy Technology Engineering Center, Brookhaven, and DOE-EM Nevada Field Operations Sites. Ken has melded his experience as a DOE contractor with his federal civilian career to bring projects to a successful conclusion.

What Ken brings to EM is his calm and determined demeanor in resolving difficult and complex issues. With an impressive dedication and commitment to his job, Ken has been a strong advocate and representative for the EM small site effort.

He represents the best of EM, including intelligence, dedication to the mission, and concern for the public and workers alike.

