

## Bevatron Demolition FAQ

**Q: What is Building 51 and the Bevatron?**

Building 51, which houses the Bevatron, is an approximately 125,000 gross-square-foot, steel-frame structure built in the early 1950s. During its operation from 1954 until 1993, the Bevatron was among the world's leading particle accelerators.

**Q: Why is it being demolished?**

The objective of the project is to remove a substandard building and its contents. Neither the Bevatron nor Building 51 are needed by Berkeley Lab. Building 51 is seismically inadequate, old, and deteriorating.

**Q: Is the material radioactive or classified as hazardous waste?**

Portions of the Bevatron apparatus, its concrete shielding, and other items have low levels of radioactivity above naturally occurring levels due to their exposure during the Bevatron's operation. A small portion of the debris will be handled as hazardous waste, such as material common in older buildings (for example, friable asbestos, mercury, lead, and machine oils).

**Q: What company was awarded the contract to conduct the project?**

The Building 51 and Bevatron demolition project contract was awarded to Clauss Construction on July 28, 2008.

**Q: How will demolition of Building 51 and the Bevatron, and transport of the hazardous waste and radioactive material, be managed?**

U.S. Department of Transportation, U.S. Department of Energy, and California Department of Toxic Substances Control requirements for handling, transporting, and disposing of waste will be followed. All California Environmental Quality Act, National Environmental Protection Act, Bay Area Air Quality Management District, and State Water Quality Control Board requirements for environmental protection will be followed.

**Q: How will items from Building 51 and the Bevatron be transported offsite?**

Materials generated as a result of the demolition project will be transported from Berkeley Lab via trucks. All truckloads will be covered with tarps. All hazardous and radioactive material will be packaged in accordance with regulatory requirements. For example, all hazardous and radioactive material that is in the form of dust will be enclosed in containers. Trucks are expected to go west on Cyclotron Road to Hearst, south on Oxford, then west on University and onto I-80.

**Q: How many truck trips will be required to move the material offsite?**

Based on current estimates, the project will require less than 4,700 one-way truck trips over the course of its lifespan. This estimate includes empty trucks entering the Lab, and loaded trucks exiting the Lab.

Of these, based on current estimates, between 1,000 and 1,200 trucks carrying Bevatron material through the City of Berkeley may contain hazardous or radioactive material. Another 1,000 to 1,200 trucks will carry non-hazardous or non-radioactive material from Berkeley Lab through the City of Berkeley.

Based on current estimates, of the between 1,000 and 1,200 truck trips that may carry low-level radioactive waste and non-radioactive hazardous waste, approximately 3/4 of the trucks will carry radioactive waste and approximately 1/4 will carry non-radioactive hazardous waste.

**Q: When will the Bevatron material begin to be moved offsite?**

Material will begin to be moved offsite this winter. The project is expected to take about three and one-half years to complete.

**Q: What will be done to minimize the impact on traffic?**

Truck traffic will be limited during commute hours.

**Q: How will this debris be disposed?**

All hazardous and radioactive waste will be taken to licensed waste handling facilities. The majority of the non-hazardous waste volume is expected to be recycled or salvaged. It is estimated that a small fraction of the non-hazardous waste will be disposed in local landfills.