NRC Decommissioning Lessons Learned

Search Criteria:

Year: 2007 ***Facility Type:*** All Facility Types

Stage: All Functional Areas ***Benefit:*** All Benefits

Lesson ID: 2007-01 ***Facility Type:*** Reactors, Material Facilities ***Stage:*** Decommissioning Planning

Benefits: Facilitates Decommissioning Work

Subject: Best practice in executing the license termination plan for the Big Rock Point (BRP) Facility

Discussion: The BRP license termination plan required that almost all plant structures be removed, including the removal of building foundations. This simplified the final status survey (FSS) program, since only soil surveys were required. This limited the instrumentation required, as well as the training required for technicians and staff. The BRP staff was proficient in the procedures and implementation requirements

References: Contact Us About Decommissioning of Nuclear Facilities
http://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/regulatory/decommissioning/contactus.html

Lesson ID: 2007-02 ***Facility Type:*** Reactors, Material Facilities ***Stage:*** Decommissioning Work

Benefits: Facilitates Decommissioning Work

Subject: Lesson learned with In-Situ Gamma Spectroscopy for land surveys at Big Rock Point

Discussion: Early BRP experience with In-Situ Gamma Spectroscopy for land surveys demonstrated to the BRP staff that hand-held instrumentation was more sensitive for soil surveys. The BRP staff elected to use proven technology (2x2 sodium iodide detectors, as prescribed in NUREG-1507) for the final status survey program.

References: Contact Us About Decommissioning of Nuclear Facilities
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Search Criteria: ***Year:*** 2007 ***Facility Type:*** All Facility Types

Stage: All Functional Areas ***Benefit:*** All Benefits

Lesson ID: 2007-03 ***Facility Type:*** Reactors, Material Facilities ***Stage:*** Decommissioning Planning

Benefits: Facilitates Decommissioning Licensing, Facilitates Decommissioning Work

Subject: Best practice in preparing the procedures for the final status surveys during the decommissioning of the Big Rock Point Facility

Discussion: The BRP FSS procedures were written such that they became the FSS Reports. The procedures required specific data recordings that fulfilled DP requirements for the FSSRs. The completed procedures were copied and submitted as the FSSRs. This simplified the submittal of the FSSRs for approval by the NRC staff since the procedures included survey design and final data.

References: Contact Us About Decommissioning of Nuclear Facilities
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Lesson ID: 2007-04 ***Facility Type:*** Reactors, Material Facilities ***Stage:*** Decommissioning Work

Benefits: Facilitates Decommissioning Work

Subject: Best practice during soil excavation at the Big Rock Point Facility

Discussion: Excavated soils removed during building and foundation removal were consolidated and stored on-site. The licensee surveyed the soil in 6-inch depths to ensure the soil was clean (less than the derived concentration guideline levels) prior to placement back in the excavations. This resulted in significant cost savings as the native soil was reused and not disposed of as radioactive waste.

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Search Criteria:

Year: 2007 ***Facility Type:*** All Facility Types
Stage: All Functional Areas ***Benefit:*** All Benefits

Lesson ID: 2007-05 ***Facility Type:*** Reactors, Material Facilities ***Stage:*** Decommissioning Planning

Benefits: Facilitates Decommissioning Work

Subject: Best practice during final status surveys at the Big Rock Point Facility

Discussion: The BRP final status survey (FSS) procedures included that independent quality assurance measurements be performed in the field at the conclusion of the FSS. This resulted in not only the verification of results, but also encouraged the survey technicians to perform comprehensive surveys, which appeared to eliminate human factor errors typically encountered with surveys performed with hand-held survey meters and detectors.

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