## CH2MHILL.



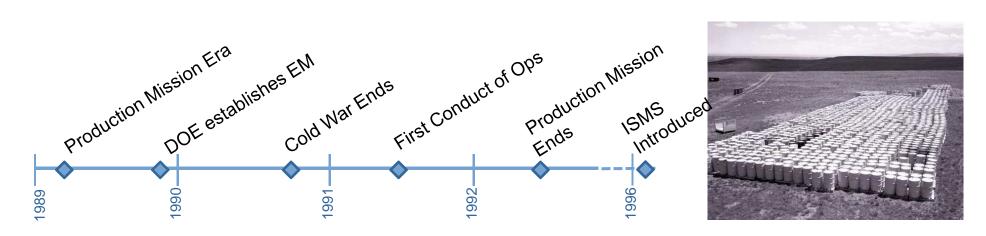
March 2 - March 6, 2014 ◆ Phoenix, Arizona

# More than two Decades of Partnering for Improvement in Decommissioning, Environmental Remediation and Safety

**John Lehew** Senior Vice President, CH2M HILL Environment and Nuclear Market Plenary Session, Monday 3 March 2014

# Shift from Operations to Environmental Management

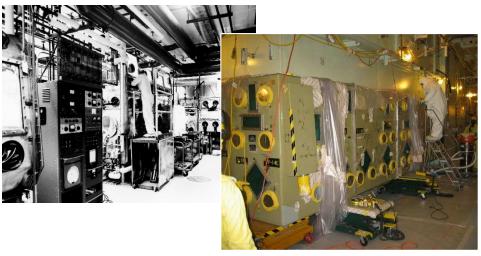
- Weapons complex undergoing programmatic shift in early 1990s
  - Shift from production to decommissioning
  - DOE Office of Environmental Restoration and Waste Management established
  - Initiated Conduct of Operations DOE Order 5480.19 to improve disciplined operations and safety



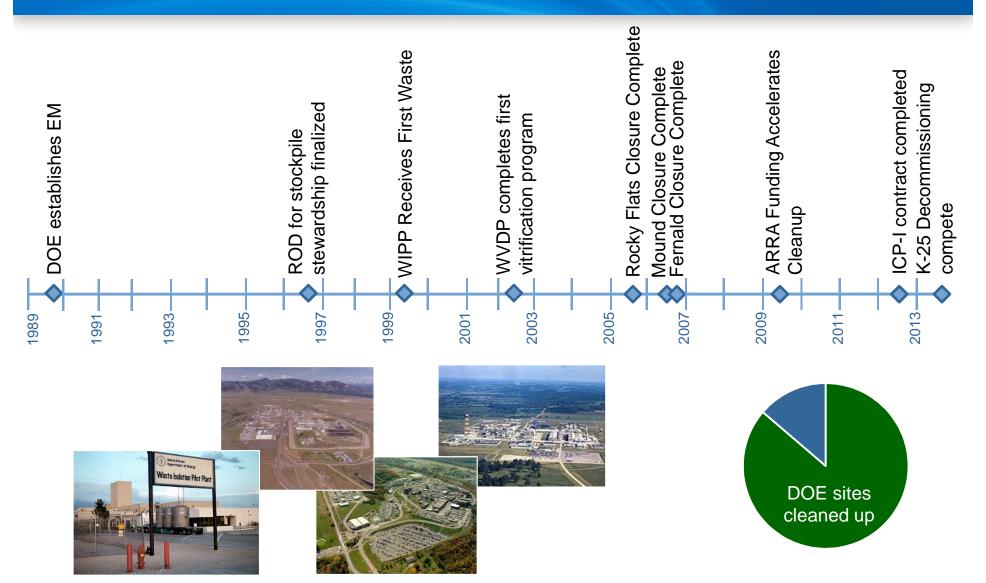
# **Evolution of Safety Culture**

- ISMS implemented in 1996 as an enduring framework for performing work in a safe and environmentally sound manner
- In 2004, DOE revamped ISMS to make it more complete, consistent, and usable to achieve measurable results
  - Shift from a target of compliance toward one of continuous improvement and excellence





# Significant Events in DOE-EM History



# **D&D** Improvements and Innovations

### ■ Size reduction

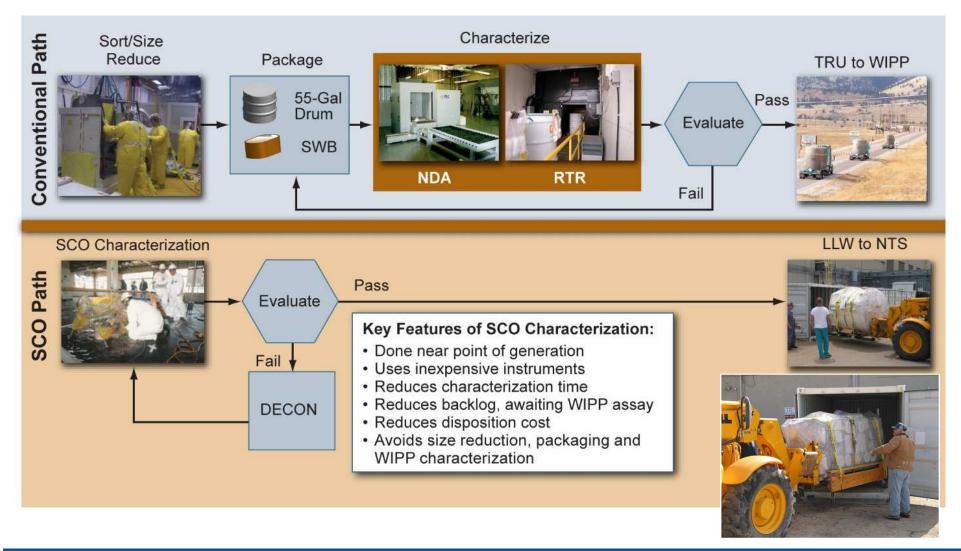
- Started as size reduction with higher cost and worker risk with more packaging/more waste
- Moved to better techniques, less size reduction and packaging larger components







## **Evolution of TRU Waste to SCO Waste**



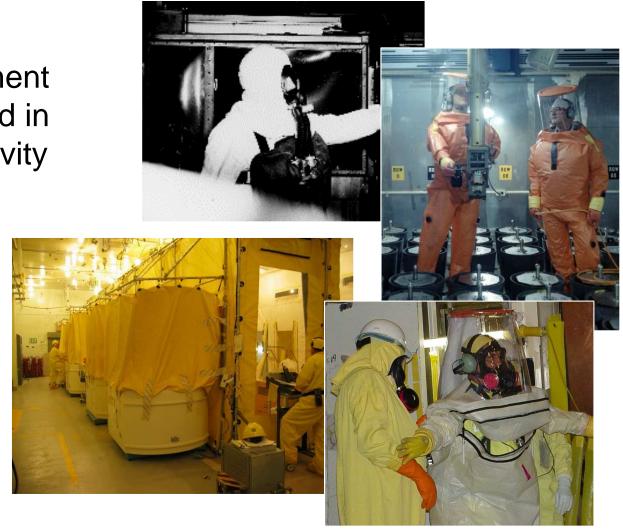
# Evolution of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

 Enhancements in PPE and containment systems goes hand in hand with productivity through safety

APRs to PAPRs

 Improved supplied air suits

Use of enclosures and bag-out systems



# **D&D** Improvements and Innovations

- Innovative disposal methods reduce size reduction and handling
  - Grouting and encapsulation of large packages, i.e. vaults and reactors
  - Polyurea coating becomes shipping container for low-level waste









# D&D Improvements and Innovations

Remotely operated equipment

Remotely operated equipment moves the worker further away from

the hazard, improves ALARA, and mitigates risk of unknown hazards



# Partnering for Results

- Todays performance has been result of >20 years of partnering between DOE, contractors, regulators and the workforce
  - Collaboration for advancing the best practices and safe decommissioning and environmental remediation
  - Continuous workforce engagement/involvement
  - Frequent customer/regulator interface
  - Complex-wide sharing of lessons learned
  - Complex-wide working groups
  - Complex-wide safety metrics



# Complex-Wide Benefits

- Today we have a very strong safety culture underpinned by leadership, partnership, and empowerment
- Employee-based safety initiatives facilitate employee ownership, involvement, and continuous improvement
- Line management accountability





# The Complex Today

- Continuing to challenge safety performance
- Continuous improvement in cleanup approaches and waste management practices
- Safety improvement tied to improvement in performance
- Still a lot of cleanup work to do

