ARP/MCU Operating Performance & Next Generation Solvent (NGS) Outage

Presented to the SRS Citizens Advisory Board’s Waste Management Committee
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Brent A. Gifford
Savannah River Remediation (SRR)
Salt Processing Manager
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To satisfy Waste Management Committee Work Plan by:

1) Providing update to CAB on the operating performance of the “Salt Disposition Project (SDP)”, also known as the “Actinide Removal Process (ARP) / Modular Caustic Side Solvent Extraction Unit (MCU)”

2) Providing update on outage preparations to demonstrate performance of the Next Generation Solvent (NGS) for the ARP/MCU process
Agenda

- Acronym List
- Savannah River Site Waste and Material Flow Path
- Process Overview
- ARP/MCU Operational Performance
- ARP/MCU Lifecycle Enhancements
- Summary
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<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>ANL</td>
<td>Argonne National Lab</td>
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<td>ARP</td>
<td>Actinide Removal Process</td>
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<td>CSSX</td>
<td>Caustic Side Solvent Extraction</td>
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<td>DSS</td>
<td>Decontaminated Salt Solution</td>
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<td>DWPF</td>
<td>Defense Waste Processing Facility</td>
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<td>GWSB</td>
<td>Glass Waste Storage Building</td>
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<td>MCU</td>
<td>Modular Caustic Side Solvent Extraction Unit</td>
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<td>NGS</td>
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<td>ORNL</td>
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Process Overview: ARP/MCU Mission

- **Process Salt Solution for Disposal:**
  - Remove Actinides and Strontium through the Actinide Removal Process (ARP)
  - Remove Cesium with the Modular Caustic Side Solvent Extraction Unit (MCU)

- **Continued Operations - Mitigate Impact of Delay in SWPF Start-up:**
  - Implement FY12 Continued Operations Improvements *(Complete)*
  - Implement FY13 Reliability Improvements *(In Progress)*
  - Deploy the MCU- Next Generation Solvent beginning in 2013 *(In Progress)*

- **Provide Operational Experience for the Salt Processing Program:**
  - Process Chemistry
  - Equipment Reliability
  - Operational/Maintenance Experience and Lessons Learned
For FY13:

- Set weekly processing record of >83,500 gal in a week on 3/12/13.

- Set new salt processing record with over 1,287,000 gals in FY13 to date.

- Processed over 4,041,000 gallons since initial start-up.
• For FY13 (continued):
  - Continuing to optimize the “First of a Kind” process
  - Continuing to gain process chemistry, equipment reliability and operational/maintenance knowledge and experience
  - Preparing for the FY13/14 “Integrated Process Outage”:
    • Introduce Next Generation Solvent (NGS) into MCU
    • Implement reliability improvements
    • Initiate pre-requisites for the FY14 ARP/MCU NGS process demonstration

• For FY14:
  Initiate the ARP/MCU NGS process demonstration and operation
• Initial History of CSSX Chemistry:
  – 1996 CSSX invented, (Extractant BOBCalixC6)
  – 1999 CSSX made robust
  – 2001 ANL and SRNL perform CSSX demonstrations
  – 2001 DOE-EM selects CSSX for SWPF
  – 2004 DOE-EM directs SRS to develop Salt Process using CSSX technology (MCU)

• Making History:
  – April 2008: successfully initiate the ARP/MCU radiological process operations
  – Continue to develop/refine the Next Generation Solvent (NGS) in parallel with ARP/MCU operation
The NGS solvent shows improved performance:
- Includes a modified extractant (MaxCalix) which is more soluble in an improved 4 component solvent.
- Improves organic-aqueous phase separation in the process (more efficient and equipment neutral)

Numerous hours of NGS testing (ORNL, SRNL, MCU, SWPF) demonstrate significant improvement potential in the removal of cesium for MCU.

NGS sets the stage for increased MCU throughput (with minor modifications and additional funding)

MaxCalix
**Small Scale (2cm) Contactor Testing at SRNL** - 12 (5 extraction, 2 scrub, 5 strip)

- Non-radioactive testing
- Radioactive testing
ARP/MCU - NGS
Hydraulic & Mass Transfer Testing at SRNL

“We Full Scale” MCU V10 Test Contactor at SRNL

Hydraulic Viewport

“We Full Scale” MCU V5 Test Contactor at SRNL
ARP/MCU - NGS
Hydraulic & Mass Transfer Testing at SRNL

MCU NGS Testing In Progress at SRNL

Site Glasses for Testing

NGS Process Testing

NGS Solvent Recovery System “Coalescer” Testing

Internal Contactor Bowl Inspections

V5

V10
• All FY13 DOE NGS milestones met on/ahead of schedule:
  - Approved the facilities “Documented Safety Analysis”
  - Developed and submitted the “Technology Maturation Plan” for MCU NGS demonstration
  - Procured/received operational solvent components

• Preparations underway to introduce NGS beginning late FY13:
  - Prepare chemical feed tanks
  - Deliver/add NGS solvent to the process
  - Deliver/add new process chemicals to the process
  - Replace process equipment field labels
  - Revise operating and maintenance procedures
  - Complete facility personnel training
Summary

• The ARP/MCU process continues to provide successful salt processing since start-up in 4/08:
  - Helps reduce the lifecycle of the Salt Processing Program
  - Helps bridge the gap until the Salt Waste Processing Facility starts up
  - Enables continued optimization of the process flow-sheet
  - Provides valuable process, equipment and operational experience for the Salt Processing Program.

• The lifecycle enhancements set the stage for continued ARP/MCU operations

• Implementation of the MCU-“Next Generation Solvent” will:
  - Provide a lower curie cesium waste stream to Saltstone for the continued operational life of MCU.
  - Sets the stage for increased throughput (with additional funding)