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(M39)

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filter bags would be required to hold all the sludge and that this number was too high. I replied that we should vacuum for awhile and establish a baseline which would allow us to more accurately project the number of bags that will be required.

After the meeting, Roger, Gordon, and I went out to loosen the rest of the filter housing nuts on the underwater filter housings. It took about 45 minutes to loosen the nuts on six housings. We then decided to look into a filter at the other end of the skid to evaluate the efficiency of bag filling. At first the bag looked like it was filled pretty well, but Roger thought it looked like we were seeing folds in the bag material, not a thick deposit of sludge. He was right. It appeared that the sludge was approximately 1/2 inch thick on the bag. Next we decided to do a test to see whether we could get flow to the skid. With one of the filter housing lids open, we started the pump with a plastic flag on the J-hook held directly over the vertical passage which carries the water coming in. There was no indication of flow, so we are not sure that the filter bags were really as full as they can get. It appears that something is blocking flow between the pump and the filter skid.

At this point, the following outcomes appear possible, most likely listed first:

- We will find out how to get the filter skid working properly and be able to put more sludge in each bag. This may allow us to vacuum all of pool #1 with 15 or fewer filter changes. I estimate another two days to get the filter skid working properly and 2-3 weeks of vacuuming.
- We will find that it is impossible to get more sludge in each bag and require up to 40 or 50 filter changes to vacuum all of pool #1. I estimate we'll spend at least 3 more days working on the skid before going to this mode and would require more than six weeks to vacuum all of pool #1. The Chief Engineer will oppose this because of the number of filter bags to be stored in pool #2.
- After seeing how many bags will be filled with waste, the Chief Engineer will insist that we find another means of removing sludge or modify the current system. This also would cause a lengthy delay.
- We define in a counter-proposal exactly what steps we will take to reduce the volume of waste created in pool vacuuming and agree to remove all sludge after canning is complete. We can probably get such an agreement, but we need to be

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