

AMEC 1.5: Cooperation in Radiation Monitoring and Environmental Safety

Description:

Shipyards workers and nearby civilian populations are concerned about radiation exposure resulting from submarine dismantlement activities. This concern could lead to actions which could slow or even halt dismantlement. The objective of Project 1.5 is to enhance the Russian Federation Ministry of Defense (RF MOD) Naval environmental monitoring, radiation dosimetry, and radiation safety procedures and techniques used during nuclear submarine dismantlement and related waste management activities. The project plan accomplishes the following:

- Identify radiation risk levels at stages of decommissioning and dismantlement to identify priority areas for planning.
- Determine equipment and training needs to ensure that health and safety of the workers and the public are properly protected.
- Provide equipment and training to improve efficiency of measures taken to protect the health of workers, the public, and the environment.

Status/Accomplishments:

Some radiation monitoring equipment has been transferred. Radiation training for eight Russian Federation officers, at DOD and DOE sites, is planned for April 1999. The next step involves the use of the Norwegian radiation monitoring system, called "Picasso", to monitor nuclear submarines that have not been defueled and are awaiting dismantlement. Plans are currently being finalized for the transfer of this system to a Russian Federation MOD facility. Plans are also underway for the first major equipment transfer of personal radiation monitoring devices called thermoluminescent dosimeters.

Relationship to CTR:

CTR's submarine dismantlement efforts generate large amounts of radioactive waste which require monitoring. Project 1.5 is improving the RF MOD radiation monitoring capabilities for submarine dismantlement and subsequent waste handling, including the submarine dismantlement under CTR. CTR intends to use the AMEC monitoring system on the submarines awaiting dismantlement.

International Agreement:

This project is being undertaken pursuant to the CTR SOAE agreement.

National Security Issues:

Ensuring the safety of workers and the environment during the dismantlement of RF MOD nuclear submarines is a high priority with CTR and our NATO ally, Norway. Project 1.5 will help to stabilize relations between the RF and Norway by reducing the public concerns about the possible spread of radioactive contamination. All technology proposed for the project is commercially available and without restriction.

Timeline:

October 17, 1997 to July 1, 1999

Total months: 21

Funding Matrix:

	FY 97	FY98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	Total
US Project Requirements (\$ in thousands)	150	700	750	300	300	0	\$2,200