

FIU PROJECT 1

CHEMICAL PROCESS ALTERNATIVES FOR RADIOACTIVE WASTE

FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY





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Project Tasks and Scope



Task 17 Advanced Topics for Mixing Processes

 Investigate formation of sediment beds and pipeline flushing operations via FIU test loop

Task 18 Technology Development and Instrumentation Evaluation

- Development of inspection tools for waste transfer lines and DST primary tanks
- Investigate approaches/coatings to protect the walls in the exhaust channel at H-Canyon (NEW)
- Task 19 Pipeline Integrity and Analysis
 - Pipeline corrosion and erosion detection
 - Nonmetallic materials evaluation

Task 20 Technology Evaluations using DST Mockup

Evaluate the viability of inspection tools, robotic systems and sensors using FIU's DST sectional mockup.



Task 17 - Advanced Topics for Mixing Processes 17.3 - Evaluation of Pipeline Flushing Requirements for HLW at Hanford and Savannah River

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Site Needs:

- According to the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, a number of issues still exist regarding the slurry transport and flushing strategies at Hanford.
- A series of flushing tests can address a variety of technical gaps associated with flushing techniques and would be beneficial to both Hanford and Savannah River.

Objectives:

- Conduct a series of experimental tests to bridge technical gaps associated with the flushing of HLW within the transfer systems at Hanford and Savannah River.
- Tests will be conducted using the loop that were developed in Year 9.
- The loop can be expanded to multiple of its lengths ranging from 165 ft to 825 ft for scale up analysis (study of length effect on flush operation efficiency).



Supernatant Dried on Nozzle 18 in AP Valve Pit.



Task 17 - Advanced Topics for Mixing Processes

17.3 Evaluation of pipeline flushing requirements for HLW at Hanford and Savannah River

Accomplishments

Background:

- Current guidelines for flushing at sites:
 - TFC-ENG-STD-26, REV C-1 and STD-26 or RPP-RPT-59600 Rev.00
 - Minimum flush to line volume (FTLV): 1.5; Recommended FTLV: 1.5-3
 - Minimum flush velocity (FV): 10 ft/sec; Recommended FV: 4 to 6ft/s
 - Maximum FV: 10 ft/s (if glass formers present) and 12 ft/s (if no glass formers)
- Previous flushing test results (PNNL-17973.WTP-RPT-178 Rev. 0 and PNNL-17639. WTP-RPT-175 Rev. 0)
 - FV higher than erosion-safe limit
 - Pre-pressureized water rather than pump
 - No data for post flush evaluations
 - FTLV values exceeding 6 was reported



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Development of a Testbed for Pipeline Flushing

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Development of a Testbed for Pipeline Flushing

Loop Design and Construction



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Development of a Testbed for Pipeline Flushing



Loop Construction







Preliminary Testing

- Leak test all system parts, pump control automation using VFD software









Preliminary Testing

- Rheology testing (kaolinwater 9-22 vol.%) using new equipment (Haake Viscotester iQ Air)
- Powder characterization





Kaolin powder used in testing





Preliminary Testing

- Ultrasonic testing for fully developed and drained initial conditions







Initial conditions





Fully-flooded I.C.



Development of a Testbed for Pipeline Flushing



Preliminary Testing

 Ultrasonic testing for fully developed and drained initial conditions



Initial conditions



Gravity-drained I.C.





Current Efforts

CFD of flushing operation

- TFM multiphase, k- ω turbulence, various V_{in} (3 to10 ft/s), a typical fixed-length pipe line, monitoring of \dot{m}_{solid} at exit, stop at zero \dot{m}_{solid} , and measure/compare the used water volumes.
- A linear correlation between V_{in} and flush-to-line-volume (FTLV) was found (*FTLV_{min}*=1.5 @10 ft/s)





Task 17 - Advanced Topics for Mixing Processes 17.3 Evaluation of pipeline flushing requirements for HLW at Hanford and Savannah River

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Proposed Scope for Performance Year 10

- Conduct initial tests on the loop completed in Year 9
 - Removal of air from the system
 - Incorporation of Optimass 1000 Coriolis meter into the loop
 - Accurate density/mass flow rate measurements via the Coriolis meter
- Create repeatable initial conditions (fully-flooded and gravity-drained)
 - Accurate characterization of initial conditions (sediment bed height, solids concentration, and rheology)
- Advance computational investigations that were performed in Year 9 using the Star-CCM+ to full-scale simulations
 - Compliment experimental



Task 18 - Technology Development and Instrumentation Evaluation

18.2 - Development of Inspection Tools for DST Primary Tanks

Site Needs:

In 2012, tank waste was found in the annulus of AY-102. In addition, thinning (up to 70%) of the secondary liner in the annulus region has also been observed in other double shell tanks (DSTs). Understanding of the structural integrity of all DSTs at Hanford is of paramount importance thus, the significant need for development of tools/sensors that can provide information regarding the health of the tanks.

There are three possible entry points: (1) refractory air slots through the annulus, (2) 6" leak detection piping, (3) 4" air supply piping



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Task 18 - Technology Development and Instrumentation Evaluation

18.2 - Development of Inspection Tools for DST Primary Tanks

Objective:

Mini Rover

Develop cost effective inspection tools that can travel through the refractory pad air channels underneath the primary liner and the drain line channels underneath the secondary liner while providing live video feedback.

Current Task:

Continue to develop our miniature rover to provide information regarding the health of the primary liners. This includes optimization of the design, development of a cable management system, sensor integration and demonstration on a full scale mockup.

Design Parameters:

Travel through small cooling channels, remote controlled, provide live video feedback, rad hardened (\sim 80 rad/hr), withstand relatively high temperatures (~ 170° F), navigate ~ 50 feet to the tank center, maneuver through four turns, subject channel to pressures not greater than 200 psi.



(Brandon J. Vazquez, WRPS 2015)

(Kayle Boomer, WRPS 2015)

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Task 18 - Technology Development and Instrumentation Evaluation

18.2 - Development of Inspection Tools for DST Primary Tanks

Traversing Weld Seams

Magnetic Arm Design

 Traverses up to 3/8th of an inch weld seam









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Task 18 - Technology Development and Instrumentation Evaluation

18.2 - Development of Inspection Tools for DST Primary Tanks

Traversing Weld Seams

Caterpillar Design

- Traverses up to one inch weld seam
- Initially designed for 90 degree turn











Task 18 - Technology Development and Instrumentation Evaluation

18.2 - Development of Inspection Tools for DST Primary Tanks

Controller Design

To address the problems of significant voltage drop and video signal transmission over long cable lengths, a control capsule was designed that will stay within the tank annulus.





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Task 18 - Technology Development and Instrumentation Evaluation

18.2 - Development of Inspection Tools for DST Primary Tanks

Electronic Boards



Current design:

- Rover sends and receives signals for controlling motor speed, video data, and sensor information in one cable bundle.
- Limited communication ports available between rover and controller.

New concept for future designs:

- Move electronics onto rover. Only information sent to rover will be communication data.
- Large number of input and output ports will be available.









Task 18 - Technology Development and Instrumentation Evaluation

 Considering multiple design concepts for integration of a UT sensor
a second module will house the UT sensor, deployment mechanism and surface preparation systems.



Signal Processing for Ultrasound Sensor

Time Of Flight Calculation





Task 18 - Technology Development and Instrumentation Evaluation

18.2 - Development of Inspection Tools for DST Primary Tanks

6-inch Crawler

Objectives:

Develop an inspection tool that navigates through the foundation drain slots under the secondary liners of the DST's at Hanford while providing live video feedback.

Current Efforts:

Development of a marsupial type crawler that can traverse through the 6 inch drain lines and deploy a rover into the drain slots.

The 6 inch crawler operates similar to the smaller crawler and will house rover/cable management system.

Finalizing module joint and the design of the rover deployment module.



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18.2 - Development of Inspection Tools for DST Primary Tanks





Task 18 - Technology Development and Instrumentation Evaluation

18.2 - Development of Inspection Tools for DST Primary Tanks

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DST's Ventilation Header, and 3"Ø & 4"Ø Transfer Lines DST's Drain Line 6"Ø Design: Modular design Peristaltic locomotion Pneumatic actuation DST's Drain Slots 3D printed parts



Task 18 - Technology Development and Instrumentation Evaluation

18.2 - Development of Inspection Tools for DST Primary Tanks









Task 18 - Technology Development and Instrumentation Evaluation

18.2 - Development of Inspection Tools for DST Primary Tanks

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Task 18 - Technology Development and Instrumentation Evaluation

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18.2 - Development of Inspection Tools for DST Primary Tanks





Task 18 - Technology Development and Instrumentation Evaluation

18.2 - Development of Inspection Tools for DST Primary Tanks

Sensor Module

Module was created to augment the functionality of the 3 and 4 inch crawler – provide additional information on the integrity of pipes.

Sensor	Measurement	Range	Resolution	Unit	Model	
Environmental	Temperature	-40 - +85	±l	°C		
	Pressure	30 - 110	±0.1	kPa	BME280	
	Humidity	0 - 100	0.008	%RH		
Inertial measurement unit (IMU)	Acceleration	±2, ±4, ±8, or ±16	±0.004	g		
	Angular velocity	t125, ±245, ±500, ±1000, or ±2000		°/s	LSM6DS33	
Radiation	Beta, gamma and X-rays	0.0001 – 100	±10%	mSv/h	RD2014	
Camera	Surface imaging	640 x 480	VGA	Pixel	Generic	
Light Detection and R anging (LiDAR)	Circumferential mapping	10 - 100	±1	mm	VL6180X	
Ultrasound	- /	-		-		





Creep

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18.2 - Development of Inspection Tools for DST Primary Tanks



Optical Encoder





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Task 18 - Technology Development and Instrumentation Evaluation

18.2 - Development of Inspection Tools for DST Primary Tanks







Task 18 - Technology Development and Instrumentation Evaluation



18.2 - Development of Inspection Tools for DST Primary Tanks

Proposed Scope for Performance Year 10

<u>Crawler</u>

- Complete the development of the inspection tool for the secondary liner that travels through the 6 inch leak detection line.
- Integrate miniature rover and validate in the full-scale mock-up at FIU.

Miniature Rover

- Deploy current system in hard to access slots at Hanford Tank Farm.
- Complete the design and the integration of the UT sensor module.
- Validate sensor system in full-scale mock-up.
- Continue the development of a system that can traverse around the corners in the refractory slots of A-101.





18.3 – Evaluation of coatings for the H-Canyon exhaust tunnel (New)

Site Needs:

Visual inspections of the H-Canyon exhaust (HCAEX) tunnel showed degradation of the concrete walls. Also, a recent tunnel fragility analysis identified safety issues of the affected concrete regarding their strength [1].

The identification and evaluation of repair materials to mitigate and prevent further degradation of the concrete walls is necessary.



Degraded concrete exposing the steel rebar (red arrows).¹

Objectives:

- Literature review of 1) HCAEX tunnel, 2) concrete degradation mechanisms, and 3) repair options to mitigate and/or prevent degradation.
- Evaluate potential concrete repair materials for future deployment.

[1] Staff Report, Defense nuclear facilities safety board. H-Canyon exhaust tunnel fragility analysis input and assumptions. 2018.





18.3 – Evaluation of coatings for the H-Canyon exhaust tunnel (New)

Background and Literature Review

Tunnel visual inspections (1990-2017) confirmed:

- Steel rebar exposed (large areas)
- Loss of concrete cover (> 2 inches, large areas)
- Eroded surface (generalized)
- Water accumulation (some locations)
- Formation of concrete degradation compounds



Coarse aggregates and steel rebar exposed (arrows) Accumulation of concrete products (e.g. CaCO3)

Water accumulation

Aggressive Environment

Tunnel environment

- Nitric acid fumes
- ~30 mph winds with debris
- 80-90% RH
- Radioactive materials
- 105°F temperature





18.3 – Evaluation of coatings for the H-Canyon exhaust tunnel (New)

Literature Review – Concrete degradation mechanisms

Acid attack \longrightarrow $Ca(OH)_2 + 2(HNO_3) \rightarrow Ca^{2+} + 2NO_3^- + 2H_2O$

- Fast concrete disintegration (decalcification and pH reduction)
- Acid type (strong), concentration and time of exposure are crucial
- Loss of steel passivation (pH>9), corrosion

Erosion

 Increased by strong winds with debris and particles in suspension

Carbonation

- Acid attack due to carbon dioxide gas
- Less damage (carbonic acid: weak acid)

Electrochemical corrosion (steel)



Corrosion process of steel rebar in concrete [1].

[1] Alexander, M. et al. Durability of Concrete. Design and Construction. CRC Press Taylor and Francis Group. 2017





18.3 – Evaluation of coatings for the H-Canyon exhaust tunnel (New)

Literature review - Potential repair materials for degraded concrete

	Resistance to				Application		
Repair Materials	Acids ^a	Water Permeability	High Temp.	Abrasion	(Spray)	Availability	Ref.*
Coatings							
Ероху	E , G	E, G	E ^c , G (40°C),	E	х	х	(15), (30)(31) (32)
Polyurethane	G (e.g. polyol- cured)	G, E	-	E (aliphatic urethane)	х	X ^b (1)	(15), (32),
Vinyls and latex-based materials	SB > WB coatings	-	-	-	Х	Х	(15)
Polyester and Vinyl ester materials	E	-	Ec	-	Only manual	Х	(15)
Silane, siloxane and siliconates	-	E	-	-	Х	Х	(15) (19),
Epoxy-siloxane (Hybrid Coating)	G	E	-	G	Х	Х	(22), (24)
Polyurea lining	E	-	-	E	Х	Х	(30)
Phosphate Ceramic Coatings	E (chemical resistant)	E	Ec	E	х	х	(24)
Cristalline pore blockers	В	Μ	-	-	х	Х	(14) (23),(30)
Overlays							
Styrene butadiene- modified cement mortar	Μ	М	M (40°C)		-	X ^b (2)	(31)
Epoxy-modified cement mortar	М	Μ	M (40°C)		-	Х	(31)

*: See references in February 2019 monthly report.





18.3 – Evaluation of coatings for the H-Canyon exhaust tunnel (New)

Bench-scale testing - Concrete Aging (Stage 1)



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3. Selection of potential repair materials from the testing findings

In May, the FIU team presented to Savannah River Eng. team an overview of our proposal for the bench-scale testing (concrete aging phase) (under review).

Samples preparation

- H-Canyon concrete mix received from Savannah river team
- Calculations done for preparing a preliminary small concrete batch
- Raw materials and tools ordered

Testing and Measurements

- Experimental design done
- Accelerated tests planned
- Aging chamber ready
- Equipment and materials ordered
- Measurements planned (durability, mechanical, visual, etc.)


Task 18 - Technology Development and Instrumentation Evaluation



18.3 – Evaluation of coatings for the H-Canyon exhaust tunnel (New)

Bench-scale testing (Concrete aging)

Experimental design



1- Port access for in-situ pH measurements or sample solution collection (pH measurement, calcium analysis, etc.).

- 2- Blue line indicates the level of nitric acid solution in the chamber.
- 3- Representative of concrete samples (e.g. cylinders or cylinder slices).

Aging chamber sketch



- Simulate worst conditions inside tunnel (immersion in acidic solutions)
- Measurements proposed (performance evaluation)
- Similar accelerated tests proposed (cyclic test)



Task 18 - Technology Development and Instrumentation Evaluation



18.3 – Evaluation of coatings for the H-Canyon exhaust tunnel (New)

Proposed Scope for Performance Year 10

- Complete initial bench-scale testing (stage 1) of the concrete samples including:
 - Evaluation of the aged concrete samples exposed to simulated aggressive environments.
 - Identification of key test parameters (acid concentration, exposure time, humidity, etc.) that may support the evaluation of repair materials (stage 2).
- Select potential repair materials for bench-scale testing (stage 2).
- Evaluate selected repair materials applied on aged concrete surfaces.
- Identify the best candidate repair materials from research findings.



Task 19 - Pipeline Integrity and Analysis 19.1 - Pipeline Corrosion and Erosion Evaluation



Site Needs:

Due to uncertainties regarding the structural integrity of pipelines at Hanford, a Fitnessfor-Service (FFS) program for the Waste Transfer System has been implemented.

A direct inspection and assessment of the condition of buried pipelines is required to evaluate the corrosion and erosion wear rates. To predict the existing system's remaining useful life.



Thickness and Leak detection sensors

Objectives:

- Evaluate alternative approaches for real-time thickness measurements in pipes and waste transfer lines.
- Evaluating technologies that can be used to assess the integrity of pipelines.



Task 19 - Pipeline Integrity and Analysis 19.1 - Pipeline Corrosion and Erosion Evaluation

Previous Efforts:

- Evaluation of Permasense Ultrasonic Sensor Systems
- Bench and Engineering Scale testing

Erosion Test Loop:

- 4 Permasense guided wave sensors
- 2 and 3 inch pipe sections (straight sections and elbows)
- Sand/water mixture
- 3 HP centrifugal pump up to 2.5m/s and 110 gpm
- Sand particle sizes 400 to 1600 microns
- By-pass system to control flow rates



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Bench scale testing



Engineering scale testing



Task 19 - Pipeline Integrity and Analysis 19.1 - Pipeline Corrosion and Erosion Evaluation



Results – Engineering Scale Testing

Erosion due to sand settling at the tank bottom

Pipe section	Initial Thickness (mm)	Thickness after one hour (mm)	Thickness After two hours (mm)	Thickness After three hours (mm)
2 inch straight	4.04	4.02	4.01	4.00
2 inch elbow	3.66	3.63	3.62	3.61
3 inch straight	5.43	5.43	5.43	5.43
3 inch elbow	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75

Volume fraction changes

Test duration	Volume fraction (%)	
Initial	20.0	
1 hour	26.6	
2 hours	31.3	
3 hours	48.2	

Samples collected at the tank exit





Sand particle size - 700 Microns



Task 19 - Pipeline Integrity and Analysis 19.1 - Pipeline Corrosion and Erosion Evaluation



Current Effort

Environmental Testing of UT Sensors



Temperature effect (range $- 115^{\circ}F$ to $-25^{\circ}F$) Humidity effect (range - 30% to 100%)



Task 19 - Pipeline Integrity and Analysis 19.1 - Pipeline Corrosion and Erosion Evaluation



UT sensor Performance

Measurement	104F	122F	140F
30%RH	3.62mm	3.61mm	3.61mm
50%RH	3.62mm	3.61mm	3.61mm
70%RH	3.62mm	3.62mm	3.61mm

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Constant temperature and humidity conditions

Dynamic temperature and humidity conditions





Task 19 - Pipeline Integrity and Analysis 19.1 - Pipeline Corrosion and Erosion Evaluation



Current Effort

SRNL Coupon Testing

- Incorporate additional method to measure sensitive wear rate
- Use UT sensors (pencil sensors) thickness accuracy (0.0001in)
- Gravimetric measurements mass loss (~0.00001gm)
- Surface contour images for visual inspection of wear rate



Erosion coupon



Coupon and UT sensor on an elbow



Coupons on the pipe loop



Task 19 - Pipeline Integrity and Analysis 19.1 - Pipeline Corrosion and Erosion Evaluation



SRNL Coupon Surface Images

Microscopic Images

Endoscopic Images





Task 19 - Pipeline Integrity and Analysis 19.1 - Pipeline Corrosion and Erosion Evaluation



Current Effort

Leak/Crack Detection in Pipes

- Using Fiber Optic Sensors (Cleveland Electric Laboratories (CEL)
- Deploy a combination of fiber optic and electroacoustic technologies to accurately identify the location of a pipeline leak or crack.



Fiber optic sensors

installed on the pipe loop

- 4 Sensors
- Diameter 4in
- Thickness 0.75 in



Sample results



Task 19 - Pipeline Integrity and Analysis 19.1 - Pipeline Corrosion and Erosion Evaluation



Proposed Scope for Performance Year 10

- Investigate the option of conducting radiation testing on the Permasense UT systems with Hanford and SRNL teams.
- Complete the evaluation of Permasense UT sensors under extreme environmental conditions and monitor real-time changes in pipe thicknesses.
- Evaluate CEL fiber optic sensor systems for leak detection in pipes
- Continue testing the SRNL mass loss coupons during the sand slurry erosion tests.
- Conduct material tests on eroded pipe sections and SRNL coupons.



Task 19 - Pipeline Integrity and Analysis



19.2 - Evaluation of Nonmetallic Components in the Waste Transfer System

Site Needs:

Nonmetallic materials are used in the US DOE's Hanford Site Tank Farm waste transfer system. These include inner primary hoses in the HIHTLs, Garlock[®] gaskets, EPDM O-rings, and other nonmetallic materials.

Nonmetallic materials are exposed to β and γ irradiation, caustic solutions as well as high temperatures and pressure stressors. How they react to each of these stressors individually has been well established, but simultaneous exposure of these stressors is of great concern.

Objectives:

- Provide the Hanford Site with data obtained from experimental testing of the hose-in-hose transfer lines, Garlock[®] gaskets, EPDM O-rings, and other nonmetallic components under simultaneous stressor exposures.
- Due to experimental testing location limitations, no radiation exposure testing will be conducted.



Task 19 - Pipeline Integrity and Analysis



19.2 - Evaluation of Nonmetallic Components in the Waste Transfer System

Previous work:

- Recent studies have involved aging of nonmetallic materials in a NaOH solution.
- Material tested included:
 - Hose-in-hose transfer line (HIHTL) inner hose
 - EPDM and Garlock® dog-bone coupons



- Each material sample was "aged" by exposure to a 25% sodium hydroxide solution at 100°F, 130°F and 170°F for a durations of 180 and 365 days.
- After aging, the mechanical/material properties of the samples measured and compared to unaged samples to identify any degradation in the properties.
- Hose burst pressure as well as material tensile strength test were conducted.

Current work:

- Evaluate hose and material dog-bone samples using a scanning electron microscope with energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (SEM-EDX) to determine if there is a correlation between sodium penetration and burst pressure strength.
- In order to determine the effect of the NaOH on the material degradation, experiments were repeated with only water at 170°F



SEM – EDX Results Dog Bones

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6-Month Results



170°F



SEM – EDX Results Dog Bones

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12-Month Results



Baseline

Advancing the research and academic mission of Florida International University.



SEM – EDX Results Hose Section



6-Month Results





SEM – EDX Results Hose Section



12-Month Results





Water Only Aging Loop



- In order to determine the effect of the NaOH on the material degradation, the experiments were repeated with only water.
- The setup consisted of a pumping loop with two hose sections. Water at 170°F was circulated through the loop.
- The coupon aging consisted of a coupon aging vessel submerged in the test loop's storage tank.
- Each vessel contained three EPDM and three Garlock[®] Dog bone samples.





Pressure Test Results

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Proposed Scope for Performance Year 10

- Complete SEM-EDX on both the HIHTL coupons and the material coupons.
- After discussing the water only test results with the site personnel, investigate obtaining additional HIHTL coupons to perform additional testing in consultation with site personnel.



Task 20 – Support for Technology Evaluation Using DST Mockup



Proposed Scope for Performance Year 10

- Provide access to DOE-EM and its contractors to use FIU's DST sectional mockup to evaluate the viability of inspection tools, robotic systems and sensors.
- Provide support for the testing and evaluation.
- Work with engineers to make modifications to the mockup, as needed.