

Concrete NDT

Scanning with Certainty Becomes a Necessity at a Nuclear Reactor Facility

The Project

GPRS, Inc. was contracted by CH2M Hill to scan in and around a nuclear reactor facility. A project was planned wherein a number of holes would be drilled around the reactor, both inside and out, to determine the condition of the surrounding soils. Facility drawings were available; however, making contact with any buried utilities or penetrating any safety or process systems was unacceptable due to the nature of the site. For this reason, it was determined by all parties involved that a subsurface survey would be beneficial.

Project Description

Matt Aston of GPRS determined that GSSI's StructureScan was the system for the job. Being an experienced NDT professional, Aston knew to ask the right questions in order to prepare for this unique, possibly dangerous project. Using the right equipment to make an assessment is crucial when it comes to nuclear sites such as this one.

Outcome

Through the survey at the reactor facility, Aston pinpointed specific areas to avoid drilling. He also pointed out specific areas that could be drilled with no obstructions and 100% safety in mind. A number of the obstructions that were detected with StructureScan were not shown in the facility's as-built drawings.

The entire project went smoothly with Aston's advice. All holes were drilled successfully without penetration into any of the utilities or support systems. Without GSSI's GPR and the professional knowledge of Aston, the success of this effort would have been in question. CH2M Hill realized the value of GPR and was very grateful to Aston when the project was completed.



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