

West Valley Demonstration Project safely relocates eight high-integrity containers



Photo provided

Using a 360-ton crane, crews lift one of eight High-Integrity Containers in its concrete shielding container from its location near the Main Plant Process Building onto a flatbed trailer. Each HIC will be overpacked and shipped off-site for disposal.

The Department of Energy and its cleanup contractor CH2M HILL BWXT West Valley, LLC recently completed the relocation of eight, High- Integrity Containers contained within their concrete shield containers, ranging in weight from 68,000 to 80,000 pounds, from their location near the Main Plant Process Building at the **West Valley Demonstration Project**.

Each HIC contains water filtering materials from the former Fuel Receiving and Storage facility water treatment system. The FRS was historically used to receive and store spent nuclear fuel during fuel reprocessing operations from 1966 to 1972.

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“This accomplishment allows us to continue preparations for the future deconstruction of the Main Plant Process Building,” DOE-WVDP MPPB Demolition Project Stephen Bousquet said. “The completion of this work clears the way for equipment operators to perform a safe and controlled deconstruction of the Main Plant.”

A tractor with a low-boy trailer (very low deck to carry tall loads) was backed into the demolition area. Using a mobile 360-ton crane, each shielded HIC was moved from their location onto the trailer. Once the container was secured, the trailer was driven out of the area to another location where it was removed with a 240-ton mobile crane. Each shielded HIC was safely and deliberately lifted from the trailer and placed in its new location on the site.

Each concrete shield container with the HIC inside, will be overpacked in an approved Department of Transportation overpack and shipped off-site for disposal.

“Our team continues to use their combined knowledge to safely and deliberately complete high risk work activities,” CHBWW Waste and Site Operations Manager Peggy Loop said. “I’m proud of their efforts, accomplishments and in the work they continue to do on this project.”