ROUTE AND COVER SHEET

FROM—
Fred C. Schlemmer, Manager
Richland, Washington

DATE
Jan. 14, 1949

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ADDRESSED TO—
Walter J. Williams, Director of Production
Washington, D. C.

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT 19394

TO : Walter J. Williams, USAEC, Washington, D.C. DATE: January 14, 1949
FROM : Fred C. Schlemmer, Manager, Hanford Operations
Office, Richland, Washington
SUBJECT: EVENTS OF IMPORTANCE FOR WEEK ENDING JANUARY 12, 1949
SYMBOL: ICH:RWR

Enclosed is subject report for the week ending January 12, 1949.

Encl: Copies #1 through #12

Fred C. Schlemmer

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EVENTS OF IMPORTANCE FOR WEEK ENDING JANUARY 12, 1949

Hanford Operations Office
Richland, Washington

I - ADMINISTRATION - No significant events to report

II - OPERATIONS

Electric Power - The power situation in the Northwest continues critical. No pile shutdown has been necessitated to date.

200 Areas - A dissolver was removed from the B Plant due to a suspected leak in the water-stream pot coil. This is the first instance of failure in a dissolver since the beginning of plant operations. The dissolver is to be further tested prior to possible disposal.

100 Areas - Initial tests on cadmium splines, intended for use as supplementary emergency controls by inserting them in process tubes beneath the slugs, indicated that each spline will absorb an average of ten inhours when fully inserted. With at least twenty splines in a pile, it will be possible to eliminate control of reactivity as a limiting factor in obtaining pile power levels as high as 60% over rating.

Redox - After treating the feed solution with sodium carbonate the eight-inch scale-up column was operated using 1/4-inch, stainless steel Raschig rings. No emulsification was noted and an H.E.T.S. of about two feet was obtained. A previous run on the same feed solution, reported in Monthly Status and Progress Report, December, 1948, prior to treatment with sodium carbonate, but under the same conditions gave an H.E.T.S. of eight feet.

III - CONSTRUCTION

Process Areas:

100 (Pile) Areas:

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100-H - A total of 38,907 pieces of graphite have been fabricated to date for the 105-H building. The first 8 layers have been assembled and disassembled on the block. Layer number 9 is now being placed. This work is being accomplished in the 101 Building. Steel erection over the 105-H Building is still in progress and preparations are being made to start "B" blocks. The 105-H Building is 38% complete and the total "H" project is 42% complete.

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Miscellaneous - Heavy ice accumulations upstream of the Yakima River highway trestle broke two pilings of this structure. Traffic was diverted to the old truss bridge adjacent thereto and 165 feet of the timber trestle is to be removed in an effort to save it and the county bridge from destruction.

The roof has been poured and electrical conduit is being installed for the additional vault for the 760 Building.

Bids are being prepared for the North Storage Reservoir roof replacement and it is anticipated that competitive bids will be opened by February 1, 1949.

Plans and specifications are being prepared for improvement to the Richland AEC airport.

The Village sewage plant addition is now 94% complete. All pumps have been shipped or received and the 18" Ric-Wil pipe is anticipated February 1, 1949. Progress generally is slow because of weather.

Excavation has been completed and concrete poured for the main bridge piers of the railroad crossing over the irrigation ditch. The temporary bridge is expected to be complete by January 12, 1949.

Personnel - There are approximately 13,710 construction and 730 Architect Engineer (less Turnbull) employees on the payroll. Camp population is 12,371.

IV - VISITORS:

Mr. George M. Shegog of Lybrand, Ross Bros. and Montgomery, New York City, and Messrs. A. M. Rife, F. S. Dunlap, and G. E. Geyer of Day & Zimmerman, Philadelphia, arrived here for conferences regarding the Plant Appraisal Program.

Majors P. B. Mountjoy and R. E. Boynton of the G-2 section, Headquarters, Sixth Army, visited in regard to plant defense measures.

Mr. Al Straub and Mr. John Hopkins of the U.S. Engineers Office, Seattle, visited in regard to acquisition of the Wahluke Slope.

Rear Admiral C. J. Brown, Medical Corps, USN, Assistant Chief of Bureau of Research in Medical Military Specialties, arrived to observe and discuss matters pertaining to medical and health aspects of atomic energy.

V - SCHENECTADY - CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS KAPL

Construction Progress:

Pilot Plant - Started installation of light cranes and completed setting stack and scrubber tanks. Started placement of metal

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roof decking and corrugated transite insulation and siding on annex.

Pilot Plant Lab - Completed tile flooring in change area and on first floor and started installation of laboratory equipment and piping on first floor.

General Office and Security Bldg. - Started installation of piping in tunnel and basement and welding metal floors and roof decking.

Metallurgy & Engineering Bldg. - Started erection of fireproof partitions and completed hanging overhead doors and the painting of sash.

Chemistry Lab - Started erection of structural steel in cave area.

Concentration & Storage Bldg. - Concreted footings and piers for stack and interior columns of building.

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General:

At West Milton wells are being drilled to locate water supply source and access road and bridge are still under construction.

An intensive review of KAPL budgets has been made to insure that all non-essentials are eliminated.

The manager appointed a construction review committee to thoroughly review and analyze the KAPL program and make report of their findings.

At SOD Lab. two 1A extractions in the fifteen stage bench scale M-S unit were made using eight stages for extraction and seven for scrubbing. The runs were at one and two percent Hanford flow rates with good interface control and high extraction efficiency. A 1A extraction employing the full twenty stages with a 1 AFS stream was made in the vertical stacked oscillating plate extractor (Dr. Fenske's unit). Solvent to aqueous ratio was two to one with a total flow rate of .36 gallons per minute. The agitator was operated at 400 cycles per minute with a 5/16 inch stroke. It was noted that a 2½% metal loss occurred in eight stages, probably caused by insufficient mixing of the two phases. Another run will be made at an agitator speed of 600 cycles.

Messrs. Genereaux, Cole and Macky of duPont and Messrs Jones and Boyd of Blaw Knox, visited SOD to discuss work done by SOD and Blaw Knox on the mixer settler problem. DuPont representatives will visit Schenectady operations this week to review work on chemical separations process.

END

**DATE
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10/14/93