

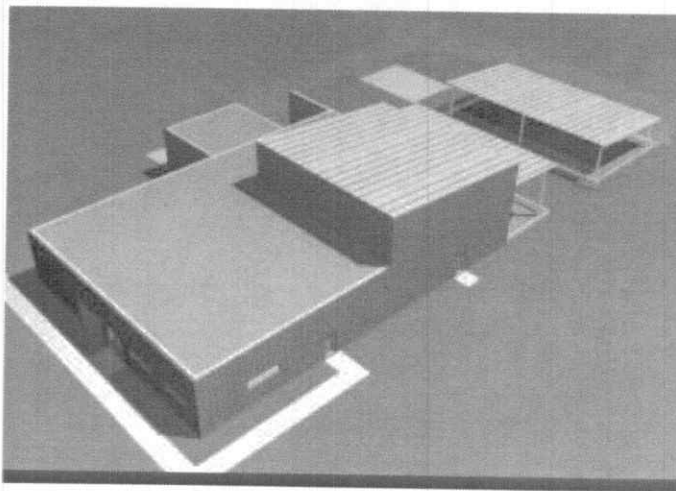
Facility design reaches milestone

The new Purification Facility project passed a critical milestone in August, becoming the first project under Y-12's Modernization effort to reach this stage of execution. Title I (30 percent) design on the facility has been completed on schedule and within budget. This effort is Y-12's first new capital line-item project to be executed under a more rigorous project management order (DOE Order 413.3).

Setting the standard

The documentation required for the National Nuclear Security Administration to approve further design work was submitted at the end of August. A review team consisting of NNSA and external contracted consultants must approve continuation of the project at each critical decision point. During the recent review, the team was highly complimentary, calling this project "one of the best we've reviewed."

Mark Sollenberger, the BWXT Y-12 project manager for the Purification Facility, is very proud of the project team. "This team is running point for all major projects to come at Y-12, and they are doing it with great style and success," he said. "The next major hurdle will be to complete the detailed design and get procurement and construction under way by next spring."



Conceptual rendition of the Purification Facility.

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– Mark Sollenberger

Increased efficiency

The original mid-1970s purification production facility was shut down in the early 1990s, but process capability and capacity must be reestablished to support future Stockpile Life-Extension Program missions. The new facility, which is to be located at the old 9720-1 area of Y-12, will mimic the original process for purifying processed material while meeting current engineering codes and standards. For Y-12 employees, the new facility will provide better worker protection and improved performance while reducing operating and maintenance costs.

The \$45 million project is part of the Special Materials Capabilities program of the Y-12 Modernization effort.

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Holiday party planned

The holiday season is just around the corner. Mark your calendars now for the Y-12 Holiday Celebration on Tuesday, December 3, from 5:00–8:00 p.m. at the Crown Court in Oak Ridge Mall.

All Y-12 employees, retirees and family members are invited to attend. Refreshments, children's gifts and entertainment will be provided. Barrels will also be available to collect new or "like new" toys for area children in need. There will also be an on-site holiday celebration at the Y-12 Cafeteria for employees who work the later shifts.

If you would like to volunteer to help with the children's activities (face painting, crafts, games etc.), contact Sylvia Davis (576-7296, sli) or Pete McKenzie (574-3624, p5m).

