

# Metal Recovery Process Comparisons

### Introduction and Objective ï.

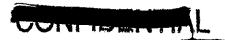
On December 8, 1948 the Separations Process Survey Committee was organized and began work toward an evaluation of various metal recovery alternatives.

With major revisions proposed in the processes operated by the General Electric Company at Hanford by way of currently recovering metal along with improved plutonium processing and also the separate problem of recovering old waste, it is apparent that the undesirable possibility exists for the operation of a number of costly and different kinds of processes, many of which may be obsoleted in a few years. There is the need, therefore, to review these processes with the object of combining some and also of fitting others into present idle facilities. It was, therefore, the object of the studies by the Separations Process Survey Committee to review a variety of process combinations and to develop facts and costs relating to each proposal in order to provide information on which to base decisions relating to the future course of action of the General Electric Company at the Hanford Works in the production of plutonium and the recovery of uranium for reuse.



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This present report details the progress and results of the study to date. Additional considerations will be the subject of future reports including comparative advantages and disadvantages of the proposals and the effects of a change in basis such as capacity increase.

### II. The Process Proposals

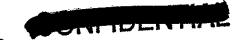
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The following are the cases or proposals which have been studied. They comprise combinations of the present bismuth phosphate (BiPOL), solvent extraction and uranyl ammonium phosphate\*\* processes to yield plutonium and decontaminated uranium compounds as the end products from currently processed slugs and stored metal waste:

		Plants	
Proposal or Case No.	Process or Combination	Eventually  Made Obsolete	Future Plants in Operation
1.	BiPO <sub>4</sub> plus uranyl ammonium phosphate (UAP) for two year old waste	None	BiPOL plus UAP (at less than maximum capacity)
2.	BiPO, plus Solvent Extraction (S. E.) for two year old waste	None	BiPO, plus S. E. (at less than maximum capacity)
3.	BiPO, plus UAP for aged and current waste	None	Same as 1.
4.	BiPO <sub>4</sub> plus S. E. for aged and current waste	None	Same as 2.
5•	Redox plus UAP for old waste	BiPO <sub>4</sub> and UAP	Redox
6.	Redox plus S. E. for old waste	BiPO <sub>L</sub> and S. E.	Redox
7.	Redox for old and current metal waste	$\mathtt{BiPO}_{4}$	Redox at less than maximum capacity
8.	Solvent extraction to separate Pu from U; Pu processed as at present via BiPO <sub>L</sub> . U decon- taminated via S.E. plus separate S.E. plant for aged waste	S.E. for aged waste	S.E. for separating Pu from U and decontam- ination of U; BiPO, for Pu decontamination
9•	Solvent extraction to separate Pu from U in current waste; Pu decontaminated via BiPO <sub>L</sub> , U decontaminated via solvent extraction	None	S.E. for separating Pu from U and decon- taminating U, operated at less than maximum capacity; plus BiPO <sub>4</sub>
	A	AFALIA	for Pu Mirira

Including Redox

This is the process proposed for aged (2 yr.) waste by Carbide and Carbon Chemicals Co., Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Status Report of October, 1948.



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We recognize that work has been in progress on other processes for metal recovery, for example, a straight fluorination process and the electrolytic process. It is our opinion, however, that the UAP and solvent extraction processes are further developed and that design work on either could proceed on the basis of available information.

An additional proposal 10 has been considered recently. It involves one-half of 7 and one-half of 9 above.

## III. Study Bases

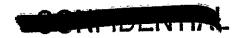
The essential bases used in this study were as follows:

- 1. The nine proposals above are being compared at capacities which will yield plutonium and four metric tons of decontaminated uranium compound per day from stored and current waste, until the stored waste is totally recovered or reaches the constant inventory as required by Proposals 1 and 2.
- 2. All proposals are to yield the hexafluoride as the end product. It is assumed that all steps required to yield this product need not be conducted at this site, except in those cases wherein fluorination is a required step for decontamination (UAP Proposals 1, 3, and 5). Unit costs and capacities of other manufacturing locations will be used where applicable in our study.
- 3. Consideration is not being given at this time to the details of process revisions which may also yield recovered plutonium from metal wastes. For Proposals 7 and 9, however, such is probable at low cost.
- 4. All solvent extraction processes are expected to yield decontaminated uranium nitrate solution.
- 5. For solvent extraction processes, waste metal preparation for feed is assumed to be by the UAP - caustic metathesis process.
- 6. The sluicing method as proposed by both Carbide and Kellex will be used for removal of waste from storage tanks. Kellex construction cost figures for this step will be used where applicable.
- 7. The UAP processes will be based on two UAP precipitations.

  Carbide has provided data to show the satisfactory decontamination obtained by this departure from the proposal of their "Status Report".
- 8. Solvent extraction processing will vary as follows:
  - a. For processes in which column feed is prepared directly from current metal (Proposals 5, 6, 7, 8, 9,), three uranium cycles will be used.







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- b. For processes in which UAP Metathesis is used to prepare feed from BiPO, process current and aged waste (Proposals 2, 4, 6, 7, and 9), two uranium cycles will be used.
- c. For Redex processes, the third cycle waste will be "cribbed".
- d. For processes utilizing WAP Metathesis, second cycle wastes in the solvent extraction step will be "cribbed".

We recognize that "cribbing" of any activity may have to be abandoned. Such a policy will, however, apply to any present or future process considerations.

- 9. For UAP processes all wastes containing ammonia are treated with caustic soda to discharge the ammonia. Stored concentrated solutions then contain sodium nitrate instead of ammonium nitrate.
- All preparation of the tetrafluoride is to be done via dry methods. Carbide has shown satisfactory decontamination by this means as a step in their UAP processes yielding the hexafluoride as the final product.
- 11. A 99+% yield is assumed for all processes.
- 12. For neutralized process wastes which can be concentrated, consideration will be given to concentrating in the plant buildings to a crystallization temperature of 20°C. Further concentration (to magma) may be considered at the point of final storage.
- Existing spare or idle facilities (U Canyon) will be used wherever economically possible in the proposed processes. No investment charge is to be included for use of existing facilities. No obsolescence charge is proposed for obsoleted facilities.
- 14. Construction cost estimates will be made utilizing in the best possible manner cost data now available on presently proposed construction(Redox). It may also be necessary to bring the cost of existing types of construction to present-day figures in some cases, for the comparison.
- Value of existing facilities which may be utilized will not be included in construction cost figures. Cost of adaptation will, of course, be added into construction costs.
- 16. For those proposals in which a plant is built separately for old waste recovery and which is obsolete when the recovery program is completed, we propose a single plant to process waste from both areas (200-E and 200-W).
- 17. For permanent operations, complete facilities will be provided in both areas. This requirement may be limited to processing of active material; economics should favor centralized processing of decontaminated products.



TABLE I

COST SUFFARY OF METAL RECONSTY PROCESSES
For period of stored waste recovery, 1949-1958 inclusive, and annually thereafter.

Estimated actual expenditures only. Then existing facilities are used their value is not included.

(New Money Only)

ST # SOE ONE

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9 52,000,000 23,100,000 75,000,000	24,000,000 66,000,000 57,000,000 147,000,000	1,810,000 1,260,000 8,800,000 19,700,000	32,000,000	224,000,000 70 11.50	10,100	000,006,6-	244,000,000 20 11.00	c	13,800,000	16,800,030 40 10.50
8 72,000,000 23,100,000 95,000,000	24,000,000 70,000,000 61,000,000 155,000,000	1, 810, 000 1, 260, 000 8, 800, 000 19, 700, 000	32,000,000	282,000,000	10,100	000,000,00	272,000,000 2	- 6	1,390,000	16,700,000
23,100,000 85,000,000	20,600,000 61,000,000 54,000,000 1,36,000,000	1,810,000 1,260,000 8,800,000 19,700,000	32,000,000	253,000,000 0 111,30	10,000	000,006,6-	243,000,000	<b>1</b>	1,360,000	14,900,000
69,000,000 24,900,000 94,000,000	20,700,000 63,000,000 140,000,000	1,810,000 1,260,000 8,800,000	32,000,000	266,000,000	10,100	000,006,6-	256,000,000	- T	13,80,000	14,700,000
76,000,000 19,200,000 95,000,000	20,300,000 66,000,000 58,000,000 144,000,000	910,000 630,000 630,000 63,900,000	16,500,000	256,000,000	10,100	000,006,6-	2,6,000,000		1,360,000 1,600,000 1,600,000	14,700,090
4 53,000,000 20,200,000 73,000,000	25,600,000 72,000,000 62,000,000 160,000,000	1,810,000 1,260,000 8,800,000 19,700,000	32,000,000	265,000,000	10,100	000,000,6-	255,000,000	- -	1,410,000 15,900,000 1,600,000	18,900,000 11.80
3 63,000,000 13,200,000 76,000,000	24,200,000 78,000,000 65,000,000 168,000,000		1,240,000	225,000,000	10,100	-620,000 560,000	246,000,000	-	970,000 1,6,200,000 1,42,000	17,305,000
2 53,000,000 28,000,000 81,000,000	25,000,000 71,000,000 62,000,000 158,000,000	1,500,000 1,080,000 7,500,000	27,000,000	266,000,000	8,600	-8,400,000	258,000,000	1 Ton U as UF6, 1 Ton as UF4)	1,770,000	19,500,000
1 63,000,000 23,000,000 86,000,000	24,300,000 75,000,000 64,000,000 163,000,000		1,060,000	250,000,000 13.20	8,600	-530,000 -540,000	251,000,000		16,500,000 16,500,000 142,000	18,000,000
ON COST* * orego Subtotal	ERATING COST Raw Materials Labor, Repairs, Power Security, Overhead Surity, Overhead	ping 2 4	5 ping Subtotel	GRAID TOTAL (UF6) TOTAL COST per Lb. V in \$	TONS U PRODUCED, 10 YEAR PERIOD	1.05. 1.05.	Aud: .cost ur6 -7 ur4 . Erand Total (\$UE), \$UF6) Total Cost per 15. U in \$	ANNUAL COSTS, 1959 and THEREAFTER (Basis:	age Costs ) Cost	CRAND TOTAL FOTAL COST per ld. U in \$
CONSTRUCTION COST* Frocess** Waste Storege Sub	OFERATING COST Raw Meterials Labor, Repairs Security, Over	UNH Shipping UNH Shipping UNH > UO2 UO2 > UF,	or4 / or or6 Ship	GRAND TOTA	TONS U PRO	LESS: 4 LESS: 4 LESS: 1 LESS:	AUD: C CRAND TOTA TOTAL COST	ANNUAL COS	Maste Storage Costs Operating Cost	CRAND TOTAL TOTAL COST

\* Includes 28% Construction Overhead.

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- 18. The degree of overdesign incorporated in our study will be essentially the same as for the present Redox design. This includes spare cells and a 20% process capacity safety factor.
- 19. Remote control and remote maintenance will be proposed in all processing wherein shielding and contamination are involved.
- 20. The operating year is to be 365 days.
- 21. Chemical cost figures have been obtained from the Purchasing Division. Fluorine was taken at \$0.50/lb, the figure used by Carbide in its "Status Report".

### IV. Comparisons

Emphasis in this study has been placed on obtaining data on which to base overall cost comparisons. Detailed evaluation of the proposals from various viewpoints is to be the subject of another document. Comments on the various proposals as considered to date along the line of the chemistry, engineering and economics are, however, included here (See Item V). These comments are intended to show process weak points on which decision and study may be required rather than as an evaluation or comparison of process advantages and disadvantages.

In the overall cost comparisons (See Cost Summary, Table I) the cost of the proposals may be compared over the period of stored waste recovery on the basis of construction cost including new waste storage and operating cost including raw materials. Unit Costs for converting UNH for solvent extraction proposals to UF6 at an existing plant at St. Louis are included to bring all process to the common basis. These unit costs are derived from approximate costs furnished by the local A. E. C.

Costs are also shown for the revised basis which involves the production of half of the recovered uranium as tetrafluoride (potentially for metal manufacture) and half as the hexafluoride. This basis for comparison is considered because it is our understanding that UF6 could not be consumed at the four metric ton per day (uranium basis) rate and that storage of large quantities of this material would be undesirable.

The costs for continuing on this basis after stored metal recovery is completed are also shown as annual costs. In all cases, the total cost per pound of uranium has not had the cost of plutonium processing subtracted. This per pound cost is therefore the total cost of uranium recovery and plutonium manufacture calculated on a per pound of uranium basis. All costs in the summary are "rounded off" figures from machine calculations.

### A. Chemical Costs

See Table II. These quantities are based on present BiPO<sub>L</sub> process consumptions; proposed Redox consumptions are used also in the other solvent extraction processes where applicable; UAP consumptions are based on process requirements proposed by Carbide and Carbon since their Status Report of October, 1948.

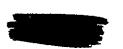


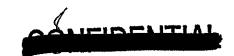
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for your quot numbers on for provocate 1-3 are hase incen occasion of the BiPO, process at a rate of 2 tons unarity per day from January, 1:3) until the estimates studies and a second constant of the new process at the rates described above withing storm in the following the second in the second

(7) Daily costs of the preposals are mind from the means notice to the formulas elemn.

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# 3. Waste Volumes and Costs

See Table III. This table covers the waste volumes and costs in thousands of gallons and thousand of dollars annually and over the ten year period. Costs do not include the 28% overhead figure which has been added to give the waste volume costs shown in the Table VI and Cost Summary - Table I. In Table III by "Gallons of Neutralized Evaporated Wastes" we mean the volume obtained by evaporating to the concentration at which crystals will first appear when the solution is cooled to 20° C.

To emphasize the potential gains or reduced costs obtainable by major reduction in volumes by techniques which would give a thick slurry or magma in the final storage vessel, we have included on the table volume and cost figures applicable to such conditions.

In waste storage costs, we have included the cost of existing, empty tanks. We consider the cost of such tanks to be written off or charged to the operation as these tanks are filled. At thirty-three cents per gallon this existing empty tankage amounts to \$5,075,000 without overhead. This is in excess of the amount for black iron tanks charged to Proposals 5, 6, 7, and 10.

# C. <u>Cell Requirements</u>

In order to get an accurate basis on which to estimate costs for new building construction, the cost of revising existing facilities and operating costs for each proposal was sketched out in cells to determine the space requirement for the proposal or the cells required. These cell requirements are shown on the attached drawing H-2-1671. These layouts are for detailing space requirements only and do not show the optimum arrangement of cells. Uranium and plutonium streams are shown and waste streams are shown only in the waste processing facilities.

# D. Operating Costs

For a given proposal and cell layout as indicated in C above operating costs were determined (See Tables IV and V) in accordance with the following bases and procedure with example detailed for Proposal 5:



Decontaminated uranium produced at rate of 4 metric tons per day.

Irradiated slugs to be processed at rate of two metric tons per day.
Stored metal waste to be depleted at rate of two metric tons urantum per day.

BASIS

TABLE III

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BIFOR process waste volumes include second cycle decontaxination wastes now cribbed.

 Final cycle wastes from solvent extraction processes assumed to be cribbed. (Total oribbed activity per ton U processed comparable with present 224 Bldg. wastes. 5. Concentrated volumes estimated for saturation at 200 C.

7: 2,840,000 gallons of black from line storage captisd per year by metal recovery. Empty tanks refilled with ura-nium and plutonium recovery wastes but no credit assumed for tankage available after 1958 because of obsolescence.

Cost of storing waste solutions estimated at \* 33 per Sallon for black from limed tanks and \$ 55 per Sallon for stainless steel limed tanks.

Decontaminated urshim produced as \$6% UNE except in cases 1, 3 and 5 where fluorimation to U6 is required for adequate decontamination. Volumes of waste produced by fluorimation steps are not included, but are covered by fluorimation cost estimates.

STTORS OF RECTAVERS ELVES FORWARDS

Total Gal. of Storage Years Req'd for Total Gal. Req'd From Far Year Metal Recovery Jan. 1949 thru Dec. 1958
Black Iron Stainless Steel at 2 Ton Rate Blk Iron Stainl. Steel 12600 Total Gal. Req'd per Year After 1958 Black Iron Steini, Sti. Cost for Storage from Jan. 1949 Thru Dec. 1958 Black Iron Stainless Stl.

Cost For Storage After 1958 Black fron Stanl.

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1364 1392

in Thousands

Total Gal. Req'd From Jan. 1949 thru Dec.1958 Blk Iron Stainl Steel Total Gal, Req'd per Year after 1958 Black Iron Stainl, Stl. REUINALIZED NAOBA HASIES

Total Gal. of Storage Year Far Year Black Iron Stainless Steel Fig. But

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Cost for Storage from Jan. 1989 Thru Dec. 1988 Black Iron Stainless St. \$ 935

1700

322 322 361

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Netathesis waste from 2 yr. old metal waste re-covery

\*D. BiPO<sub>k</sub> waste after solvent extraction process °C; BiPOk waste from existing 200 A process \*B. UAP waste from current metal waste \*A. UAP waste from 2 yr. old metal waste recovery

2T0,

gal/ton gal/ton/ yr. in thousands

Reutralized Waste

Neutralized Xagma Waste gal/ton gal/ton/

12,310

4,493 3,024

4,030 2,500 1,500

T, 47,5

525

\*P. Metathesis waste from cur-

3,875 \*,142 1,512 1,203

1,414

1,210 976

763

gal/ton gal/ton/ Neutralized Waste

Heutralized Evap-orated Waste gal/con gal/ton/ yr. in thousands

Wentralized
Wassa Waste
Zal/ton gal/ton/
yr. in
thousands £ 622 · 227 ŝ

Redox wastes

532

Solvent extraction wastes 1,760 after metathesis processes 1,760

Solvent extraction wastes from current metal

3,297

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"These wastes to be stored in black iron lined tanks because of the conversion of ammonium nitrate to sodium nitrate.

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1,341 2,678 3,393 2,088

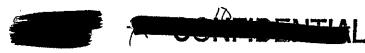
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Cost for Storage After 1958 Black Iron Stainl.Stl.



# Operating Expense - Work Sheet

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Bases for the operating expenses of the ten proposals were formulated from present BiPO<sub>L</sub> plant practices and from the "Financial Statement and Operating Expense Report for the Six Month Period Ended June 30, 1948, Schedule 4-D-200-E Area Expenses and Schedule 4-E-200-W Area Expenses".

The total operating expense was broken down into the following accounts and the accounts computed according to the following bases for a one year period.

## 1. Production

Manpower requirement was estimated from process flow diagrams.

The cost was calculated by multiplying \$4385 by the manpower. \$4385 was based on \$16/man day x 261 working days # 5% of this figure to cover production material (present ratio).

# 2. Technical - (a) Analytical

The number of required samples was estimated from process flow diagrams. From this figure the manpower was estimated as follows: 2 samples per analyst with a constant manpower figure of 30 for both areas, consisting of

8 dishwashers (1 per shift)

4 clerks

14 supervisors (1 per shift plus 3 day and relief supervisors per area)

4 relief analysts

All estimates were based on a laboratory for each area.

The cost was calculated by multiplying \$3654 by the manpower. This figure includes technical materials per man according to present plant comparison.

# (b) Plant Assistance

Manpower was estimated according to the present manpower and the complexity of the proposed plant. The cost was calculated by multiplying \$4750 by the manpower.

## 3. <u>HI Plant Assistance</u>

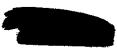
Constant, assuming continuation of present cost. (Includes HI Plant Assistance and Radio Biology).

### 4. Patrol

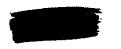
It was estimated that approximately 138 men patrol the present BiPO<sub>L</sub> areas. Additional requirements were estimated as follows: All new buildings were assumed to be located close enough to present buildings so that the present plant enclosure fences could be extended to include the new construction. An increase of 6 patrolmen per area was required due to an increase of manpower. An increase of 15 patrolmen was required if U Plant and T Plant are operated simultaneously. 5 patrolmen were required for the guarding of an obsolete plant.

The cost was calculated by multiplying \$3300 by the manpower.











# 5. Safety and Fire Protection

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Constant, assuming continuation of present cost.

# 6. Janitor and Laundry Service

The estimation was made on present cost plus the amount proportional to 50% of the increase in production manpower.

Present cost (1 + 50% Future production manpower - Present cost is \$170,988 and present production manpower is 244 (2 areas).

# 7. Industrial Medical

It was estimated that the cost would increase in direct proportion to the increase in total manpower.

Future manpower x \$46,342
Present Manpower
(1026)

# 8. Health Instrument

Estimation of manpower was made as follows: (1) The present manpower requirements for two areas consist of 60 men for operation survey, site survey, and development for two areas. For additional operating buildings within the same plant enclosure 5 men were added for operating survey work. For additional operating areas 10 men were added for operating survey work. (2) Present manpower of 46 men are assigned to badges, pencils, and laundry survey. This requirement was estimated to increase in direct proportion to the increase in total manpower.

The cost was calculated by multiplying \$3720 by the manpower.

# 9. Building and Equipment Maintenance

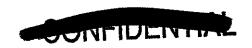
According to present cost figures approximately 70% of the total area maintenance is chargeable to the 221 and 224 Buildings. To obtain an estimated cost figure per operating 221 section or 224 cell this 70% of the total figure was divided by 36, the number of present operating sections or cells in 221 and 224, giving a figure of \$14,550 for the maintenance cost for one section per year. Maintenance cost was assumed to be equivalent for one redox cell, one 221 section, or one 224 cell.

The cost was calculated by multiplying \$14,550 by (total operating cells or sections - 36) plus the present maintenance cost figure, \$748,614.

It was estimated that there are 160 maintenance men in both areas at present. An additional operating cell or section over 36 will require 2 additional maintenance men, according to present proportions of manpower and material cost requirements.

# 10. Q.L., Substations, R & F Lighting

Constant, assuming continuation of present cost.







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## 11. Grounds Maintenance

Constant, but greater than present cost by 17%. This percentage figure was obtained by estimating the increase in East Area's cost by 10%, due to the enlarging of the present plant, and the increase in West Area's cost by 25%, due to the activation of U Plant. Present cost is \$26,114.

# 12. Shops, Tools, and Supplies

Assuming a direct relationship between Shops, Tools, and Supplies Costs to Building and Equipment Costs, this estimation was made by taking 30% of the Building and Equipment Maintenance cost according to the present cost ratio of the two accounts.

The manpower requirements for this account was estimated as 1 man per \$10,000 according to the present ratio of manpower and material cost of this account.

## 13. Process Material Handling

The estimation was made by multiplying the cost of process material by .006 according to the present ratio of the cost of process material to process material handling.

## 14. Clerical

Estimation was made on present cost plus the amount proportional to 50% of the increase of the total manpower.

Future manpower - Present manpower

Present cost (1 + 50% Present manpower )

where present cost is \$71,236 and the present total manpower is 1026 (2 areas)

# 15. Roads. Streets. and Walkways

Estimation was made on the same basis as Grounds Maintenance.

### 16. Idle Time

This account consists of time spent by the service departments (chiefly maintenance and instruments) during travel to the job or between areas, waiting on Special Work Permits, clean up, and ther miscellaneous jobs. Assuming a direct relationship between maintenance manpower and idle time, this estimate was made by taking 11% of the maintenance manpower according to the present ratio of salaries of the two accounts.

The cost was calculated by multiplying \$4200 by the manpower.

### 17. Meeting Time

It was estimated that the cost would increase in direct proportion to the increase in total manpower.

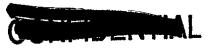
Future manpower \*\*\*11,502
Present manpower

## 18. Transporting Personnel

It was estimated that the cost would increase in direct proportion to the increase in total manpower Future Manpower x 50,492

Present Manpower (1026)





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# 20. Power Expenses

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It was estimated that the present power expenses are distributed as follows: 50% to cell and gallery requirements, and 50% to the requirements of the remainder of the area. To obtain an estimated cost figure per operating 221 section or 224 cell this 50% of the total figure was divided by 36, the number of present operating sections or cells in 221 and 224, giving a figure of \$9725 for the power cost for one section per year.

The cost was calculated by multiplying \$9725 by (total operating cells or sections - 36) plus the present power cost figure, \$700,100.

It was estimated that there are 86 power men in both areas at present. Five additional men were estimated to be required per new building for air conditioning. Area power house requirement for the additional load was estimated at two additional men per shift per power house and two additional men on day shift.

# 21. Purchased Electricity

The present electrical expense distribution for the BiPO<sub>4</sub> areas is approximately 32% Air Conditioning, 5% Centrifuges, 16% Process Motors, and 47% other area requirements. Therefore, it was estimated that 50% of the present cost was relative to cell area. Dividing this 50% cost figure by 36, the number of sections or cells operating, \$1585 was obtained as the cost figure per operating section.

The present electrical cost was obtained by using the present electrical cost \$88,034, plus \$1585 x (total operating cells or sections - 36).

# 22. Administrative and General Expense

This expense is distributed according to total salaries in the areas of the plant. Since it was impractical to break down the above 21 accounts into salaries and material cost, the total direct expense minus the process material cost plus the total power expense minus the power process material was obtained. The present expenses were likewise totaled and compared to the administrative and general expense that was charged. A ratio of 90% was obtained. Therefore, 90% of the above total was used for the estimation of this account.

## 23. <u>231 Building</u>

In order to obtain a 2-T capacity cost figure for the operation of this building from present capacity and cost figures of approximately 3 Tons an estimation of the reduction of labor, technical, and process material costs indicated it to be 90% of pres st figures.

## 24. <u>200-N Area</u>

Constant, assuming continuation of present cost.

# 25. Meteorological Tower

Constant, assuming continuation of present cost.





# TIFC! ACCIÈTED 14

# Present Manpower in One BiPO, Area (Based on salaries reported in Cost Statement)

Dec. J	Estimated from Financial Summary	Estimat Process Rec	ed from wirement
Production Technical Patrol HI Maintenance Janitor and Laundry Clerks	122 44 69 53 99 22	Estimated Estimated Estimated Estimated Estimated	122 44 69 30 99
Power Transportation Process Material Handling	43 21 21	Estimated	43
Industrial Medical Idle Time	8	Estimated	1
Safety and Fire	13 <u>8</u> 513 TOTAL	Estimated Constant	13
A total			429

A total manpower figure is required for the cost estimations of several of the 21 accounts. Those manpower figures which can be estimated comprise 83.6% of the total manpower of the present BiPO, process. It is felt that the remaining manpower would vary in proportion to the estimated portion of the manpower. Therefore, the total manpower for a proposal is obtained by estimating those portions which can be estimated and dividing the sum by 0.836.

Constant + Estimated 429 = 0.836
Total Manpower 513

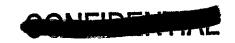
# Sample Requirement Estimates

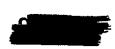
2T 2T 1T 1T 1T 1T 2T 2T 1T	S. E. UAP Metathesis SE Coupling UAP Metathesis SE BiPO, BiPO, minus Extraction Redox UAP F2 F2 UAP	13 hot samples 13 cold samples 9 hot samples 2 cold samples 5 hot samples 2 cold samples 5 hot samples 2 cold samples 13 hot samples 13 cold samples 14 hot samples 11 cold samples 15 hot samples 10 cold samples 15 hot samples 2 cold samples 15 hot samples 2 cold samples 16 hot samples 15 cold samples 17 hot samples 2 cold samples 18 hot samples 2 cold samples 19 hot samples 2 cold samples 20 hot samples 2 cold samples

Above estimates are the sample requirements per day with consideration to process flow diagram, batch control, and product accountability.

Total sample requirement per proposal was obtained by the addition of the above various components which make up the proposal.

Exhibit A which follows on the next 3 pages, is a typical work sheet made for the cost estimations of all of the proposals. The work sheet for Proposal #5 was chosen as the example.







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AMUAL OPERATION ECENSES - 1759 and AFTER

- iji Proposal #9 Proposal #10 192,710 17,831 357,360 .495,000 54,881 461,280 11,410 303,154 2,337,425 35,580 875,130 - " 415 OLO 1,400 117% 13,620 6,746,839 1, 4,165,811; 4,562,017 286,838 59,790 849,170 ,803,305 7,388,617 11,4104 364,658 2,240 495,000 56,940 206,020 30,530 ,802,575. L 63,432 126,071 72.8 476,260; 329,34411 10,852 007\*09 e 933,500 ,097,814 113,400 14,450 849,170 226,808 75,746 \$131,715 097 607 9 Proposal ASI 1,525,980 , 000\*567 364,668 320,614 109,200 57,928 1,068,714 EQ,122 26,940 11,410 10,852 226,808 14,371 63,087 9.009,454 122,924 914,050 13,703,575 849,170 13,703,575 819,127 5,340,388 5,543,760 Proposal #7 099\*96 8,171 459,120 75,193 1 2,220 195,000 56,920 177,295 11,410 11.8 870 346,398 923,21 12,779 5,582,569" 76, 13 30,530 1,100 276,951 361,852. 56,039 849,170 226,808 1,869,272 5, 69, 903 ,370,023 \$33,645 565,600 869,272 Proposal #5 2,20 26,920 177,295 50,906 450,120 11,410 71, 775 12,634. 55, 160 361, 852 2000,264 30,530 501,760 100,714 164,330 10,538 259,500 2,171 226,808 849,170 43,746 330,837 370,023 440,113 860,371 Proposel #5 795,000 56,940 11,110 259,504 177,295 50,906 450,120 865,014. 30,530 74,776 8,171 12,634 361,852 95,460 100,71, 849,170 226,808 19,746. 370,023 380 837 1,670,497 440,443 DECLASSICIES : reposal #1 - 1 reposal #2 - 1 reposal #3 | treposalifet, 503,200 16,512 2,210 21,7,370 525,920 575,920 276,95 dt7,11 30,530 390,454 331,514 12,0KE 86,718 87. 126,030 72,185 2,009,325 1,069,650 ,839,757 143, 26, 849,170 5,505,867 226,808 49,746 6,959,855 15,869,262 6,410,583 2,021,381 7,437,298 15,869,262 C% 95 263,1.90 67,135 517,000 316,002 11,413 12,530 13,530 13,665 11,006 38,600 28,300 17,163 75,343 226,608 24,434,5 7,027,637 3,075,375 849,170 5,908,941 49,746 7, 184, 51, 6,186,525 1,531 7,694,793 6,636,322 dess, un 6,186,526 15, 512 72, 486 <sub>[1]</sub> -66,13% SOS,920 27,375 301,51.0 335,454 335,454 23,750 86,718 . . . . 11,420 26,000 226,808 8,090,181 5,687,213 14.8,361 19,716 6,961,201 16,121,032 1,473 2, 277, 805 7,437,298 6,411,929 6,121,032 361 C12 508 250 35, 91.0 263,493 69,155 517,080 1,316,061 13,135 39,135 39,135 13,135 1,136 136,000 17,343 75,312 . 226,808 i= 49,746 2,205,710 €, 272, 936 5,910,822 . 649,17C 7,186,395 694,793 16,538,705 1,531 638,203 16,538,706 Os. L. Substations, R. W.F. Lighting s Building and Equipment Maintenance whilistrative and Geruph's appense Janitor and Laureiry Service 2 2 Hoads, Streets, and hallowys Safety and Pire Protection Shop, Tools, and Supplifies H I Plant Assistance Process Matil. Mandling Transportating Personnel Frocess Valerials. #Clerical | \_\_\_\_\_ Grounds Maintenance Purchased Electricity CTHER ESTERNA 4 Industrial Merical DIRECT ECHANSISS TOTAL BIRECT AT EUSE Total Power Expense "Vealth Instrument Reteorological, Tower Labor, Repairs, Power TOTAL OTHER EXPENSE Roeting Tre Fatrol. [ ] Technical . . Overhead, Security Production . TOTAL ABEN EXPENSE 231 Butheling Idle The 2007 Area 1 Raw Material TOTAL PLANTS EN TOTAL AREA E ٠, E+ n

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# Work Sheet for Cost Estimations - Proposal No. 5

DECLASSIFIED

## 1. Plants and Cells in Operation

Two lT Redox Plants

One 2T UAP Plant

One 2T Fluorination Plant

Total of 77 cells operating during metal recovery period

Total of 44 cells operating 1959 and after

# 2. Production Manpower - 1T. Redox Plant

Shifts 6 Supervisors (1 Sr. 5 Shifts (2) LA to LC 4)2nd & 3rd U

Shifts 6 Supervisors (1 Sr. 5 Shifts (2) LA to LC 4)2nd & 3rd Pu

5) Waste & Hexone Recovery

- 1 Chief Operator
- 3 Samplers
- 1 Dispatcher
- 2 Chem. Makeup
- 1 Crane Operator
- 1 Metal Sol'n. Prep.
- 1 1A & Oxidizer
- 1 1B & 1C
- 1 1CU concentrator & 2D-2E
- 1 3D-3E & 2E-3E Concentrators
- 1 Cross over oxidizer & 2A-2B
- 1 3A-3B
- 1 3 BP Evaporator Greenhouse
- 1 Hexone Recovery
- 2 Waste Neutralization
- 1 Rework Streams
- 3 Relief
- 29 per shift 116 Total shifts.

## <u>Days</u>

- 3 Top Supervisors
- 3 Special Assignment Supervisors
- 1 Numbers Man
- 1 Contaminated Waste Man
- 6 Relief Operators
- 1 Clerk
- 15 Total days

131 Total Manpower per 1T Redox





# Production Mannower - 2T UAP and Fluorination Plants

# UAP to Wet UAP Cake

**Shifts** 3 Supervisors

1 Chief Operator

1 Dispatcher

1 Crane Operator

12 Centrifuge and Ppt n. Operators

2 Waste Handling Operators

2 Chemical Make up

2 Samplers

4 Relief Operators

28 per shift - 112 total shift.

# Fluorination Plant

Shifts

2 Supervisors

1 Chief Operator

3 Tube Operators

1 Waste Handling

1 Sampler

1 Tray Washing & charging

1 UF<sub>6</sub> Handling 2 Relief

3 Fluorine Mfg. Operators

15 per shift - 60 total shift.

## Day Crew

3 Top Supervisors

3 Special Assignment Supervisors

1 Clerk

1 Numbers Man

1 Concentrated Waste

10 Relief Operators

19 Total days

191 Total Manpower for 2T UAP and Fluorination

Total Production Manpower Requirements - Proposal 5

# Total Production Manpower Requirements 1959 and after

2 - IT Redox Plants

262 Total Men

# Technical Requirements

a) During Metal Recovery Period

114+20+17 = 151 total samples ==

75 analysts

30 constant

8 Plant Assistance

113 Total

b) 1959 and after

114 Total samples

57 analysts

30 constant

<u>6</u> Plant Assistance

93 Total







# 

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	During	
Manpower	Metal Recovery	1959
Production	453	262
Technical	113	93
Patrol	160	150
HI	. 80	70
Bldg. & Equip. Maintenance	242	176
Grounds Maintenance	8	8
Shops, Tools, & Supplies	4O	26
Power	126	116
Process Mat*1 Handling	4	3
Idle Time	31.	22
Safety and Fire Protection	<u> 16</u>	<u> 16</u>
	1,273 Estimated	942 Estimated
÷ 0.836	1,523 Total	1,127 Total

# 5. Metal Waste Dissolution

Total Manpower Requirements

Estimated cost figure on operations of the dissolution on a one shift basis - five days a week.

For proposal 5 the metal waste would be dissolved in one area and transported to the plant site.

# Production Manpower Requirement

- 1 Supervisor
- 1 Nozzle and crane operator
- 2 Operators
- 4 Total

## Total Mannower Requirements

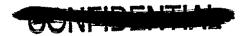
Production	4				
Technical.	1	(2	sar	nples	s/day)
Patrol	5			_	
Maintenance	2				
Laundry, Shops,	et <u>cl</u>				
	13	Tot	al	per	area.

# 6. <u>Dissolved Metal Waste Transportation</u>

Transportation by tank car will be needed for half of the total metal waste recovery, the other half of the metal work being in the same area as the plant. Therefore, the cost is added at a ½ year operating basis in the operating expense report.

# Total Mannower Requirements

Train Crew	5	
Production(Load and	i Unload)2	
HI	1	
Maintenance	<u>1</u>	PN F
	87	- 111





Unit Costs for Coversion of 60% UNH to UF6

 Cost/#U 3.0¢/# 2.84¢/# 39.6¢/# 88.7¢/# \$1.34/#U DECLASSIFIED

\$2,152,040/year for 2 Ton Uranium
Above figures obtained from Sturgess, A. E. C.

# 1949 to 1958 Period Breakdown According to Processes in Operation

## **PROPOSALS**

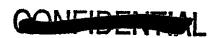
			-							
Years of Operation	1	2	3	4	5	6	. 7	8	9	30
									-	
Before Metal Recovery During Metal Recovery After Metal Recovery	/: _K/:	4 ×1.	A 21.	E 0:1	4 AA	2 AA	/ 04		مند شد	

# E. Construction Comparisons

The attached Chart I - Construction Comparisons shows the constructions required for each proposal by areas and indicates the use made of existing facilities wherever possible.

# F. Construction Costs





DECLASSIFIED

# CONFIDENTIAL

HW 12348

CONSTRUCTION COMPARISON

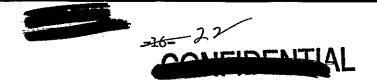
CASE NEW REVISE 15'133' 221 BLD BUI LOT HCS INTER AREA TRANSPORTATION FUOTINATION REDOX 22 CELLS REDOX PLUDHIHATION. 22 CELLS 22 CELLS SE PO4 130 3. WEST 7 39 29

LECTION: F - FLUORINATION FACILITIES
T - TONG UNANIMAL BAILY CAME!

Children and M

HOSE HATCHING - SINGLE INCICATES GROCESCENCE AFTER STORED LIMINIUM HAS BEEN DEC

SONTOEN



# DECLASSIFIED

# BASIC PREMISES CONCERNING CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATES

Two methods were considered: (1) a detailed approach involving cell layouts in sufficient detail to permit determination of the number of instrument lines, transfer lines, jets, water lines, steam lines, etc.; (2) a generalized approach reducing processes to comparative equipment layouts which would then be costed using a suitable common variable. The latter approach was chosen as being the only one practicable within the time limits set for this study.

Following the choice of the second method of cost derivation various factors for relating construction costs were checked. It was found that the usual factors of square footage and cubic footage for the structure did not accurately reflect the major cost changes associated with variations in the cell part of the structure. Accordingly it was felt that the square footage of shielded cell area would be a more suitable primary variable for comparative cost estimation purposes for UAP, solvent extraction, Redox and S. E. - BiPO, processes. It was recognized that the use of shielded cell area might introduce some error into the cost figure for a fluorination plant since this process is somewhat foreign to the other processes considered. However, considering the construction cost of a fluorination plant relative to the entire picture (construction, operation and material cost) and the relatively sketchy factual data relative to "hot" fluorination, it was felt that the limit of error in the fluorination estimate would not justify a more detailed study.

In view of the costly basic facilities (crane, large reinforced concrete outer structure, complex galleries, etc.) included in any canyon structure it is clear that costs per square foot should be related to the size of the unit considered. Kellex cost estimates on the Redox production plant and the Redox test plant combined with an adjusted construction cost for the present canyon buildings were used to determine the canyon construction cost trend curve shown in Exhibit B, and the data shown in Exhibit C for cost of various sizes of cell structures. The derivation of this curve will be discussed under the following headings:

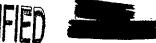
- (1) Redox Production Plant
- (2) Present Canyon Structures
- (3) Redox Test Plant

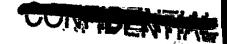
# Redox Production Plant

Document INDC-2338 gives an estimated cost of \$26,750,000 for the cost of the canyon portion including 25% overhead and 10% contingencies. Included in this structure are 30 cells each 15.5 feet wide by 35 feet long with a 37 foot depth aggregating 16300 square feet of shielded cell space. All cost curves were prepared including contingencies, 6% spare cells or 2 in 30, a cell depth of 37 feet or the actual depth of the Redox production cell and no overhead allowance. On this basis the cost per square foot of shielded cell area was calculated as follows:

$$\frac{26,750,000 \times \frac{110}{135} \times 1.06}{16,300} = $1,420/ft^{2}$$

Included in this cost figure is the equipment and controls for all canyon operations as well as the complete canyon structure.





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# Present Canvon Structures (221)

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Data obtained from the cost group of the AEC at Hanford Works indicate an actual canyon construction cost of \$9,300,000 exclusive of overhead charges. The present canyons include 40 cells each 13 feet wide by 17.6 feet long and 22 feet deep aggregating 9,200 sq. ft. of shielded cell area. In order to make this building cost comparable with the Redox production plant it is necessary that funds be included for comparable service facilities (regulated shop, decontamination cell, air cell, etc.) also related equipment in Bldgs. 271 & 291. In addition it will be noted that the present cells are 22 feet deep whereas the Redox production plant cells are 37 feet deep which will require an additional correction factor. The sum of these adjustments (additional service facilities, solution preparation, deeper cells, etc.) is 13%.

Since the present buildings were constructed in 1943—1944, it is necessary that a correction factor be applied to the actual cost to bring it into line with current experience. The Engineering NewsRecord Index is considered a good general index of construction cost and was used in this instance. The yearly ENR figures are as follows:

1940--242 1941--257 1942--276 1943--289 1944--299 1945--308 1946--346 1947--413 1948--460

The ratio of the 1948 figure (460) to the 1944 figure (299) is 1.54. This ratio was used for adjusting 1943 and 1944 costs to current levels. The overall calculation including all corrections was made as follows:

 $\frac{9.300.000 \times 1.13 \times 1.54}{9,200} = $1,760/ft^2$ 

# Redox Test Plant

Document INDC-2338 gives an estimated cost of \$11,200,000 for the cost of the canyon portion including 25% overhead and 10% contingencies. Included in this structure are 14 cells each 8.5 feet wide by 24 feet long with an eighteen foot depth aggregating 2850 square feet of shielded cell space. All cost curves were prepared including contingencies, 6% spare cells, a cell depth of 37 feet (the actual depth of the Redox production cell) and no overhead allowance. On this basis the cost per square foot of shielded cell area was calculated as follows:

 $\frac{11.200,000 \times \frac{110}{135} \times 1.06 \times 1.08}{2850} = $3680/ft^{2}$ 

Included in this cost figure is the equipment and controls for all canyon operations as well as the complete canyon structure.









# Conversion of Existing Cells

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Since the UAP metathesis and the UAP process include extensive centrifugation it is clear that existing cells in 221 T, U, B may be converted to this service. In the various proposals both "hot" and "cold" conversion's are included—the cold cells being in "U" building. The following cost schedule was used for these conversions:

# <u> Metathesis Conversions - Cold</u>

Solid Bowl centrifuges with present tanks
Perforate & solid bowl centrifuges with
new tanks
Feed preparation cell
\$20,000/cell
\$70,000/cell

# UAP Conversions - Cold

Solid bowl centrifuges with approximately 50% new tanks

Perforate and solid bowl centrifuges with 60% new tanks

\$40,000/cell

\$50,000/cell

In the event of a "hot" cell conversion a uniform allowance of \$20,000/cell was added to cover cost of cleaning and possible equipment or jumper discards necessary as a result of the contamination. In all cases existing piping in concrete is considered adequate.

# Construction Cost for the Manufacture of Uranium Hexafluoride

The chemical conversion of UAP precipitate to uranium hexafluoride for purposes of decontamination requires canyon type construction since this is a "hot" reaction. In essence, the present cold method of manufacture was put in the thick concrete shielding of a canyon and the canyon cost curve applied to the enclosed area to determine total cost.

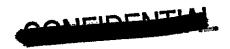
Present operating conditions as supplied by the AEC are listed as follows:

# Hydrofluorination Reaction (reagent HF)

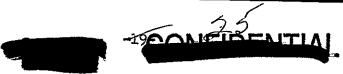
A 20 feet long hydrofluorination tube operating at a high temperature, (above 500°F), converts 340#/day of uranium from the UAP form to UF<sub>L</sub>. The tube diameter is 12°°. The precipitate is charged wet in 30° long magnesium boats each holding approximately 42.5# of uranium. The treatment time is 24 hours.

# Fluorination Reaction (reagent F2)

A 20 foot long fluorination tube operating at a high temperature, (above  $500^{\circ}\text{F}$ ), converts 340%/day of uranium from the UF<sub>L</sub> form to UF<sub>6</sub>. The tube is identical in size with the hydrofluorination tube and receives the boats of UF<sub>L</sub> discharged from the former reaction. The treatment time is 24 hours.







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The 12" reaction tubes were spaced 3' apart (center to center) to allow for outer heating elements, insulation and remote connections and fastenings. The length of the reaction unit was determined as follows:

Extruder for UAP Cake	10*
Feed Mechanism for Hydrofluor-	
ination retort	10*
Hydrofluorination Retort	201
Purge chamber & feed for	
fluorination retort	10*
Fluorination retort	201
Copper Wool Barrier	51
Air Cleaning Facilities	51
TOTAL LENGTH	801

80' length x 3' center to center x 13 tubes in parallel is 3120 sq. ft. for a 2 ton/day unit. At \$3400 per sq. ft. the cost is \$11,000,000 for the basic canyon structure. The addition of \$3,000,000 was made to cover vent scrubbers, fluorine supply, pilot development, service area, sand filter, waste storage, supporting facilities and a cell mock up. The total cost of a 2 ton per day (uranium basis) plant was then considered as \$14,000,000.

As mentioned above, the \$14,000,000 figure is based on utilizing the present cold process. Studies now in progress show evidence that improvement in time cycle with resultant smaller plant may be possible with the use of a vibrating reactor.

# Overhead Costs

All construction cost data include labor, materials and contingencies. Overhead has been added as a 28% lump sum which may be broken down as follows:

18% construction

8% general

2% camp and hospital.

The above breakdown was prepared for use in the project covering the Redox laboratory and is considered applicable for purposes of this study.

It should be emphasized that development, village expense, engineering, and test plant costs have not been considered in the cost data for this report.

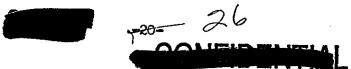
# Waste Removal System Costs

The mechanical arrangement proposed is that included in Kellex Job 11 Report KLX-12. The Kellex estimate is also being used. It should be noted, however, that while Kellex proposes to dissolve the sludge chemically within the tanks, it is proposed herein to slurry the sludge and pump the slurry to settling tanks. Funds for settling tanks (2-50,000 gallon tanks for each tank farm) and acid storage equipment were included. Tank pumping, settling and dissolving totals \$1,325,000 for each of East and West Areas.









# Solution Transfer Costs

Transfers of present stored wastes will be by encased lines where area boundaries are not passed. Transfers of present stored waste by tank car is proposed where transfer between East and West Areas is required. An interarea tank car system is estimated to cost \$1,000,000 which is subdivided as follows:

4 - tanks of stainless steel with required concrete shielding	
@\$125,000 each	\$ 500,000
3 - tank car loading spots in	" P <b>y</b>
East Area @\$100,000 each	300,000
4500° trackage in East Area	- •
@ \$20/foot	90,000
West Area trackage repairs	50,000
Contingencies	60,000
TOTAL	\$1,000,000

Present main line trackage would be used for the actual transfer.

The alternative to tank car hauling would be an encased line between areas at an approximate cost of \$3,500,000. It was felt that provision of suitable tank cars would avoid this extra cost. In the event the stainless steel tanks were made of heavy metal (better than 1" thick) and of adequate size for a generous air space safe transit should be assured.

## Cell Requirements - Costs

The number of new or converted cells is shown in Chart I. These data were converted to cost through application of the factors shown in Exhibit B and by use of the data shown under "Conversion of Existing Cells".

### Service Area Costs

A figure of \$450,000 was used for service area construction (labor, material, and contingencies) in all instances. This figure is derived from the Kellex estimates on the service area for the Redox production plant and the test plant. These designs indicate the cost of the service area to be relatively constant for all except very small plants such as the test unit.

### Supporting Facilities

The breakdown on the supporting facilities costs are shown in Exhibit D with all proposals listed. The basic costs are derived from Kellex figures.

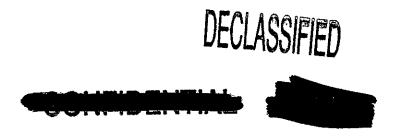
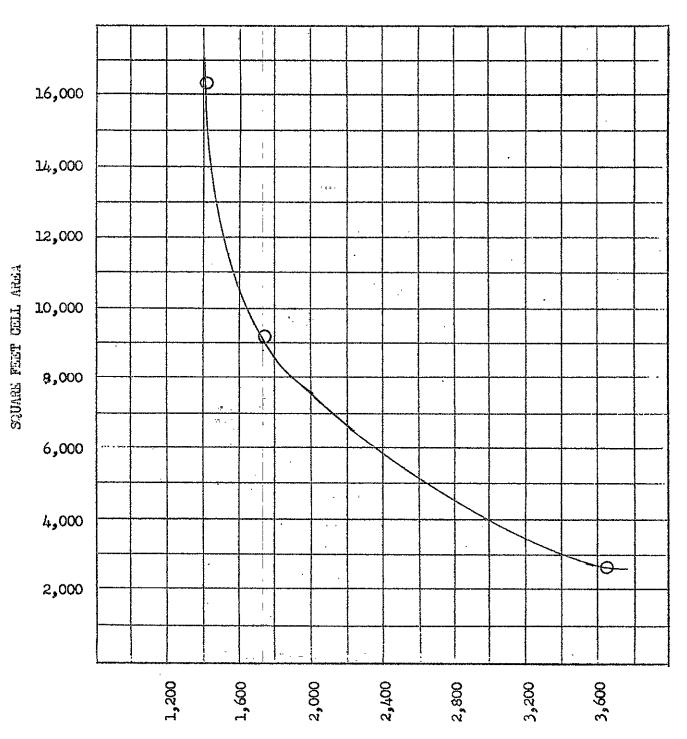


EXHIBIT B DECLASSIFIED HW-12348

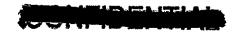
## COST PER SQUARE FOOT SHIELDED CELL AREA

## Canyon Portion Process Building



DOLLARS PER SQUARE FOOT

Including vessels, piping in concrete, instrumentation and all other necessary services for a standard medox Production Plant cell

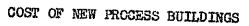












Based On Number of Standard Cells 15.5' x 35' x 37'

Number of Cells	Square Feet Cell Area	Cost Per Square Foot	Building Cost
7	3,800	\$3,100	\$33 750 000
8	4,350	2,900	\$11,750,000
9	4,900	2,700	12,600,000
10	5,420	2,525	13,200,000
11	5,950	2,400	13,700,000
12	6,500	2,250	14,300,000
1.3	7,050	2,100	14,600,000
14	7,600	2,000	14,800,000
15	8,150	1,900	15,200,000
16	8,700	1,825	15,450,000
17	9,200		15,850,000
18	9,750	1,765	16,200,000
19	10,300	1,700	16,550,000
20	10,900	1,650	17,000,000
21	11,400	1,600	17,500,000
22	11,950	1,550	17,700,000
23	12,500	1,520	18,200,000
24	13,000	1,500	18,800,000
25	13,550	1,485	19,300,000
26	14,100	1,460	19,800,000
27	14,700	1,440	20,300,000
28	15,200	1,425	20,950,000
29	15,800	1,425	21,700,000
30	16,300	1,420	22,400,000
31	16,900	1,410	22,900,000
32	17 100	1,400	23,650,000
33	17,400	1,400	24,400,000
34	18,000	1,400	25,200,000
35	18,500	1,395	25,800,000
35 36	19,000	1,395	26,500,000
	19,600	1,395	27,300,000











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CONSTRUCTION COSTS

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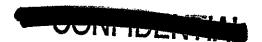
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Total Constituction Cost\*

Construction Overhead 23%

<sup>\*</sup> Loes not include:
1. Development Expense
2. Enginecting and Design
3. Willage Expense
4. Test Plant Cost



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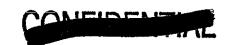
# V. Metal Recovery Processes - Comments

# A) Chemistry - General

- 1. Differing results have been obtained on the analysis of stored uranium waste in individual tanks. The sampling program in progress at present should be continued to provide satisfactory analytical results on which to base process development.
- Will solid ammonium nitrate be acceptable as a raw material? Will the use of this salt in solution be acceptable?
- 3. All processes are being compared on the basis of yielding decontaminated uranium in the compound best suited for the process under consideration. Only the UAP processes require fluorination steps for completing the decontamination. All solvent extraction processes are designed to yield UNH decontaminated below the background of natural uranium.
- 4. A pretreatment to remove ruthenium by means such as follows would be of great help in simplifying the decontamination problem:
  - a) Sweep out as RuO4 from solutions oxidized with KMmO4, ozone or persulfate.
  - b) Absorption or "plating" of RuO<sub>4</sub> on Tygon, stainless steel, etc.
  - c) Determine how to prevent colloided behavior of ruthenium in the column.
  - d) Remove as ruthenate in diuranate or metathesis steps.
  - e) Maintain in soluble form during UAP separation.
  - f) Electrochemical methods.
- 5. The corrosion of metals under high pH, reducing (Fe++) conditions should be studied along with the use of inhibitors in waste solutions stored in black iron tanks.
- 6. Means for removal of zirconium and columbium would also assist in the decontamination problem.
- 7. It is conceivable that circumstances may require the conversion of UF6 in some processes back to UF4. The chemical technology of such a process is required.







# Chemistry - Comments Relating to Each Proposal

# Proposal No. 1 BiPOL Process

1. No comment

# CHITIAI

# UAP Process for Aged Waste

- 2. Is there objectionable build-up of fission products in the course of the recycling of the filtrates from the uranium recovery precipitations?
- 3. What are the anticipated dust losses in the dry UAP and fluorination steps?
- 4. What yield losses are anticipated in the dry reduction and fluorination steps because of incompleteness of reaction?
- 5. Is there a possibility of substantial reduction in ammonium nitrate requirements by choice of pH or phosphate concentrations? What are the optimum conditions of pH, phosphate and ammonium ion concentration? Could ammonium sulfate or sulfuric acid be substituted for ammonium nitrate and nitric acid?
- 6. What are the yield losses on HF and  $F_2$  in the fluorination steps?
- 7. The possibility of tetrafluorination in solution has been considered. The high and costly chemical consumption with attendant large waste volumes and the minor degree of decontamination makes this process unattractive.

# Proposal No. 2 BiPO, Process

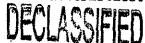
8. See comment 1.

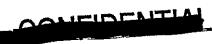
# Solvent Extraction Process for Aged Waste

- 9. In any solvent extraction process an essential problem is first to prepare from the metal waste a suitable feed solution, since the metal concentration in the waste is too low and the phosphate and sulfate ion concentration is too high to operate an extraction process at reasonable hexone rates. For estimating purposes we are considering the UAP-caustic metathesis process as the means for preparing the feed solution. We recognize the existence of other alternatives and are of the opinion that studies should be made on processes as follows:
  - a) Homogeneous precipitation methods, for uranium.
  - b) UAP-caustic metathesis. Efficiency of PO, and SO, removal and diuranate characteristics.









- c) Precipitation methods for SO4- and PO4---.
- Crystallization (freezing) methods for PO4 = and  $SO_{1}$  ---.
- What is the effect of high activity levels on fission product distribution ratios?
- What is the effect of through-put on decontamination at normal and high pH?
- What is the effect of  $PO_4$ —and  $SO_4$ —concentration on distribution ratios of uranium at low acid concentrations?
- It is of interest to have equilibrium curves on a high pH system and HETS as a function of acidity at pH > 1 up to the pH where uranium precipitates.
- Information is desired on the effect of pH on flooding (phase inversion).
- 15. What is the solubility and distribution ratio of the Cedichromate complex?
- Can other oxidants be advantageously substituted for dichromate, such as ceric or persulfate ions?
- 17. Is the recycle of hexone a factor in flooding via chemical buildup? Data are also desired on hexone decomposition and effect of decomposition products in the concentration step and in subsequent extraction steps.
- Is there a definite choice of nitrate salting agents for decontamination between aluminum, sodium, calcium, magnesium or potassium?
- Which of the following methods, or others, are preferred for nitric acid neutralization in UNH concentration steps:
  - a) urea
  - ammonia
  - formic acid
  - evaporation

More data are desired on the choice between continuous and batch concentration of UNH.

# Proposel No. 3

BiPO, Process

20. See comment 1.

# UAP to Handle Current Together with Aged Waste

21. Current wastes contain fission products which are not present in aged waste because of their relatively short half-lives. Their fate in the UAP process is not known and could conceivably be carried to an extent in the UAP precipitate that would render

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this process inoperative as a means for decontamination either in the UAP or fluorination steps. Experimental data are required to note the decontamination obtainable when current waste is treated by the UAP and fluorination steps.

22. See comments 2,3,4,5,6, and 7.

# Proposal No. 4 BiPO, Process

23. See comment 1.

# Solvent Extraction Process for Current and Aged Waste

- 24. As under comment 9 there is the problem of preparing suitable feed from the current waste as well as the aged waste. Process development is required.
- 25. See comment 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19.

## Proposal No. 5

# Redox for Current Processing with UAP for Aged Waste

- 26. In this proposal a plant is required to recover all aged waste by the UAP-fluorination process. See comments 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7.
- 27. In the Redox solvent extraction processes the similarity of the chemical behavior of cerium and ruthenium to plutonium makes desirable the continued study of decontamination.
- 28. Complete, accurate, and consistent material balances for plutonium should be provided. Present results from ANL show a range of ± 20%.
- 29. For comments applicable to Redox, see items 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19.
- 30. Can a IA column operate at a high pH?
- 31. What is the effect of a high pH in the plutonium extraction section of the IB column evaluated on the basis of plutonium recovery and decontamination of uranium? What will be the effect on IC operation under these conditions?

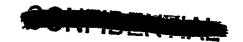
# Proposal No. 6

# Redox for Current Processing with Solvent Extraction for Aged Waste

- 32. For solvent extraction of aged waste see comments 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19.
- 33. For Redox, see comments 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 27, 28, 30, and 31.







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# Proposal No. 7

# Redox to Handle Current Production Together with Aged Waste

- 34. See comments 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19. 27, 28, 30, and 31.
- 35. What is the preferred point in the process in which to feed prepared aged waste?

## Proposal No. 8

# Solvent Extraction - BiPO, to Handle Current Production with Solvent Extraction for Aged Waste

- 36. For comments on solvent extraction for aged waste see 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19.
- 37. In this modification of the Redox process for uranium recovery to permit coupling with the present phosphate process for plutonium a closed cycle extraction is used in the coupling step. Information is desired on the chemical performance of the closed cycle extractor in a hexone system including:
  - a) Choice of oxidizing agent.
  - b) Stability of hexone when continuously recycled in contact with high level radiation.
- 38. There is the possibility of a major reduction in volume for the processing of plutonium from the closed cycle extractor through the present bismuth phosphate process. A study should be made as to the effects and advantages or disadvantages of the potential volume reduction. A single laboratory test has shown that one third of the BiPO, normally used gave satisfactory carrying of product from the solution from the closed cycle extractor.
- 39. The recovery of the plutonium from the closed cycle extractor and its recovery in the bismuth phosphate process must be demonstrated? A single laboratory test has recently demonstrated the chemical feasibility of the closed cycle extractor and the recovery in the phosphate process.

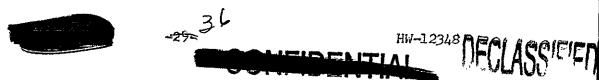
### Proposal No. 9

# Solvent Extraction - BiPO, to Handle Current Production Together with Aged Waste

40. See comments 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 37, 38, and 39.







# B) Engineering and Design - General

- 1. The general proposal of Kellex and Carbide and Carbon for removing the waste from the tanks by use of recirculation with high pressure nozzles and deep well pumps appears feasible. Operation without use of an alkaline solvent in the storage tanks is preferred.
- 2. In order to proceed along the lines of the C & C proposal which involves recirculation with immediate settling, the reslurrying and settling characteristics of the sludge should be determined.
- 3. All moving equipment for waste recovery should be designed for remote maintenance and replacement.
- 4. Methods of transfer of waste solution should be studied. The proposals for single "one shot", expendable plants for metal recovery will require transfer from one area to another, a distance of several miles. The choice must be made between pipe lines and shielded tank cars.
- 5. The processes for reduction of all waste volumes by evaporation should be established and demonstrated.
- 6. The composition of waste solutions should be studied from the corrosion standpoint in present and proposed metals for liners in storage tanks.
- 7. Final selection of a process should involve consideration of the "on stream efficiency".

### Engineering and Design - Comments Relating to Each Proposal

## Proposal No. 1 BiPO, Process

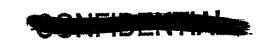
l. No comment

### UAP Process for Aged Waste

- 2. The choice of the filter-dissolver does not appear justified with consideration of other means such as perforate bowl reatrifuges which may have much higher capacity per unit of space required and greater efficiency in dewatering and washing.
- 3. Difficulty is expected in the design of shielded, remotely operated UAP drying and fluorination processes. Manual handling is largely resorted to in existing non-radioactive processing.
  - a) Process temperatures are high and require careful control (550° C maximum).
  - b) Remote handling of wet and dry dusty, radioactive solids, products and wastes is required.









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- c) Barrier filters for removing activity are required. Technology of these filters is not known.
- d) Recycling of gaseous agents is not conducted in present "cold" fluorination, but may be required.
- e) Multiplicity of relatively small production components is probably required; each to be operated remotely.
- 4. The fitting of a fluorination process into existing spa e or idle facilities does not appear feasible.

# Proposal No. 2

# BiPO, Process

5. See comment No. 1

# Solvent Extraction for Aged Waste

- 6. A freeze out process for phosphate requires remote maintenance and is not highly effective for removal of both phosphate and sulfate. For column feed preparation the UAP-metathesis process is proposed. Study of the properties of the metathesis precipitate is required in order to properly design equipment for handling.
- 7. The selection and demonstration of a satisfactory "hot" metering pump for column feed has yet to be made.
- 8. Remote maintenance and replacement of long columns has to be demonstrated.
- 9. The effect of column top design and interface instruments on decontamination has yet to be demonstrated on high level materials.
- 10. Column extraction processes have a wide range of operating effectiveness. A three-fold throughput range has shown no change in operating characteristics.

# Proposal No. 3 BiPO4 Process

11. See comment No. 1

# UAP Process to Handle Current Together with Aged Waste

12. See comments 2, 3, and 4

# Proposal No. 4 BiFO<sub>4</sub> Process

13. See comment No. 1





# Solvent Extraction Process for Current and Aged Waste

14. See comments No. 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10.

# Proposal No. 5

# Redox for Current Processing with UAP for Aged Waste

- 15. For UAP process see comments 2, 3, and 4.
- 16. Equipment selection and demonstration for metal solution clarification for Redox has yet to be done.
- 17. See comments 7, 8, 9, and 10.

## Proposal No. 6

- Redox for Current Processing with Solvent Extraction for Aged Waste
- 18. For solvent extraction for aged waste see comments 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10.
- 19. For Redox see comments 7, 8, 9, 10, and 16.

# Proposal No. 7

# Redox for Current Production Together with Aged Waste

20. See comments 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 16.

# Proposal No. 8

# Solvent Extraction - BiPO, to Handle Current Production with Solvent Extraction for Aged Waste

- 21. For solvent extraction see comments 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10.
- 22. For Redox see comments 7, 8, 9, 10, and 16.
- 23. The selection and demonstration of the closed cycle extractor for hexone processing has yet to be done. It has been done in a single, small scale laboratory test only.
- 24. Present tanks should be satisfactory for handling reduced volumes to permit realization of correspondingly reduced chemical costs.

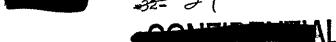
# Proposal No. 9

# Solvent Extraction - BiPO<sub>4</sub> to Handle Current Production Together with Aged Waste

25. See comments 7, 8, 9, 10, 16, 23, and 24.







# c) Economics - General

- A "one shot" uranium recovery plant would logically require only one fluorination plant. This is contrary to the 200 Area practice of parallel major operating units. However, Bldgs. 231 and 234-5 are not duplicated; a single fluorination plant could be included in the same category.
- 2. The construction and operation of fluorination facilities at this site at the proposed capacities will obsolete existing plants located elsewhere.
- 3. If the expected life of present 200 Area facilities is relatively short the process selection will be influenced. An improved cell atmosphere by tank venting in 221-Bldg. to reduce contamination build-up and reduce corrosion rates of iron work should add substantially to building life.
- 4. Provision for plutonium accountability complicates process equipment, increases construction costs, and favors batch operation for Pu recovery.
- 5. Economics may require the conversion of all UNH from solvent extraction processes into UO2 for shipment and further processing.
- 6. At present there is no known supplier of the large amounts of high quality aluminum nitrate required for the solvent extraction processes. Facilities for production may have to be furnished at this site or a plant may have to be built for a supplier to operate. This problem is being investigated.

Economics and Timing - Comments Relating to Each Proposal

## Proposal No. 1 BiPO, Process

1. No comment

## UAP Process for Aged Waste

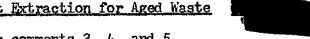
- 2. This process requires an expensive "hot", dry fluorination plant including fluorine generating facilities.
- 3. Plant will eventually operate at about one-half capacity.
- A two-year uranium storage inventory is required.
- 5. Aged waste should reduce shielding requirements.
- It is estimated that three years will be required to begin operation at four tons per day.

## Proposal No. 2 BiPO, Process

7. No comment

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## Solvent Extraction for Aged Waste





See comments 3, 4, and 5.

- Explosion proof electrical equipment is required.
- 10. There is a possibility of recovering plutonium at nominal cost.
- 11. It is estimated that two years will be required to begin operation at four tons per day.
- 12. In this and the other solvent extraction processes fluorination at this site is not proposed. Shipment of "cold" uranium to present processors is expected.

# Proposal No. 3 BiPO, Process

13. No comment

# HAP Process to Handle Current Together with Aged Waste

- 14. See comments 2, 3, 5, and 6.
- 15. Chemical consumption and waste volumes will be somewhat less than in Proposal 1.
- 16. It is estimated that three years will be required to begin operation at four tons per day.

# Proposal No. L BiPO, Process

17. No comment

# Solvent Extraction Process for Current and Aged Waste

- 18. See comments 3, 9, 10, and 12,
- 19. It is estimated that two years will be required to begin operation at four tons per day.
- 20. Chemical consumption and waste volumes will not be as large as in Proposal No. 2.

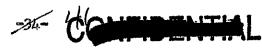
# Proposal No. 5

# Redox for Current Processing with UAP for Aged Waste

- 21. For UAP processing see comments 2, and 5.
- 22. UAP and fluorination plants are obsolete at conclusion of of metal recovery.
- 23. It is estimated that three years will be required to begin UAP operation at two tons per day.
- 24. Three BiPO4 plants will be obsoleted.







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25. Redox operation will commence after two years for one area and after two and one-half years in the other area.

# Proposal No. 6

# Redox for Current Processing with Solvent Extraction for Aged Waste

- 26. For solvent extraction see comments 5, 9, 10, and 12.
- 27. For Redox see comments 9, 12, 24, and 25.
- 28. Solvent extraction plant for aged waste will be obsolete at conclusion of metal recovery.

## Proposal No. 7

# Redox for Current Production Together with Aged Waste

- 29. See comments 9, 12, 24, and 25.
- 30. Plutonium is recoverable from waste.
- 31. Extra capacity for handling aged waste would become spare equipment at conclusion of waste recovery. Double capacity for future operation could be provided at little expense at start by over designing.

# Proposal No. 8

# Solvent Extraction - BiPO, to Handle Current Production with Solvent Extraction for Ared Waste

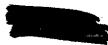
- 32. For solvent extraction see comments 5, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 28.
- 33. 221-T Bldg. is obsoleted or becomes a spare BiPO<sub>4</sub> process building at conclusion of metal recovery.

# Proposal No. 9

Solvent Extraction - BiPO; to Handle Current Production Together with Aged Waste

34. See comments 9, 11, 12, and 33.









# COMME

# VI. References

In the course of this study the following related documents have been issued; most of these contain data which has been received and included in this present report:

HW-11765 - Metal Recovery Processes - Preliminary Survey

HW-11988 - Metal Recovery Processes Survey

HW-12058 - Metal Recovery Processes Survey - Comments on Solvent Extraction Methods

HW-12150 - Metal Recovery Processes - Construction Comparison

HW-12309 - Cost Summary of Metal Recovery Processes



