

Tank W-1 A Removal Action

Scope: The Tank W-1A Removal Action will remediate approximately 250 cubic meters of radiologically contaminated soil located at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. Approximately 100 cubic meters of the soil meets the definition of remote-handled (RH) transuranic (TRU) waste. The objectives of the project are to remove a continuing source of groundwater contamination that could pose a risk to the industrial worker or to groundwater and to dispose of waste.

An initial removal action was completed in 1999 that removed approximately 900 cubic meters of contaminated soil around the tank. During the removal action, soil containing significant concentrations of TRU radionuclides was encountered. The project was placed on hold until a path forward could be developed for the TRU waste.

The soil is contaminated with a wide variety of radionuclides including plutonium, americium, uranium and curium. The forecasted cost is approximately \$41 million including approximately \$5M for RH TRU shipping canisters.

Environmental Risk and Principal Threat Source Material Rating: High

- The known areas of contamination area in the north tank farm located north of Main Street and west of Third Street.
- Shallow and deep groundwater contamination continues to migrate west from the site toward First Creek.
- This contamination poses an unacceptable risk to either an industrial worker or to groundwater.

Other Prioritization Factors:

- Interim land use controls are necessary to restrict access to this site.
- Additional characterization to delineate the extent of the TRU waste contamination was completed in 2005.
- This project was scheduled to begin in FY 2009.

Overall Prioritization: High

The contamination around Tank W-1A poses either an unacceptable risk to an industrial worker or to groundwater. The overall prioritization for this removal action is **High**.

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For more information, please contact the DOE public affairs office at (865) 576-0885.

