# STURGIS MH-1A DECOMMISSIONING UPDATE AND LESSONS LEARNED

#### WM2018

Session 097b US Army Corps of Engineers - Deactivated NPP Program D&D Contracting Opportunities

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CONCES

# **STURGIS DECOMMISSIONING TOPICS**

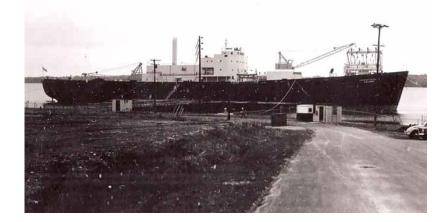
- History
- D&D Planning
- Operational Update
- MARSAME
- Waste
- Radiation Safety







# FIRST BARGE MOUNTED NUCLEAR POWER PLANT



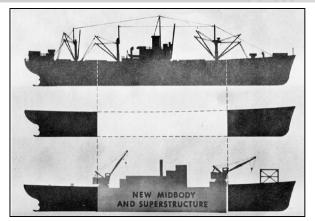
- The former World War II Liberty Ship, SS Charles H. Cugle, was converted into a floating nuclear power plant in 1966
- STURGIS was the first barge mounted nuclear plant to regularly supply power to a shore station
- The STURGIS' nuclear reactor, MH-1A, was used to generate electricity for military and civilian use in the Panama Canal Zone from 1968-1976







# THE STURGIS IS A HISTORIC PROPERTY



**Design schematic from 1959** 

- During decommissioning, USACE will preserve items of historic interest, including an electronic repository of documents
- During the Decommissioning Planning phase, USACE entered into Memorandum of Agreement with the Virginia State Historic Preservation Office to mitigate the adverse effects of the decommissioning





# FUEL REMOVAL AND PREPARED FOR LONG-TERM STORAGE

- In 1977 after completing its mission, the STURGIS returned to Fort Belvoir where the nuclear fuel was removed, and the vessel was prepared for safe long-term storage
- The STURGIS was maintained in James River Reserve Fleet at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, VA from 1978 - 2015
- USACE performed quarterly monitoring in the James River until 2015 when the STURGIS was moved to Galveston, TX for Final Decommissioning



# STURGIS – MH-1A CHARACTERIZATION CONFIRMS VERY LOW RADIATION LEVELS

- The vessel's radiological and chemical contaminants were evaluated in 2001
- The extensive characterization confirmed that radiation levels had decayed within the reactor access compartment to safe working levels
- Data collected supported cost estimating for decommissioning funding requests





# **MH-1A STURGIS DECOMMISSIONING PLANNING**

- Decommissioning Plan Final (Rev1) 14 March 2014
- NEPA
  - EA 15 April 2014
  - FONSI Final 21 April 2014
  - Section 106, MOA 2 May 2014
- Decommissioning Permit issued 9 May 2014
- Contract Actions
  - Initial award 27 March 2014 \$34.6M
  - GAO Protest Filed 14 April 2014 and subsequently withdrawn 21 May 2014
  - Contract modification in Aug 2016 for the amount of \$17.3M
  - Contract modification in July 2017 for the amount of \$14.5M



File Name

# **EXECUTION OF WORK**

## **Planning Documents**

- Decommissioning Plan
- MCSRP and Survey Unit Packages
- UFP/QAPP
- APP/RPP
- Waste Management Plan
- Physical Security Plan
- Environmental Monitoring Plan
- Technical Work Documents
- Work Instructions
- Radiation Work Permits
- AHA/JSA

File Name

- Critical Lift Plans
- ALARA Assessments
- Field Work Variances
- Daily Quality Control Reports

## Implementation

- Experienced Supervision
  - Crew Supervision
  - Site Management
  - Safety and Radiation Safety
  - Rigging Expert
- Trained Labor Force
  - Rad Worker 2
  - HAZWOPER and HAZMAT
  - Containment/Glove Bag Training
- Oversight
  - Radiological Controls
  - Quality
  - Safety
  - Critical Lifts
- Project SharePoint Site for document control and repository





# **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Overall Project Management USACE Baltimore District
- APTIM (formerly CB&I): Project Management
  - Includes Site Manager, Safety, RSO, Quality
  - Engineering of Work Packages
- Atkins (formerly Energy Solutions): Waste Management and Radiological Controls
  - RCTs
  - Waste Characterization and Packaging
- Waste Control Specialists: Waste Transportation and Disposal
  - Transport and disposal at facility in Andrews, Texas
- Malin International Shipyard: Shipyard Support
  - Dockside Support (Crane and Equipment Operators, Electrician, Welders, Naval Architect)



# **MH-1A STURGIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- All major reactor components have been successfully removed
- Ongoing waste shipments;
  - Debris 68 radiological shipments to WCS, ~1,375,000 lbs.
  - Water 33 shipments to US Ecology TX ~1,150,000 lbs.
  - Lead recycled to date ~600,000 lbs.
- 42 MARSAME Survey Unit Package/Plans finalized (100% complete)
  - Surveys implemented 36
  - ORISE completed IV and/or side by side measurements in 16 survey units
  - Reports finalized 26
- Radiation dose to date 4,081 mrem total which is ~30% of projected dose budget; highest individuals (2) 600-700 mrem
- Risk mitigation is ongoing and providing positive results

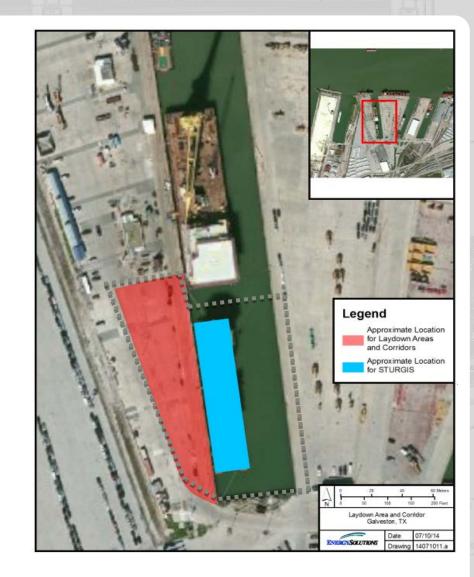




# SITE MOBILIZATION AND TRAINING

Initial activities that established the shipyard infrastructure

- Site security
- Environmental Baseline and Monitoring established
- Staging areas for the planned work including ship access, industrial hygiene preparation, and decontamination areas
- Materials storage areas and project offices/crew facilities
- Work crews hired and trained
  - Rad Worker
  - Rigging
  - HAZWOPER/Hazmat
  - Containments







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# **RELOCATION OF STURGIS FROM JAMES RIVER RESERVE FLEET, VA TO GALVESTON, TX**

Towing delayed 6 months due to concerns raised by Galveston City Council

- The STURGIS tow was initiated on April 16 and it arrived at the Malin Shipyard (Pier 40/41 at the Port of Galveston) on April 29 - 6 days ahead of schedule
- Hull was scamped in the JRRF prior to tow
- Towing was by a licensed towing contractor in accordance with the requirements of the U.S.
   Navy Towing Manual
- Towing Plan approved by USACE and USCG
- Licensed pilots were used in port areas
- Ballast remained on board and for processing Galveston

Lesson Learned: 80% of the ballast water was RCRA hazardous waste (D008) from lead paint and required stabilization prior to disposal



# **STURGIS DECOMMISSIONING PREPARATIONS**

Established the shipboard infrastructure on the STURGIS

- Boarding ramps
- Safety upgrades
- Hurricane Plan
- Controlled areas/zones established within the existing superstructure
- Radiological support area/laboratory
- Power infrastructure including emergency power installed
- HVAC systems installed
- Onboard crane refurbished

Lesson Learned: Shipboard infrastructure took significantly longer than planned due to complexity of installation, temperatures in Galveston, lead based paints, and understanding of shipboard systems





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# PREPARATION FOR DECOMMISSIONING

- Accessed and inspected Reactor Access Compartment (RAC) and the Reactor Containment Vessel (RCV) – repeat of USACE activity of 1999.
  - Determined the overall condition, material present, and to confirm radiological conditions/dose rates
  - Determined dose rate from Reactor Pressure Vessel (RPV)
  - Used Laser Scanners to develop Point Cloud of RAC and RCV



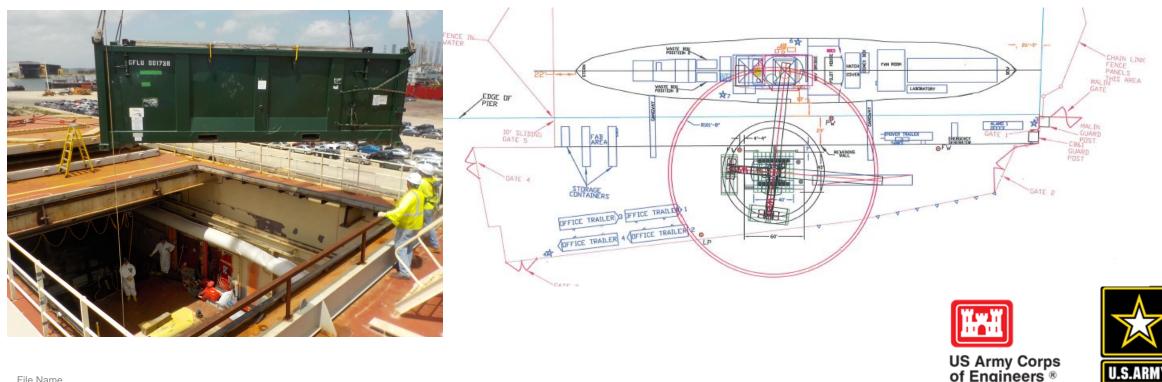






# **ESTABLISH ACCESS TO REFUELING ROOM**

- Design and install roof penetrations to remain in place (providing containment) and be removed only for lifting operations
- The covers are weather tight and designed for severe weather conditions that can occur in the Galveston area



# **REMOVAL OF MATERIALS FROM REFUELING ROOM**

All items were assumed to be impacted, and were disposed

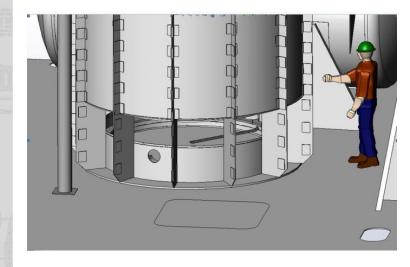






# **REMOVE SPENT FUEL STORAGE TANK**

- The SFST was sealed in 1977 and contained an assortment of contaminated materials and equipment
- 27 feet tall X 8 feet diameter, ~ 55k pounds
- SFST was prepared, characterized, filled and bagged as removed from the STURGIS

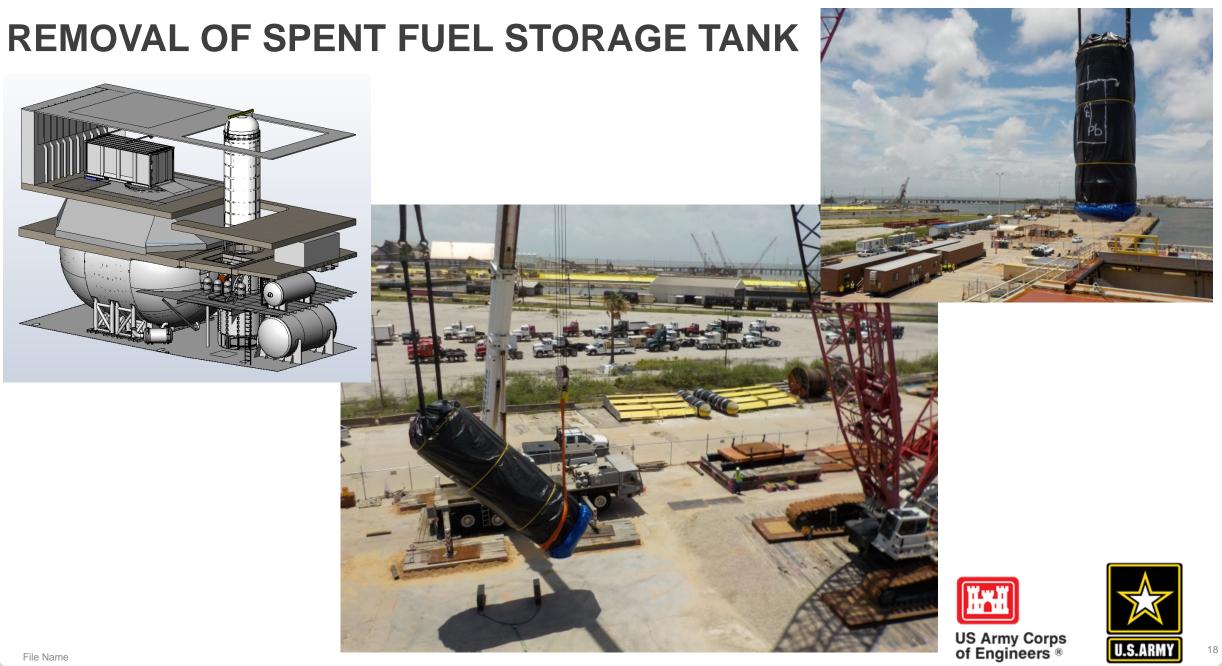








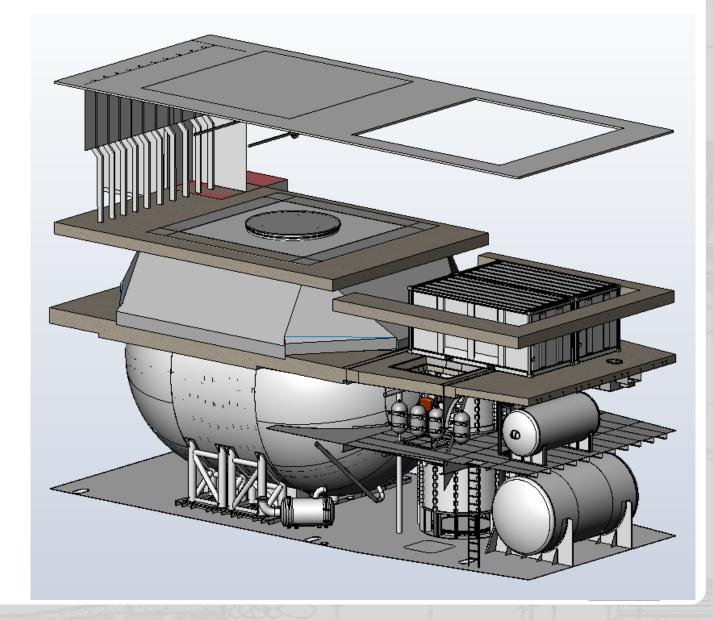




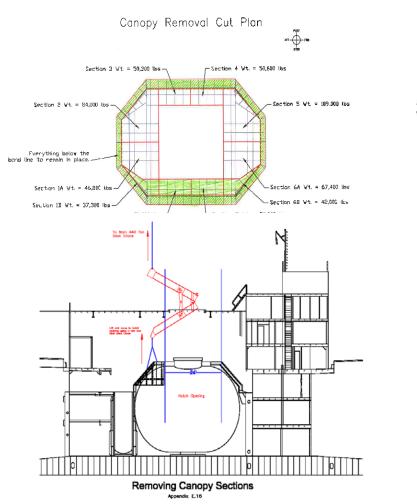
# **DECOMMISSIONING ACTIVITIES**

- Removed Materials from Refueling Room
  - Following removal of SFST
  - Removal of remaining items in Refueling Room including Mezzanine Deck
  - Allowed placement of IMCs

Lessons Learned: Engineering Costs were significantly underestimated



# REMOVAL OF CANOPY SECTIONS TO OBTAIN ACCESS TO REACTOR CONTAINMENT VESSEL



Rev 2

Securing items for lift



Historical photo of the canopy

Photo of the reactor containment vessel with the canopy being removed



Lifts using the V-Bar

# CANOPY REMOVAL ACTIVITIES













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# **CANOPY REMOVAL ACTIVITIES**













# **CANOPY REMOVAL ENCOUNTERED SIGNIFICANT DELAYS**

- Heat stress work rest cycles
- Lead/asbestos dust generated from cutting operations required safety precautions (Respirators, Containment)
- Review of engineering drawings did not adequately identify the design of the Canopy and additional drilling/tapping/epoxy holes for lifting and stability of canopy pieces were required
- Prep work for wire saw cut including lead paint removal, pulley mounting, wire saw 2" cut holes, containment set up, post-cut cleanup and containment breakdown requires approximately 2 days for each cut

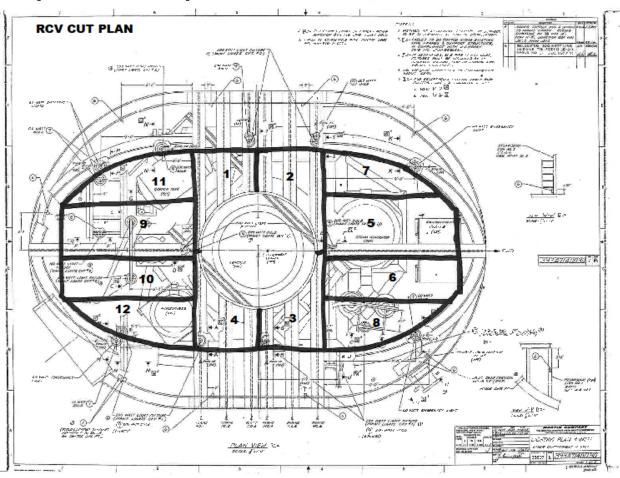
Lesson Learned: Initial schedule did not include sufficient time for set up of containment and other precautions necessary to complete tasks safely



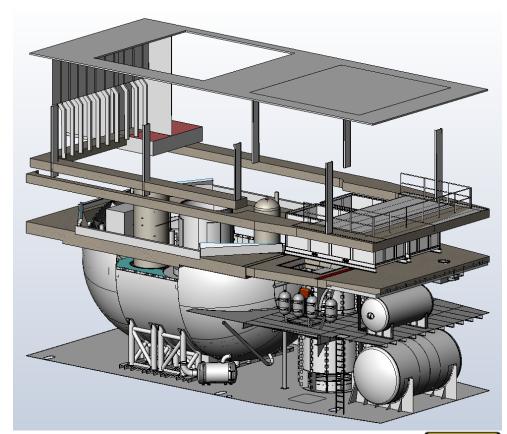


# PREPARE OVERHEAD ACCESS TO REACTOR CONTAINMENT VESSEL

#### **Top View – 12 specific cuts**



#### **Opens access to the large components**

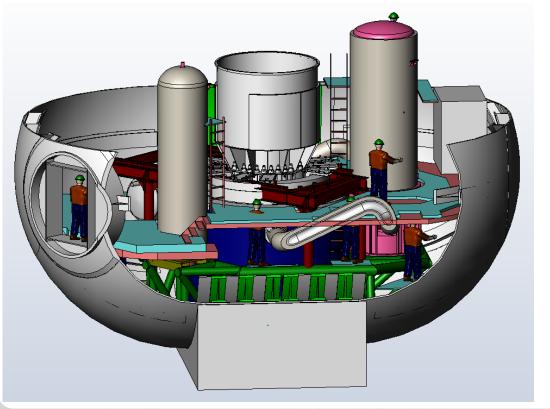


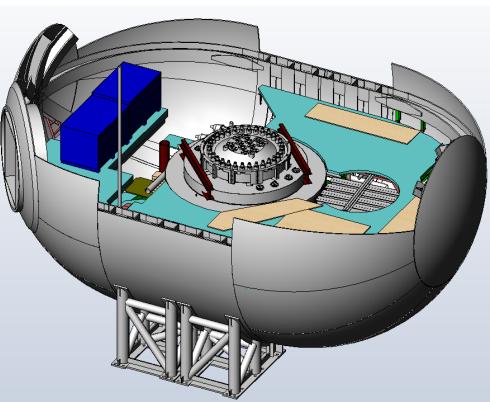




# **REMOVAL OF LARGE COMPONENTS**

- Removed to make room of RPV removal
- Items included steam generator, pressurizer, coolant pumps, refueling shield tank, ductwork, and reactor head dolly
- Items were removed for direct disposal

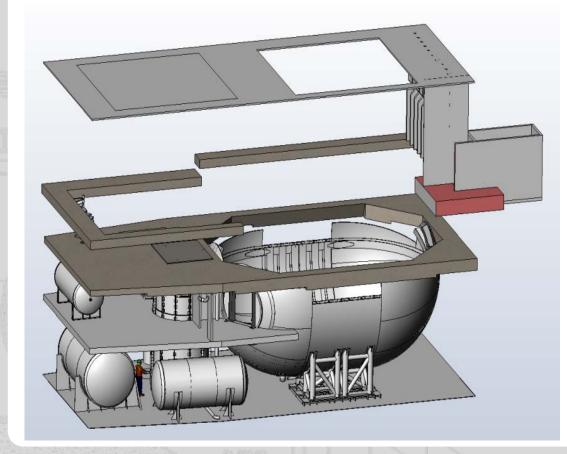


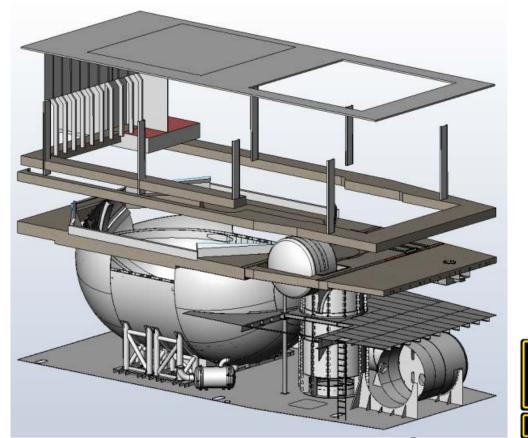




# REMOVE COMPONENTS FROM REACTOR ACCESS COMPARTMENT

- Numerous smaller reactor components, most related to waste processing including tanks, pumps, valves, and piping
- Materials located on Platform and Tank Top Deck

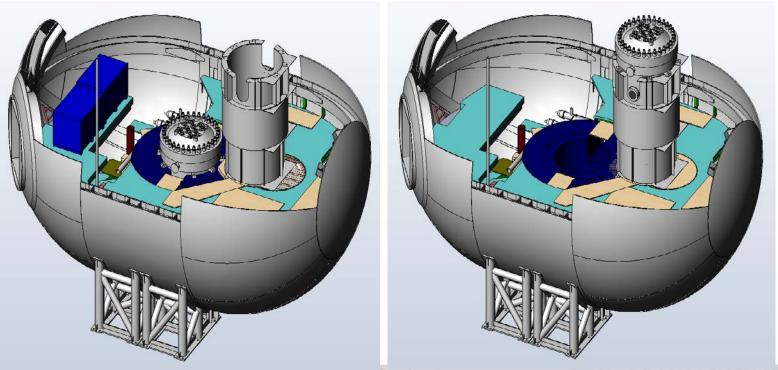






# **REMOVAL OF THE REACTOR PRESSURE VESSEL**

- RPV was activated and expected to have significant dose rate
- A shielded transport container was built to comply with transportation requirements. It was staged inside the RCV as shown below to allow the RPV to be placed inside the container within containment.
- Shielded shipping container and RPV were removed from STURGIS for transport on 20 May 2017

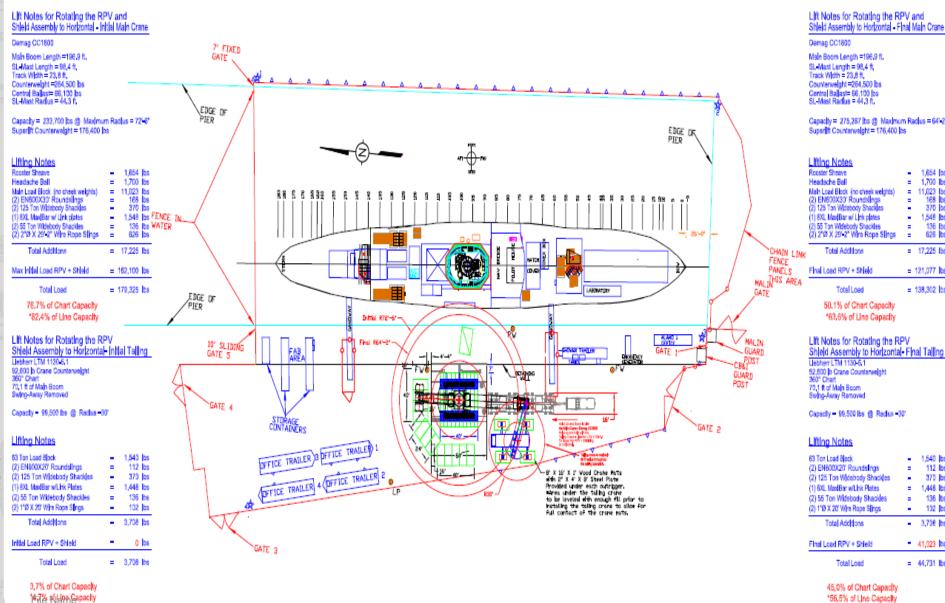


Title to the RPV was transferred to the Department of Energy for disposal purposes at WCS – DOE and USACE signed agreement on 5 May 2017





## **CRITICAL LIFT PLAN TO REMOVE RPV**



#### Capacity = 275,287 lbs @ Maximum Radius = 64'-2" Superlift Counterweight = 176,400 lbs 1,654 bs = 1,700 lbs = 11,023 lbs 168 bs 370 bs 1,548 bs 136 lbs 626 bs = 17,225 lbs = 121,077 bs = 138,302 lbs Shield Assembly to Horizontal- Final Tailing

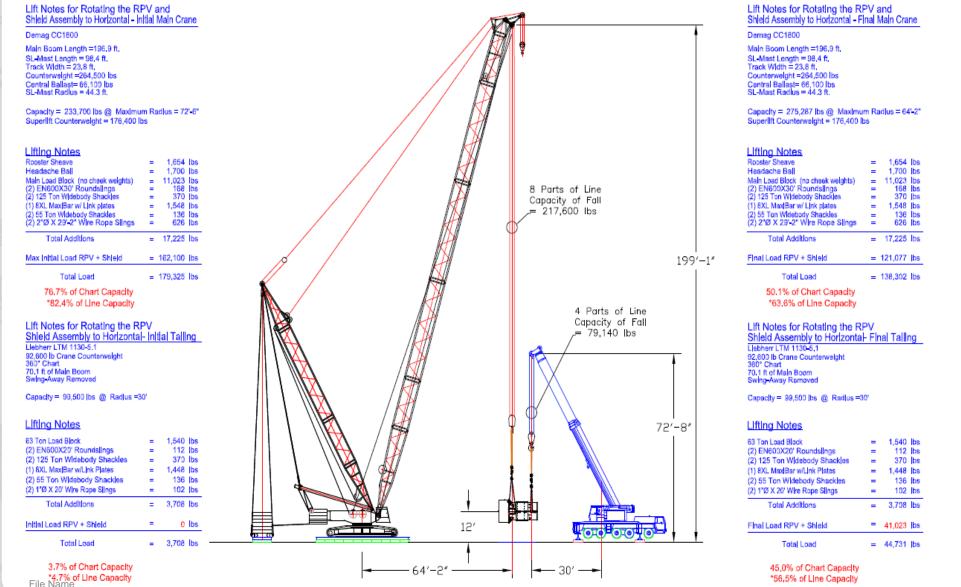
=	112	bs
	370	bs
-	1,448	bs
-	136	bs
	102	bs
•	3,708	bş
•	41,023	ba
4	44,731	bs
	-	- 370





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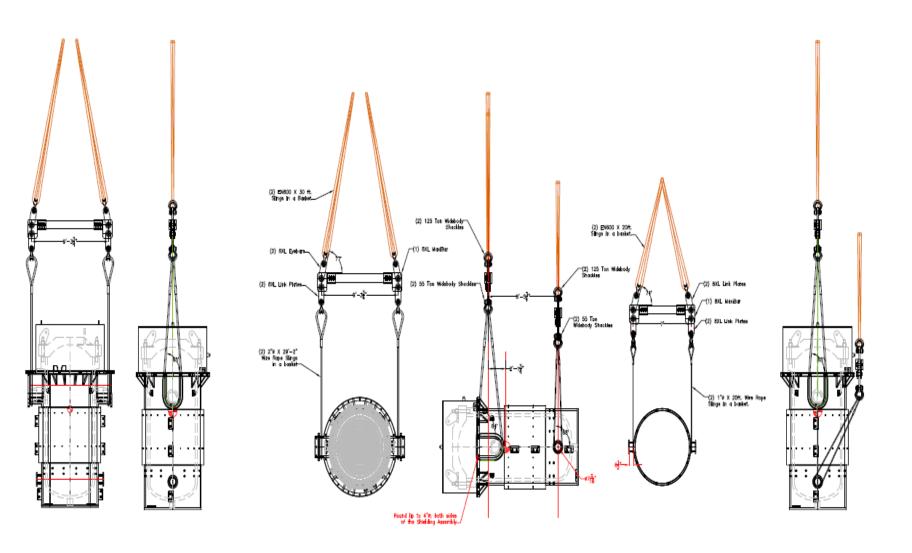
# **CRITICAL LIFT PLAN TO REMOVE (TAILING)**



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# **CRITICAL LIFT PLAN TO REMOVE RPV (RIGGING)**

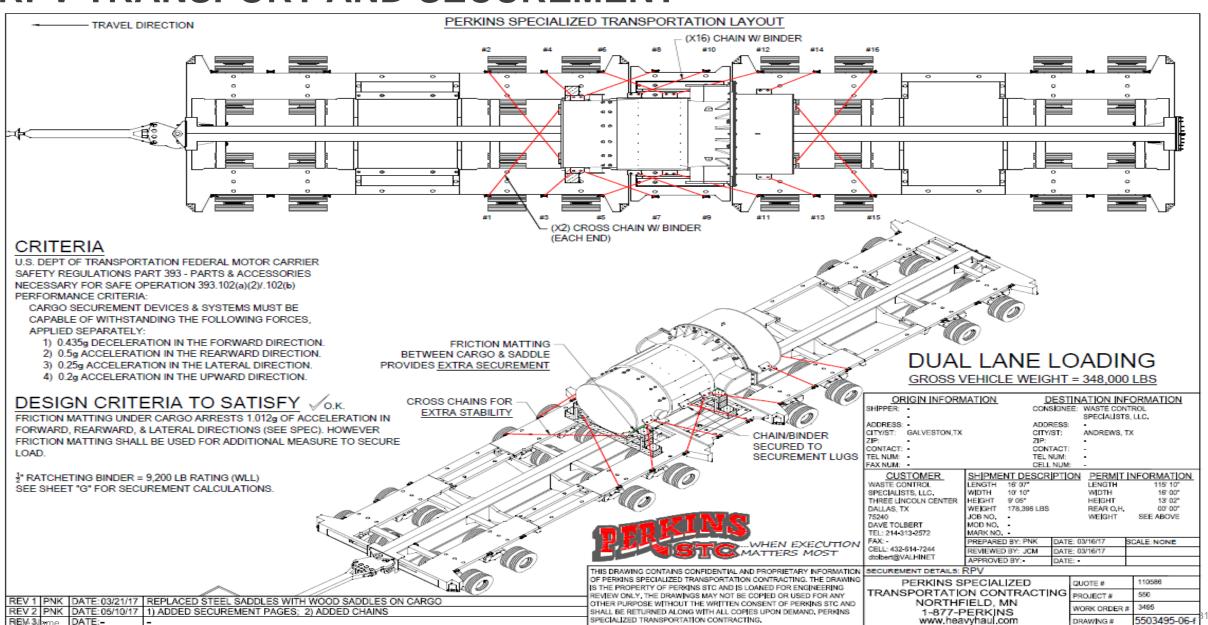






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## **RPV TRANSPORT AND SECUREMENT**



## **STURGIS RPV DISPOSAL STORYBOARD MAY - JULY 2017**



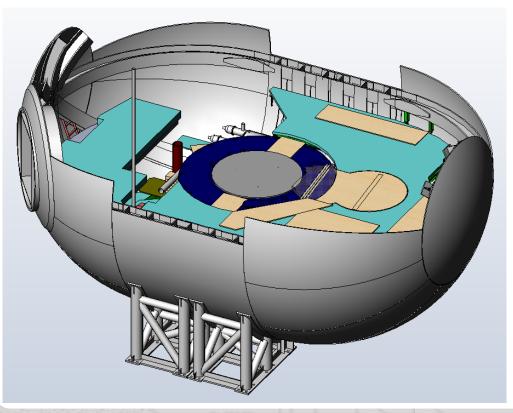
Reactor Pressure Vessel (RPV) Removed from Primary Shield Tank, Sealed in the Shielded Container, Secured onto the Transport Vehicle

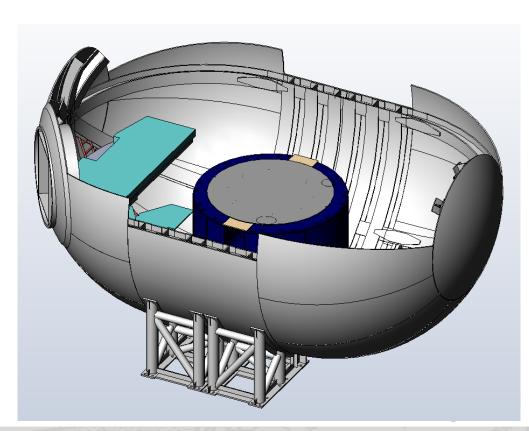


RPV and Shielded Container are Moved into the Waste Control Specialists Federal Waste Facility Disposal Cell and Encased in Concrete

# **REMOVE REMAINING ITEMS FROM RCV**

- Smaller components including surge tanks, instrumentation, cabling, ventilation systems, as well as floor gratings, ladders, etc.
- Material will be disposed of as Low Level Waste
- Only remaining item were PST





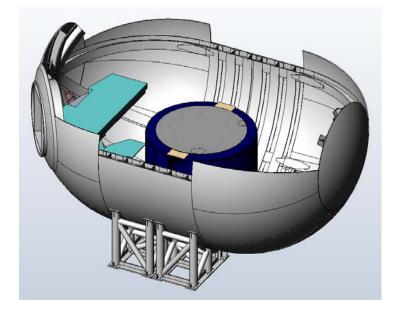


# **REMOVAL OF THE PRIMARY SHIELD TANK**

- PST Inner wall was activated and had significant dose rate (~4 R/hr)
- Shielded transport container was fabricated and is being used for shipments
- Inner wall and ion detectors were removed first to reduce dose
- Balance of unit was sectioned for disposal

### **Overall Approach**

•	Cut the top flange and plate. Phase 1
•	Access and removal of lead shot in selected compartments of the outer wall.
•	Access and removal of gravel in water jacket. Phase 2
•	Cutting of coolant channels adjacent to inner wall.
•	Removal of temporary shielding in PST inner chamber.
•	Locating and drilling pilot holes for wire saw.
•	Installation of wire saw and sectioning and removal of the inner wall, including the
	Ion Detector Housings.
•	Ion Detector Housings.
:	Ion Detector Housings.
-	Ion Detector Housings. Removal of the balance of lead shot Phase 3
:	Ion Detector Housings.Removal of the balance of lead shot Removal of the outer and middle wall.Phase 3
•	Ion Detector Housings.          Removal of the balance of lead shot       Phase 3         Removal of the outer and middle wall.       Phase 3         Removal of the remaining bottom portion of the PST, including lead sheeting and
•	Ion Detector Housings.          Removal of the balance of lead shot       Phase 3         Removal of the outer and middle wall.       Phase 3         Removal of the remaining bottom portion of the PST, including lead sheeting and shielding.       State of the sheeting and sheeting and sheeting and sheeting and sheeting.

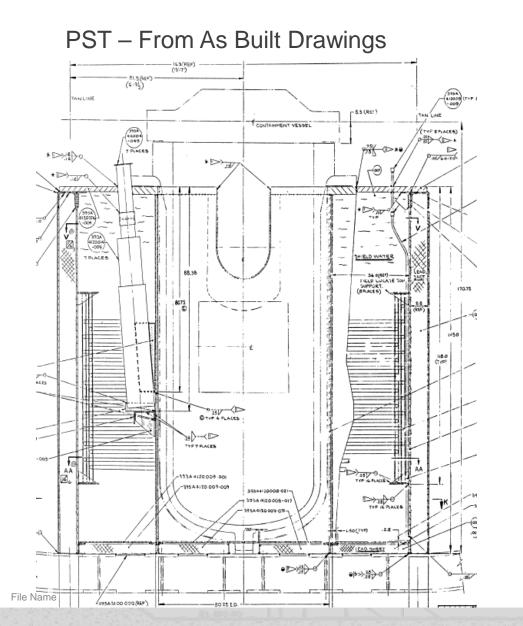




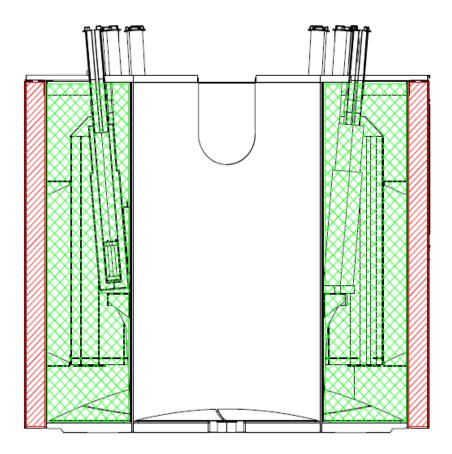


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**PRIMARY SHIELD TANK** 



### PST D&D Planning Documents







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# **PRIMARY SHIELD TANK**

- Crews sized inner wall of PST with Diamond Wire to fit into off the shelf bags sized for placement into a WCS Federal Waste Facility Modular Concrete Container
  - Drill holes for rigging and wire saw cutting
  - Remove gravel from middle section of PST
  - Remove Pb from outer section compartments to allow holes to be drilled for wire saw
  - Design and construct shielded IP-1 shipping container
  - Lift and place section into bag within shielded container
- Inner wall of PST to be cut into 6 sections and placed in 3 bags
- Outer and Middle wall sized to fit into IMC
- Removed remaining Lead below PST



# MH1-A STURGIS – DECOMMISSIONING COMPLETION

- Upon completion of decommissioning activities in Galveston, the STURGIS will be radiologically released for future dismantlement
- After release, the STURGIS will be towed to Brownsville for shipbreaking at a commercial facility
- Port of Galveston, Pier 41 will be surveyed and released allowing for the ARO permit to be terminated





#### **MATERIALS CATEGORIZATION, SURVEY, AND RELEASE PLAN**

- Based on:
  - Sturgis Decommissioning Plan
  - NUREG-1575 MARSAME (supplement to MARSSIM)
  - NUREG-1640 Radiological Assessments for Clearance of Materials from Nuclear Facilities





# **STURGIS DECOMMISSIONING PLAN**

- The DP provides a detailed description of the approach that the USACE intends to use to assess the radiological status of STURGIS, to remove the MH-1A reactor and other radioactive materials attributable to the permitted past operations, to disposition all onboard components, equipment and structural materials on the barge, and terminate the reactor permit
- Assumptions related to our use and interpretation of MARSAME and NUREG-1640 were presented within this DP





#### MARSAME

- MARSAME was used as guidance for survey and release of M&E associated with decommissioning STURGIS
- Our use of MARSAME is similar to MARSSIM because we chose to use mostly MARSSIM-type, method-based survey designs. There are also differences such as the use of sentinel surveys in "unknown" areas
- We also designed scan only method-based survey designs to survey and release lead-based painted surfaces prior to removal of paint material for disposal as RCRA hazardous waste





#### **NUREG-1640**

- NUREG-1640 (Vol 1) provides probabilistic estimates of annual dose to an individual following the clearance of specific materials (iron and steel, copper, aluminum, and concrete rubble) from licensed nuclear facilities
- One of the pathways addressed is the recycling of steel scrap. This scenario was analyzed with the 115 radionuclides considered most likely to be associated with materials from licensed nuclear facilities
- 1640's design basis enables the conversion of a dose criterion to a concentration





#### PROCESS

- Step 1- We incorporated a 1mrem/yr release criterion for our critical receptor. This was intended to correspond to the conservative release criterion used for the clearance of items and materials from rad controlled areas, as presented in ANSI N13.12
- Step 2- We identified in 1640 (Table 3.22) the most limiting result for our ROCs from the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile data column. We converted that result in mrem/y per pCi/m<sup>2</sup> to dpm/100 cm<sup>2</sup>. Our gross beta DCGL for 1mrem/yr, based on most limiting Co-60, was calculated to be 1,590 dpm/100 cm<sup>2</sup>. Co-60 dose is caused to "scrap yard" critical receptor





Table 4-2 Action Levels Based on 1 mrem/yr Dose Limit (Table 8 of the DP)

Nuclide	Recycled Copper (pCi/g per mrem/yr)	Recycled Steel (dpm/100 cm <sup>2</sup> per mrem/yr)	Recycled Concrete (pCi/g per mrem/yr)
Detectable Radionuclides			
<sup>60</sup> Co	108.7	1,590	0.50
<sup>s4</sup> Nb	142.9	2,780	0.83
<sup>152</sup> Eu	N/A	N/A	1.1
<sup>154</sup> Eu	N/A	N/A	1.0
Hard to Detect Radionuclides			
ЗН	6.25.E+05	4.27.E+06	900
<sup>14</sup> C	4.35.E+05	6.37.E+06	1,000
⁵⁵Fe	2.63.E+06	1.85.E+08	66,000
<sup>59</sup> Ni	4.35.E+06	1.85.E+08	83,000
<sup>63</sup> Ni	2.13.E+06	1.71E.+08	66,000

Sum of Fractions =

 $\frac{\text{Detectable }\beta - \gamma \ dpm/100 cm^2}{1,590 \ dpm/100 cm^2} + \frac{\text{HTD } dpm/100 cm^2}{4.27 x 10^5 \ dpm/100 cm^2} < 1$ 

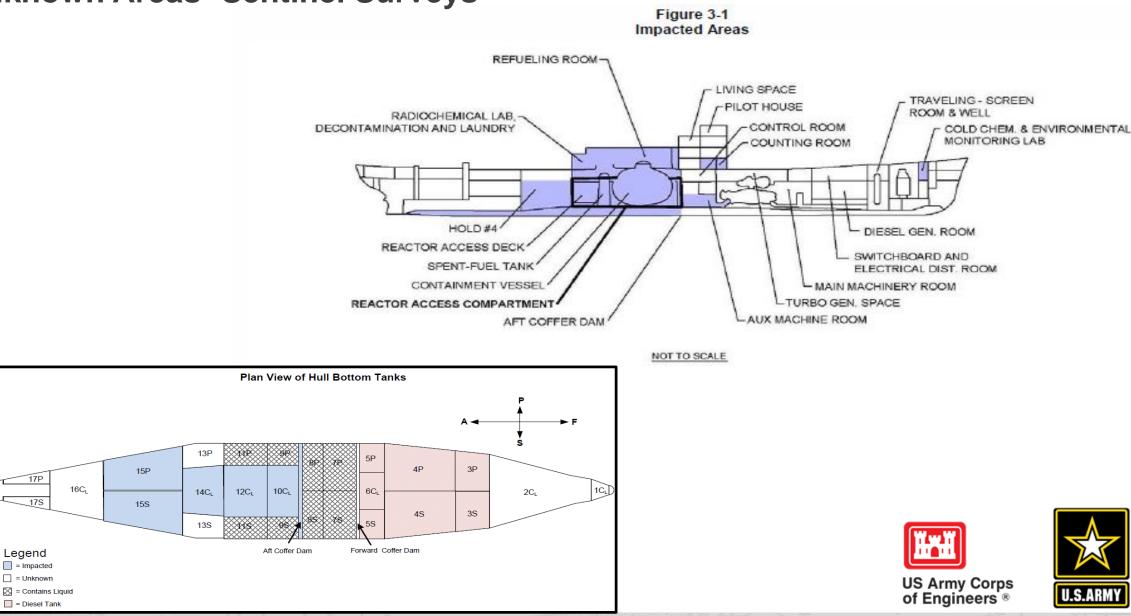


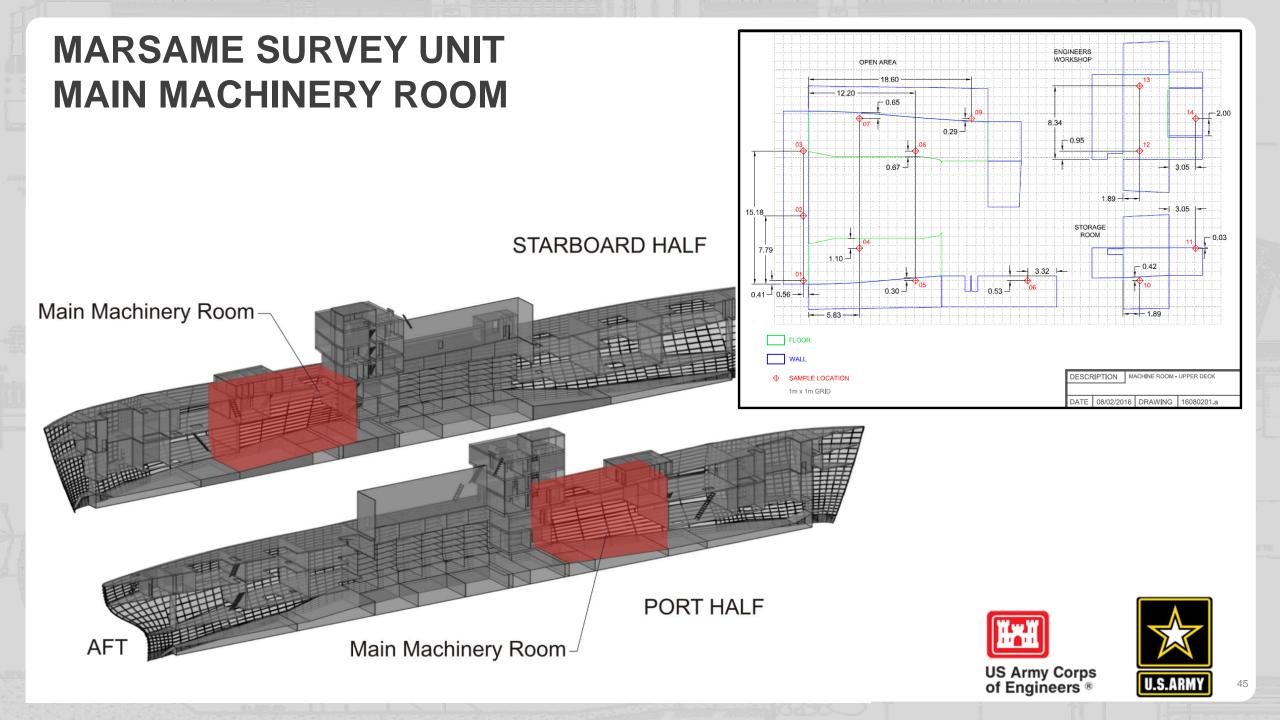


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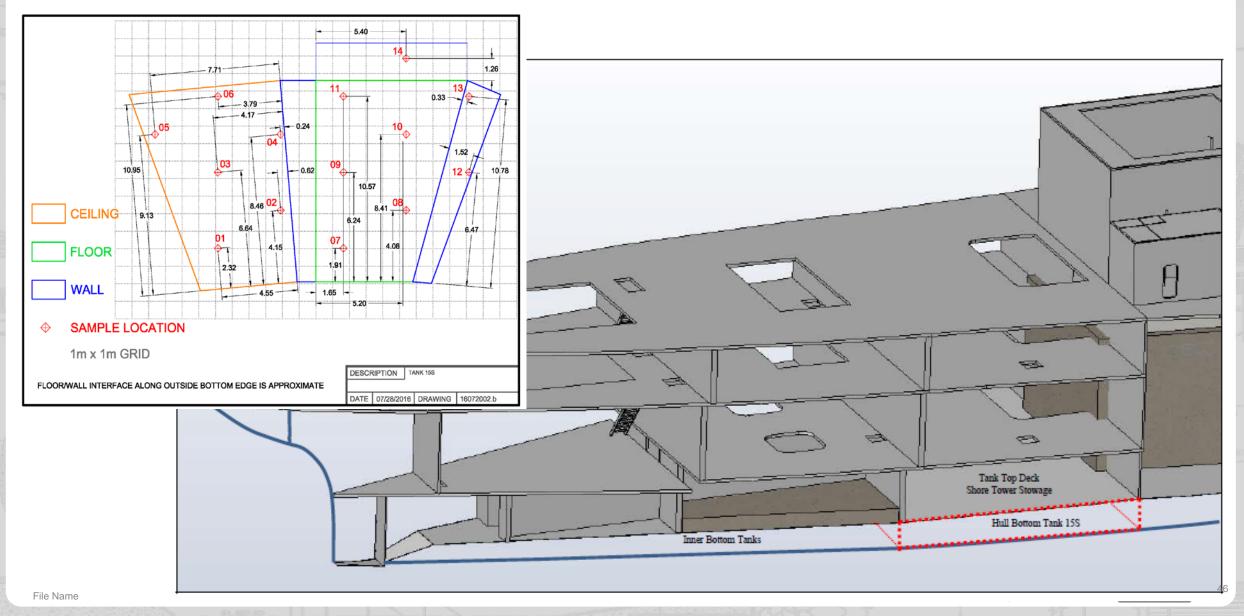
#### Impacted Areas- Class 1, 2, or 3 Unknown Areas- Sentinel Surveys

18C<sub>L</sub>





#### **MARSAME SURVEY UNIT FOR TANK 15S**



# **STURGIS DECOMMISSIONING WASTES**

- Waste is LLRW/LLMW Federal Waste not subject to compact requirements
- DOE determined the waste is eligible for disposal at WCS (FWF) or NNSS and the DOE would need to take title of waste for disposal at either location
- Options considered
  - NNSS (Class A/B/C LLRW/LLMW)
  - WCS (Class A/B/C LLRW/LLMW)
  - Energy Solutions (Class A LLRW/LLMW)
- Disposal to date
  - WCS RCRA Cell (Tier 2) 1,200,000 pounds
  - WCS FWF Class A & C LLRW 172,000 pounds
  - US Ecology Texas Ballast Water 1,150,000 pounds
  - US Ecology Texas Small volume of universal waste
- Recycle to date
  - Approximately 600,000 pounds of lead

Lesson Learned: Over 90% of waste was low activity and meet the exemptions for disposal in the RCRA disposal cell





# **RADIATION SAFETY**

- Dosimetry
  - Army OSL with onsite reader
  - Electronic dosimeter (DMC 3000) allows for remote monitoring







# **RADIATION SAFETY**

Personnel Dose – OSL Readings - cumulative through end of 2017:

Estimated Whole Body Exposure Range	# of Staff	% of	Total
(Rem)		Total	Dose
No Measurable Exposure	73	74.5	0.0
Exposure Less Than 0.1	15	15.3	0.59
0.1 thru 0.249	3	3.1	0.403
0.250 thru 0.499	5	5.1	1.772
0.50 thru 0.749	2	2.0	1.316

 Official Army Dosimetry Center Results vs. Onsite Reader results vs. Electronic Dosimeter Readings

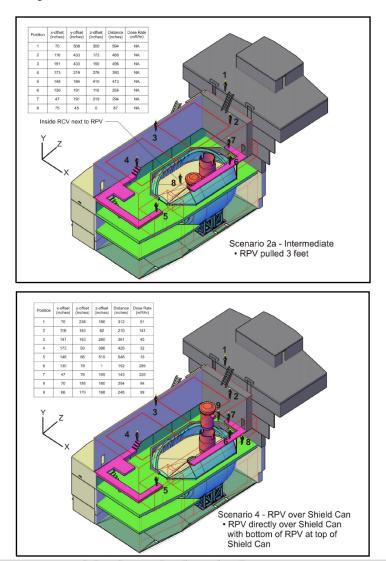
Comparison of Dosimetry Results					
Individual	ADC Results	On Site Reader Results	ED Results		
#1	670	530	660		
#2	646	548	667		
#3	472	441	395		
#4	380	321	393		

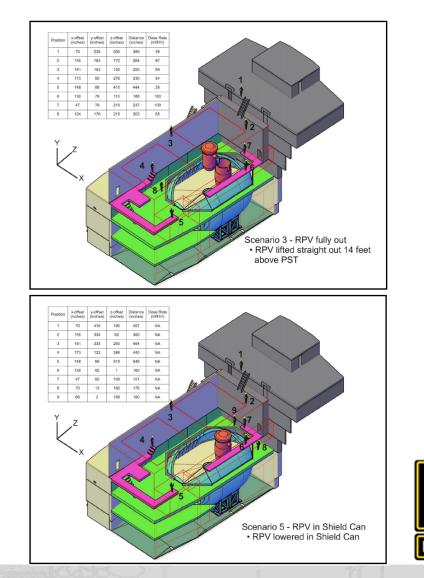




# **RADIATION SAFETY**

#### ALARA Analysis and Dose Assessment





# SIGNIFICANT LESSONS LEARNED

- Local government officials and stakeholders
- Collaboration between Gov't and Contractor is a must
- Proactive and transparent communications
- Shipyard Infrastructure
- Dock load bearing pressure
- Health and Safety Requirements
- Engineering Design
- Qualified Staff training; ramp up; ramp down
- Subcontractors/Teaming Partners
- SharePoint site for project documents
- Disposal/Disposition Method
- Contract Administration and team oversight by Gov't





# **Questions?**





