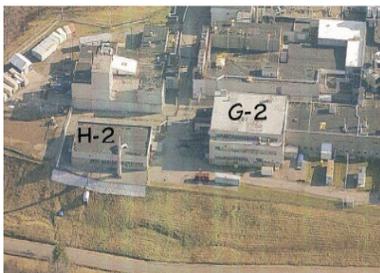




Recovery Act Funds Stimulate SPRU's Move Toward Closure



SPRU facilities to be removed

Cleanup at the Separations Process Research Unit (SPRU) is planned to be completed by the end of 2011, accelerated in part due to Recovery Act funding, and the site will be returned to the DOE Office of Naval Reactors for future use. SPRU received \$14.8 million to accelerate the remediation of radioactively-contaminated soil in the North Field area of the Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory (KAPL) in Niskayuna, NY. **Recovery Act funding will also create at least 20 new jobs—6 have already been hired—and will allow the North Field project to be completed in 2010, three years earlier than originally planned.** The North Field is a 15-acre area that is contaminated with cesium-137, the result of storage of waste from historic SPRU operations.

Additional Recovery Act funds (\$37M) will accelerate decontamination and demolition (D&D) of two contaminated buildings (a process research and office building, known as G2, and a waste processing building, known as H2), six underground waste storage tanks, and a piping tunnel between G2 and H2. **Work has already begun, saving over 50 jobs and creating 26 new jobs.** More information about cleanup at the SPRU is available at: <http://www.SPRU.doe.gov>.

History of the SPRU

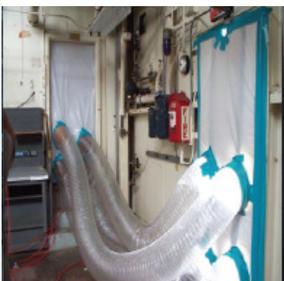
SPRU operated from 1950 to 1953 as a pilot plant to research the reduction/oxidation and plutonium uranium extraction chemical processes to extract uranium and plutonium from irradiated uranium. These operations resulted in waste that contaminated buildings and about 30 acres of land at the KAPL facility.

North Field Remediation Progress

EM modified its existing contract with Accelerated Remediation Company (aRc), which is currently removing contaminated soil in the SPRU Lower Level area, to perform the work in the North Field. Quickly mobilized using Recovery Act funding, aRc already is conducting site preparation and survey activities and will begin removing contaminated soil this fall. Approximately 6,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil will be removed and disposed offsite. The land will then be re-graded and re-seeded after remediation is completed.



Aerial view of North Field



Asbestos containment negative ventilation ducts



Radiation control exit in Bldg. H2

Working Towards The End Result

- About 20 to 25 new jobs created for the North Field project
- About 80 to 90 jobs saved or created for D&D
- 15 acres of soil cleaned up
- Demolition of the G2 and H2 buildings (50,000 square feet), the G2-H2 Pipe Tunnel, and the six waste storage tanks
- Removal of radioactivity contaminating groundwater near the buildings
- Shipment of transuranic waste to the DOE Waste Isolation Pilot Plant
- Shipment of radioactive wastes offsite to approved disposal facilities
- Site cleanup completed and transferred to the DOE Office of Naval Reactors

D&D Progress

Washington Group International (WGI), a Division of URS Corporation, has D&D plans and procedures in place, characterization of the building materials is underway, asbestos is being removed from the buildings, and radioactive waste shipments for off-site disposal have begun. The acceleration of waste removal from the buildings is being supported by the construction of an access road. Also, preparatory work has begun for removal of the sludge heels (unpumpable material in the bottoms of the tanks) from the six underground storage tanks.

