

**ATTACHMENT A1**  
**CONTAINER STORAGE**

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### CONTAINER STORAGE

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## ATTACHMENT A1

### CONTAINER STORAGE

#### Introduction

Management and storage of transuranic (**TRU**) mixed waste in the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (**WIPP**) facility is subject to regulation under 20.4.1.500 New Mexico Administrative Code (**NMAC**). The technical requirements of 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (**CFR**) §§264.170 to 264.178) are applied to the operation of the Waste Handling Building (**WHB**) Container Storage Unit (**WHB Unit**) (Figure M-1), and the Parking Area Container Storage Unit (**PAU**) (Figure M-2). This Permit Attachment describes the container storage units, the TRU mixed waste management facilities and operations, and compliance with the technical requirements of 20.4.1.500 NMAC. The configuration of the WIPP facility consists of completed structures, including buildings, systems, and components for the operation of the facility.

#### A1-1 Container Storage

The waste containers used at the WIPP facility qualify as “containers,” in accordance with 20.4.1.101 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR §260.10). That is, they are “portable devices in which a material is stored, transported, treated, disposed of, or otherwise handled.”

#### A1-1a Containers with Liquid

The Permit Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facility (**TSDF**) Waste Acceptance Criteria (**WAC**) and the Waste Analysis Plan (Permit Attachment C) prohibit the shipment of waste to the WIPP facility with liquid in excess of one percent of the volume of the waste container (e.g., drum, standard waste box (**SWB**), or canister). Since the maximum amount of liquid is one percent, calculations made to determine the secondary containment as required by 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating §264.175) are based on ten percent of one percent of the volume of the containers, or one percent of the largest container, whichever is greater.

#### A1-1b Description of Containers

The regulations at 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR §264.171) require that containers holding waste be in good condition as provided in Permit Part 3, Section 3.3, *Condition of Containers*. Waste containers shall be in good condition (e.g., high integrity, intact, no severe rusting, no apparent structural defects, no signs of pressurization) prior to shipment from a generator site. The Manager of the U.S. Department of Energy (**DOE**) Carlsbad Field Office has the authority to suspend a generator’s certification to ship TRU mixed waste to the WIPP facility should the generator fail to meet this requirement. The level of rigor applied in these areas to ensure container integrity on both ends of the transportation process ensures that waste containers entering the waste management process line at the WIPP facility meet the applicable Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (**RCRA**) requirements for container condition.

Transuranic mixed waste containers meet the requirements for U.S. Department of Transportation (**DOT**) specification 7A regulations. These containers are required to be vented through one or more DOE-approved filter vents to prevent internal container pressurization caused by gas generation and to prevent radioactive particulate material from escaping.

1 A1-1b(1) CH TRU Mixed Waste Containers

2 Contact-handled (**CH**) TRU mixed waste containers are either 55-gallon (**gal**) (208-liter (**L**))  
3 drums singly or arranged into seven-packs, 85-gal (322-L) drums singly or arranged into four-  
4 packs, 100-gal (379 L) drums singly or arranged into three-packs, ten-drum overpacks (**TDOP**),  
5 standard large box 2s (**SLB2**), or SWBs. These CH mixed waste containers may be either  
6 direct-loaded or used to overpack CH TRU mixed containers that are leaking or are not in good  
7 condition. The CH TRU mixed waste containers are constructed of steel. Drums may also  
8 contain rigid, molded polyethylene (or other material compatible with TRU mixed waste) liners.  
9 A summary description of each CH TRU mixed waste container type is provided in Table A1-1,  
10 and the containers are illustrated in Figures M-3 through M-8. The maximum loaded, or gross,  
11 weights of these containers are listed in Table A1-2.

12 A1-1b(2) RH TRU Mixed Waste Containers

13 Remote-handled (**RH**) TRU mixed waste containers include RH-TRU 72-B Canisters, which are  
14 received at the WIPP facility loaded singly in an RH-TRU 72-B cask; Facility Canisters, which  
15 are used to configure 55-gal (208-L) drums for emplacement; shielded containers, which are  
16 received in HalfPACTs; and 55-gal (208-L) drums, which are received in a CNS 10-160B cask.  
17 The RH TRU mixed waste containers are constructed of steel. The shielded container is  
18 constructed with approximately one inch of lead shielding on the sides and approximately three  
19 inches of steel on the top and bottom of the container and is used to emplace RH TRU mixed  
20 waste; however, the shielding allows it to be managed and stored in accordance with CH TRU  
21 mixed waste handling practices. A summary description of each RH TRU mixed waste container  
22 type is provided in Table A1-1, and the containers are illustrated in Figures M-9 through M-11.  
23 The maximum loaded, or gross, weights of these containers are listed in Tables A1-2 and A1-3.

24 A1-1b(3) Container Compatibility

25 Containers are made of steel, and some contain rigid, molded polyethylene liners. The  
26 compatibility study, documented in Appendix C1 of the WIPP RCRA Part B Permit Application  
27 (DOE, 1997a), included container materials to assure containers are compatible with the waste.  
28 Therefore, these containers meet the requirements of 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR  
29 §264.172).

30 A1-1c Description of the Container Storage Units

31 A1-1c(1) Waste Handling Building Container Storage Unit (WHB Unit)

32 The WHB is the surface facility where TRU mixed waste handling activities take place (Figure  
33 M-12). The WHB has a total area of approximately 84,000 square feet (**ft<sup>2</sup>**) (7,804 square  
34 meters (**m<sup>2</sup>**)) of which 32,307 ft<sup>2</sup> (3,001 m<sup>2</sup>) are designated for the waste handling and container  
35 storage of CH TRU mixed waste and 17,403 ft<sup>2</sup> (1,617 m<sup>2</sup>) are designated for handling and  
36 storage of RH TRU mixed waste, as shown in Figures M-1 and M-13 through M-16. These areas  
37 comprise the WHB Unit. The concrete floors are sufficiently impervious to contain leaks and  
38 spills of TRU mixed waste to meet the requirements of 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR  
39 §264.175(b)(1)). The concrete floors are sealed with a coating that has been demonstrated to  
40 be compatible with TRU mixed waste.

## 1 CH Bay Surge Storage Area

2 The Permittees coordinate shipments with the generator/storage sites in an attempt to minimize  
3 the use of surge storage. However, there may be circumstances causing shipments to arrive  
4 that would exceed the maximum capacity of the CH Bay Storage Area, as specified in Permit  
5 Part 3, Table 3.1.1, *WHB Unit*. The Permittees may use the CH Bay Surge Storage Area as  
6 specified in Permit Part 3, Section 3.1.1.3 (see Figure M-1) only when the maximum capacities  
7 in the CH Bay Storage Area (except for the Shielded Storage Room) and the Parking Area Unit  
8 are reached and at least one of the following conditions is met (as discussed in Section A1-  
9 1e(2), the PAU may not be full, but the shipping package has reached day 59 of its Nuclear  
10 Regulatory Commission (**NRC**) 60-day venting period limit, and the waste containers must be  
11 removed from the shipping package and placed into storage in the WHB Unit):

- 12 • Surface or underground waste handling equipment malfunctions prevent the  
13 Permittees from moving waste to disposal locations;
- 14 • Hoisting or underground ventilation equipment malfunctions prevent the Permittees  
15 from moving waste into the underground;
- 16 • Power outages cause a suspension of waste emplacement activities;
- 17 • Inbound shipment delays are imminent because the PAU Surge Storage is in use; or
- 18 • Onsite or offsite emergencies cause a suspension of waste emplacement activities.

19 The Permittees must notify the NMED and those on the e-mail notification list (as specified in  
20 Permit Part 1, Section 1.11 and Permit Part 3, Section 3.1.1.4) upon using the CH Bay Surge  
21 Storage Area and provide justification for its use.

## 22 CH TRU Mixed Waste

23 The CH packages used to transport TRU mixed waste containers are received through one of  
24 three air-lock entries to the CH Bay of the WHB Unit. The WHB heating, ventilation and air  
25 conditioning (**HVAC**) system maintains the interior of the WHB at a pressure lower than the  
26 ambient atmosphere to ensure that air flows into the WHB, preventing the inadvertent release of  
27 any hazardous or radioactive constituent contamination as the result of a contamination event.  
28 The doors at each end of the air lock are interlocked to prevent both from opening  
29 simultaneously and equalizing CH Bay pressure with outside atmospheric pressure.

### 30 • TRUPACT-II and HalfPACT Management

31 The CH Bay houses two TRUPACT-II Docks (**TRUDOCKs**), each equipped with  
32 overhead cranes for opening and unloading CH packages. The TRUDOCKs are within  
33 the TRUDOCK Storage Area of the WHB Unit. The cranes are rated to lift the CH  
34 package lids and package contents. The cranes are designed to remain on their tracks  
35 and hold their load even in the event of a design-basis earthquake.

36 Upon receipt and removal of CH TRU mixed waste containers from the CH package,  
37 the waste containers are visually inspected for physical damage and leakage to ensure  
38 they are in good condition prior to storage. Waste containers are also checked for

1 external radiological surface contamination through the use of swipes and radiation  
2 monitoring equipment, consistent with radiological control procedures pursuant to 10  
3 CFR Part 835. Decontamination activities will not be conducted on containers that are  
4 not in good condition or are leaking. If the waste container is not in good condition, the  
5 Permittees will either overpack the container with another approved container,  
6 repair/patch the container in accordance with appropriate standards and guidance  
7 (e.g., 40 CFR §173.28), return the container to the generator, or send the CH package  
8 to a third-party contractor. If local decontamination activities are opted for, the work will  
9 be conducted in the WHB Unit, consistent with radiological control procedures.

10 Once unloaded from the CH package, CH TRU mixed waste containers (seven-packs,  
11 three-packs, four-packs, SWBs, or TDOPs) are placed in one of two positions on the  
12 facility pallet or on a containment pallet. The waste containers are stacked, on the  
13 facility pallets (one- or two-high, depending on weight considerations). Waste on  
14 containment pallets are stacked one-high. The use of facility or containment pallets  
15 elevates the waste at least 6 inches (in.) (15 centimeters (cm)) from the floor surface.  
16 Pallets of waste are then maintained in the CH Bay Storage Area of the WHB Unit for  
17 normal storage.

18 In addition, four CH packages, containing up to eight seven-packs, three-packs, four-  
19 packs, SWBs, or four TDOPs, may occupy positions at the TRUDOCKs. If waste  
20 containers are left in this area, they will be in the CH package with or without the  
21 shipping container lids removed.

22 • TRUPACT-III Management

23 The TRUPACT-III containing one SLB2 is transferred to a Yard Transfer Vehicle in the  
24 PAU using a forklift. The Yard Transfer Vehicle then transports the TRUPACT-III into  
25 the CH Bay through one of the airlocks and into Room 108 for unloading (Figure M-1).  
26 The TRUPACT-III is first transported to the bolting station where the overpack cover  
27 and closure lid are removed using a bolting robot, or manually as required, and a  
28 monorail hoist. The TRUPACT-III is then moved to the Payload Transfer Station where  
29 the SLB2 is removed from the TRUPACT-III.

30 The SLB2 is visually inspected for physical damage and leakage in a similar manner  
31 as containers removed from a TRUPACT-II or HalfPACT to ensure it is in good  
32 condition. The SLB2 is also checked for external radiological surface contamination  
33 through the use of swipes and radiation monitoring equipment, consistent with  
34 radiological control procedures pursuant to 10 CFR Part 835. Decontamination  
35 activities will not be conducted on containers that are not in good condition or are  
36 leaking. If the waste container is not in good condition, the Permittees will either  
37 repair/patch the container in accordance with appropriate standards and guidance  
38 (e.g., 49 CFR §173.28), return the container to the generator, or send the SLB2 to a  
39 third-party contractor. If local decontamination activities are opted for, the work will be  
40 conducted in the WHB Unit consistent with radiological control procedures pursuant to  
41 10 CFR Part 835.

42 Once the SLB2 is unloaded from the TRUPACT-III in Room 108, it is placed on a  
43 facility pallet and moved to a pallet stand or floor storage location in the CH Bay or  
44 Room 108 for storage or to the conveyance loading room for waste emplacement.

1 As indicated in Figure M-1, the shaded areas of the CH Bay and Room 108 (CH Bay Storage  
2 Area) are available for TRU mixed waste storage as long as sufficient aisle space (i.e., minimum  
3 of 44 in. (1.1 m)) is maintained. Transuranic mixed waste may be stored in the CH Bay Storage  
4 Area of the WHB Unit in quantities not to exceed the maximum capacities specified in Permit  
5 Part 3, Table 3.1.1.

6 The Derived Waste Storage Area of the WHB Unit is on the north wall of the CH Bay. This area  
7 may contain containers up to the volume of an SWB for collecting derived waste from all TRU  
8 mixed waste handling processes in the WHB Unit. The Derived Waste Storage Area can  
9 accommodate containers in size up to an SWB to be used to accumulate derived waste. The  
10 TRU mixed waste volume stored in this area will not exceed the maximum capacity specified in  
11 Permit Part 3, Table 3.1.1. The derived waste containers in the Derived Waste Storage Area are  
12 stored on containment pallets, which are polyethylene trays with a grated deck, which elevate  
13 the derived waste containers at least 6 in. (15 cm) from the floor surface and provide  
14 approximately 50 gal (190 L) of secondary containment capacity.

15 The aisle space in the WHB Unit TRU mixed waste storage areas is adequate to allow  
16 unobstructed movement of fire-fighting personnel, spill-control equipment, and decontamination  
17 equipment that would be used in the event of an off-normal event. A minimum aisle spacing of  
18 44 in. (1.1 m) between loaded facility pallets is maintained in the WHB Unit TRU mixed waste  
19 storage areas. Concrete barriers provide added protection from equipment being utilized in  
20 adjacent rooms and buildings to the west of the CH-Bay wall in the WHB.

21 The WHB has been designed to meet DOE design and associated quality assurance  
22 requirements. The 2009 Amended Renewal Application, Chapter M1, Table M1-1 (DOE, 2009)  
23 provided a summary of basic design requirements, principal codes, and standards for the WIPP  
24 facility. Appendix D2 of the WIPP RCRA Part B Permit Application (DOE, 1997a) provided  
25 engineering design-basis earthquake and tornado reports. The design-basis earthquake report  
26 provides the basis for seismic design of WIPP facility structures, including the WHB foundation.  
27 The WIPP facility design-basis earthquake is 0.1 g peak ground acceleration. The WIPP facility  
28 design-basis tornado includes a maximum windspeed of 183 miles per hour (**mi/hr**) ((294.5  
29 kilometers per hr (**km/hr**)), which is the vector sum of the velocity components. It is also limited  
30 to a translational velocity of 41 mi/hr (66 km/hr) and a tangential velocity of 124 mi/hr (200  
31 km/hr). Other parameters are a radius of maximum wind of 325 ft (99 m), a pressure drop of 0.5  
32 pounds per square inch (**lb/in.<sup>2</sup>**) (3.4 kilopascals (**kPa**)), and a rate-of-pressure drop of  
33 0.09 pounds per square inch per second (**lb/in.<sup>2</sup>/s**) (0.6 kilopascals per second (**kPa/s**)). A  
34 design-basis flood report is not available because flooding is not a credible phenomenon at the  
35 WIPP facility. Design calculations for the probable maximum precipitation (**PMP**) event,  
36 provided in Appendix D7 of the WIPP RCRA Part B Permit Application (DOE, 1997a), illustrated  
37 run-on protection for the WIPP facility.

38 The WIPP facility does not lie within a 100-year floodplain. There are no major surface-water  
39 bodies within 5 miles (**mi**) (8 kilometers (**km**)) of the site, and the nearest river, the Pecos River,  
40 is approximately 12 mi (19 km) away. The general ground elevation in the vicinity of the surface  
41 facilities (approximately 3,400 feet (**ft**) (1,036 meters (**m**)) above mean sea level) is about 500 ft  
42 (152 m) above the riverbed and 400 ft (122 m) above the 100-year floodplain. Protection from  
43 flooding or ponding caused by PMP events is provided by the diversion of water away from the  
44 WIPP facility by a system of peripheral interceptor berms and dikes. Additionally, grade  
45 elevations of roads and surface facilities are designed so that storm water will not collect within  
46 the Property Protection Area under the most severe conditions.



1 The following are the major pieces of equipment that are used to manage CH TRU mixed waste  
2 in the container storage units. A summary of equipment capacities, as required by 20.4.1.500  
3 NMAC is included in Table A1-2.

#### 4 TRUPACT-II Type B Packaging

5 The TRUPACT-II (Figure M-17) is a cylindrical shipping container 8 ft (2.4 m) in diameter and 10  
6 ft (3 m) high. It is an NRC-certified Type B package designed to meet the applicable  
7 requirements of 10 CFR Part 71 and has successfully completed rigorous container-integrity  
8 tests. The payload consists of approximately 7,265 pounds (**lb**) (3,300 kilograms (**kg**)) gross  
9 weight in up to fourteen 55-gal (208-L) drums, eight 85-gal (322-L) drums, six 100-gal (379-L)  
10 drums, two SWBs, or one TDOP.

#### 11 HalfPACT Type B Packaging

12 The HalfPACT (Figure M-18) is a right cylindrical shipping container 8 ft (2.4 m) in diameter and  
13 7.6 ft (2.3 m) high. It is an NRC-certified Type B package designed to meet the applicable  
14 requirements of 10 CFR Part 71 and has successfully completed rigorous container-integrity  
15 tests. The payload consists of approximately 7,600 lb (3,500 kg) gross weight in up to seven 55-  
16 gal (208-L) drums, one SWB, four 85-gal (322-L) drums, or three shielded containers.

#### 17 TRUPACT-III Type B Packaging

18 The TRUPACT-III (Figure M-19) is an NRC-certified Type B package designed to meet the  
19 applicable requirements of 10 CFR Part 71. The nominal dimensions for a TRUPACT-III are 14  
20 feet 1 inch long, 8 feet 2 inches wide and 8 feet 8 inches high. The TRUPACT-III is specifically  
21 certified to safely transport TRU wastes packaged in an SLB2.

22 This package, unlike the TRUPACT-II or HalfPACT, is horizontally loaded and is unloaded  
23 horizontally as well.

24 The TRUPACT-III has a bolted overpack cover that is secured to the TRUPACT-III container.

25 The maximum weight of a TRUPACT-III is 55,116 lb (25,000 kg) when loaded with the  
26 maximum allowable contents of 11,486 lb (5,210 kg).

#### 27 Unloading Docks

28 Each TRUDOCK is designed to accommodate up to two CH packages. The TRUDOCK  
29 functions as a work platform, providing TRU mixed waste handling personnel easy access to the  
30 container during unloading operations (see Figure M-12).

31 The Payload Transfer Station serves as the unloading dock for TRUPACT-III and can  
32 accommodate a single TRUPACT-III package (see Figure M-20).

#### 33 Forklifts

34 Forklifts may be used to transfer the CH packages into the WHB Unit and may be used to  
35 transfer palletized CH TRU mixed waste containers to the Facility Transfer Vehicle. Another  
36 forklift is used for general-purpose transfer operations. This forklift has attachments and  
37 adapters to handle individual TRU mixed waste containers, if required.

1 Cranes, Unloading Devices, and Lift Fixtures

2 At each TRUDOCK, an overhead bridge crane is used with a specially designed lift fixture for  
3 removing the lids and contents of the CH packages. Separate lifting attachments have been  
4 specifically designed to accommodate SWBs and TDOPs. The TRUPACT-III is unloaded  
5 horizontally in Room 108. The Payload Transfer Station, Yard Transfer Vehicle, Facility Transfer  
6 Vehicle, or forklift are used to perform the unloading and movement functions. The Payload  
7 Transfer Station includes retractable arms that are used to position the SLB2 onto the Facility  
8 Transfer Vehicle and facility pallet.

9 Facility or Containment Pallets

10 The facility pallet is a fabricated steel unit designed to support seven-packs, four-packs, or  
11 three-packs of drums, SWBs, TDOPs, an SLB2, or shielded container assemblies. The facility  
12 pallet can accommodate up to four seven-packs, four three-packs, or four four-packs of drums;  
13 four SWBs (in two stacks of two units); two TDOPs; one SLB2; or two shielded container three-  
14 pack assemblies. Loads are secured to the facility pallet during transport to the emplacement  
15 area. Facility pallets are shown in Figure M-21. Fork pockets in the side of the pallet allow the  
16 facility pallet to be lifted and transferred by forklift to prevent direct contact between TRU mixed  
17 waste containers and forklift tines. This arrangement reduces the potential for puncture  
18 accidents. Facility pallets may also be moved by facility transfer vehicles. WIPP facility  
19 operational documents define the operational load of the facility pallet to ensure that the rated  
20 load of a facility pallet is not exceeded.

21 Containment pallets are fabricated units having a containment capacity of at least ten percent of  
22 the volume of the containers and designed to support a minimum of either a single drum, a  
23 single SWB or a single TDOP. The pallets have a rated load capacity of equal to or greater than  
24 the gross weight limit of the container(s) to be supported on the pallet. Loads are secured to the  
25 containment pallet during transport. A typical containment pallet is shown in Figure M-22. Fork  
26 pockets in the side of the pallet allow the containment pallet to be lifted and transferred by  
27 forklift. WIPP facility operational documents define the operational load of the containment pallet  
28 to assure that the rated load of a containment pallet is not exceeded.

29 Facility Transfer Vehicle

30 The Facility Transfer Vehicle is an electric battery-powered automated vehicle with an on-board  
31 guidance system that allows the vehicle to operate on the floor of the WHB. It has a feature that  
32 allows it to lower integrated rail wheels so that it can operate on the Waste Hoist tracks. It is  
33 designed with a flat bed that has adjustable height capability that may be used to transfer waste  
34 payloads placed on facility pallets on or off the facility pallet stands in the CH Bay storage area  
35 or the Waste Shaft Conveyance by raising and lowering the bed (see Figure M-23).

36 Yard Transfer Vehicle

37 The Yard Transfer Vehicle (Figure M-24) is an electric battery-powered vehicle that transports  
38 the TRUPACT-III shipping container from the PAU into the WHB and into Room 108.

## RH TRU Mixed Waste

The RH TRU mixed waste is handled and stored in the RH Complex of the WHB Unit which comprises the following locations: RH Bay, the Cask Unloading Room, the Hot Cell, the Transfer Cell (Figures M-1 and M-13 through M-15), and the Facility Cask Loading Room (Figure M-16). The maximum storage capacities of each of these locations are prescribed in Permit Part 3, Table 3.1.1.

The RH Bay (Figure M-13) is a high-bay area for receiving casks and subsequent handling operations. The trailer carrying the RH-TRU 72-B or CNS 10-160B shipping cask (Figures M-25 through M-28) enters the RH Bay through a set of double doors on the east side of the WHB. The RH Bay houses the Cask Transfer Car. The RH Bay is served by the RH Bay Overhead Bridge Crane used for cask handling and maintenance operations. Storage in the RH Bay occurs in the RH-TRU 72-B or CNS 10-160B casks. The storage occurs after the trailer containing the cask is moved into the RH Bay and prior to moving the cask into the Cask Unloading Room to stage the waste for disposal operations.

The Cask Unloading Room (Figure M-13) provides for transfer of the RH-TRU 72-B cask to the Transfer Cell, or the transfer of drums from the CNS 10-160B cask to the Hot Cell. Storage in the Cask Unloading Room occurs in the RH-TRU 72-B or CNS 10-160B casks. Storage in this area typically occurs to facilitate operations during a shift, at the end of a shift, or in an off-normal event that results in the suspension of waste handling operations.

The Hot Cell (Figure M-14) is a concrete shielded room in which drums of RH TRU mixed waste are transferred remotely from the CNS 10-160B cask, staged in the Hot Cell, and loaded into a Facility Canister. The loaded Facility Canister is then lowered from the Hot Cell into the Transfer Cell Shuttle Car containing a Shielded Insert. Storage in the Hot Cell occurs in either drums or Facility Canisters. Drums that are stored are either on the drum carriage unit that was removed from the CNS 10-160B cask or in Facility Canisters.

The Transfer Cell (Figure M-15) houses the Transfer Cell Shuttle Car, which moves the RH-TRU 72-B cask or Shielded Insert into position for transferring the canister to the Facility Cask. Storage in this area typically occurs to facilitate operations during a shift, at the end of a shift, or in an off-normal event that results in the suspension of a waste handling evolution.

The Facility Cask Loading Room (Figure M-16) provides for transfer of a canister to the Facility Cask (Figure M-29) for subsequent transfer to the Waste Shaft Conveyance and to the underground Hazardous Waste Disposal Unit (**HWDU**). The Facility Cask Loading Room also functions as an air lock between the Waste Shaft and the Transfer Cell. Storage in this area typically occurs to facilitate operations during a shift, at the end of a shift, or in an off-normal event that results in the suspension of waste handling operations.

Following is a description of major pieces of equipment that are used to manage RH TRU mixed waste in the WHB Unit. A summary of equipment capacities, as required by 20.4.1.500 NMAC, is included in Table A1-3.

## Casks

The RH-TRU 72-B cask (Figure M-27) is a cylindrical NRC-certified Type B package designed to meet the applicable requirements of 10 CFR Part 71. It consists of a separate inner vessel

1 within a stainless steel, lead-shielded outer cask protected by impact limiters at each end, made  
2 of stainless-steel skins filled with polyurethane foam. The inner vessel is made of stainless steel  
3 and provides an internal containment boundary and a cavity for the payload. Neither the outer  
4 cask nor the inner vessel is vented. Payload capacity of each RH-TRU 72-B shipping cask is  
5 8,000 lbs (3,628 kg). The payload consists of a canister of RH TRU mixed waste, which may  
6 contain up to 31.4 ft<sup>3</sup> (0.89 m<sup>3</sup>) of directly loaded waste or waste in smaller containers.

7 The CNS 10-160B cask (Figure M-28) is an NRC-certified Type B package designed to meet  
8 the applicable requirements of 10 CFR Part 71. It consists of two carbon steel shells and a lead  
9 shield, welded to a carbon steel bottom plate. A 12-gauge stainless steel thermal shield  
10 surrounds the cask outer shell, which is equipped with two steel-encased, rigid polyurethane  
11 foam impact limiters attached to the top and bottom of the cask. The CNS 10-160B cask is not  
12 vented. Payload capacity of each CNS 10-160B cask is 14,500 lbs (6,577 kg). The payload  
13 consists of up to ten 55-gal (208-L) drums.

#### 14 Shielded Insert

15 The Shielded Insert (Figure M-30) is specifically designed to be used in the Transfer Cell to hold  
16 and transport loaded Facility Canisters from the Hot Cell until loaded into the Facility Cask. The  
17 Shielded Insert, designed and constructed similar to the RH-TRU 72-B shipping cask, has a 29  
18 in. inside diameter with an inside length of 130.5 in. (331.5 cm) to accommodate the Facility  
19 Canister. The Shielded Insert is installed on and removed from the Transfer Cell Shuttle Car in  
20 the same manner as the RH-TRU 72-B shipping cask.

#### 21 CNS 10-160B Drum Carriage

22 The CNS 10-160B drum carriage (Figure M-31) is a steel device used to handle drums in the  
23 CNS 10-160B cask. The drum carriages are stacked two high in the CNS 10-160B cask during  
24 shipment. They are removed from the cask using a below-the-hook lifting device termed a  
25 pentapod. The drum carriage is rated to lift up to five drums.

#### 26 RH Bay Overhead Bridge Crane

27 In the RH Bay, an overhead bridge crane is used to lift the cask from the trailer and place it on  
28 the Cask Transfer Car. It is also used to remove the impact limiters from the casks and may be  
29 used to remove the outer lid of the RH-TRU 72-B cask.

#### 30 Cask Lifting Yoke

31 The lifting yoke is a lifting fixture that attaches to the RH Bay Overhead Bridge Crane and is  
32 designed to lift and rotate the RH-TRU 72-B cask onto the Cask Transfer Car.

#### 33 Cask Transfer Cars

34 The Cask Transfer Cars (Figures M-32 and M-33) are self-propelled, rail-guided vehicles that  
35 transport casks between the RH Bay and the Cask Unloading Room.

#### 36 6.25 Ton Grapple Hoist

37 A 6.25 Ton Grapple Hoist is used to hoist the canister from the Transfer Cell Shuttle Car into the  
38 Facility Cask.

1 Facility Canister

2 The Facility Canister is a cylindrical container designed to hold three 55-gal (208-L) drums of  
3 either RH TRU waste or dunnage (Figure M-9).

4 Facility Cask

5 The Facility Cask, or Light Weight Facility Cask, body consists of two concentric steel cylinders.  
6 The annulus between the cylinders is filled with lead, and gate shield valves are located at  
7 either end. Figure M-29 provides an outline configuration of the Facility Cask. The canister is  
8 placed inside the Facility Cask for shielding during canister transfer from the RH Complex to the  
9 underground HWDU for emplacement.

10 Facility Cask Transfer Car

11 The Facility Cask Transfer Car (Figure M-34) is a self-propelled rail car that is used to move the  
12 Facility Cask between the Facility Cask Loading Room and the Shaft Station in the  
13 underground.

14 Hot Cell Bridge Crane

15 The Hot Cell Bridge Crane, outfitted with a rotating block and the Hot Cell Facility Grapple, is  
16 used to lift the CNS 10-160B lid and the drum carriage units from the cask located in the Cask  
17 Unloading Room, into the Hot Cell. The Hot Cell Bridge Crane is also used to lift the empty  
18 Facility Canisters into place within the Hot Cell, move loaded drums into the Facility Canister,  
19 and lower loaded Facility Canisters into the Transfer Cell.

20 Overhead Powered Manipulator

21 The Overhead Powered Manipulator is used in the Hot Cell to lift individual drums from the drum  
22 carriage unit and lower each drum into the Facility Canister and support miscellaneous Hot Cell  
23 operations.

24 Manipulators

25 There is a maximum of two operational sets of fixed Manipulators in the Hot Cell. The  
26 Manipulators are used to collect swipes of drums as they are being lifted from the drum carriage  
27 unit, transfer the swipes to the Shielded Material Transfer Drawer for pertinent analysis, and  
28 support Hot Cell operations.

29 Shielded Material Transfer Drawer

30 The Shielded Material Transfer Drawer is used to transfer swipe samples obtained by the fixed  
31 Manipulators to the Hot Cell Gallery for radiological counting and transferring small equipment  
32 into and out of the Hot Cell.

33 Closed-Circuit Television Cameras

34 The Closed-Circuit Television Camera system is used to monitor operations throughout the Hot  
35 Cell and Transfer Cell. These cameras are used to perform inspections of waste containers and  
36 waste management areas. This camera system is operated from the shielded room in the

1 Facility Cask Loading Room, Cask Unloading Room, and Hot Cell Gallery. The camera system  
2 has a video recording capability as an operational aid.

### 3 Transfer Cell Shuttle Car

4 The Transfer Cell Shuttle Car (Figure M-35) positions the loaded RH-TRU 72-B cask and  
5 Shielded Insert within the Transfer Cell.

### 6 Cask Unloading Room Crane

7 The Cask Unloading Room Crane lifts and suspends the RH-TRU 72-B cask or Shielded Insert  
8 from the Transfer Car and lowers the cask or Shielded Insert into the Transfer Cell Shuttle Car.

### 9 Facility Cask Rotating Device

10 The Facility Cask Rotating Device, a floor mounted hydraulically operated structure, is designed  
11 to rotate the Facility Cask from the horizontal position to the vertical position for waste canister  
12 loading and then back to the horizontal position after the waste canister has been loaded into  
13 the Facility Cask (Figure M-36).

### 14 A1-1c(2) Parking Area Container Storage Unit (PAU)

15 The parking area south of the WHB (see Figure M-2) is used for storage of waste containers  
16 within sealed shipping containers awaiting unloading. The area extending south from the WHB  
17 within the security-fenced enclosure identified as the Controlled Area is defined as the PAU.  
18 **Concrete b**Barriers provide protection from vehicles and equipment for the interior of the south  
19 side of the WHB. The PAU provides storage space for up to 6,734 ft<sup>3</sup> (191 m<sup>3</sup>) of TRU mixed  
20 waste, contained in up to 40 loaded CH packages and eight RH packages. Secondary  
21 containment and protection of the waste containers from standing liquid are provided by the CH  
22 or RH packaging. Wastes placed in the PAU remain sealed in their CH or RH packages while in  
23 this area.

24 The NRC Certificate of Compliance requires that sealed CH or RH packages containing waste  
25 be vented every 60 days to avoid unacceptable levels of internal pressure. Any off-normal event  
26 which results in the need to store a waste container in the PAU for a period of time approaching  
27 59 days shall be handled in accordance with Section A1-1e(2) of this Permit Attachment. Under  
28 no circumstances shall a CH or RH package be stored in the PAU for more than 59 days after  
29 the date that the CH or RH package was sealed at the generator site, as recorded in the Inner  
30 Containment Vessel (**ICV**) Closure Date field of the WIPP Waste Information System (**WWIS**)  
31 database.

### 32 Parking Area Unit Surge Storage Area

33 The Permittees coordinate shipments with the generator/storage sites in an attempt to minimize  
34 the use of surge storage. However, there may be circumstances causing shipments to arrive  
35 that would exceed the maximum capacity of the PAU, as specified in Permit Part 3, Table 3.1.2,  
36 *Parking Area Unit*. The Permittees may use the PAU Surge Storage Area as specified in Permit  
37 Part 3, Section 3.1.2.3 (see Figure M-2) only when the maximum capacity in the PAU is reached  
38 and at least one of the following conditions is met:

- 1       • Surface or underground waste handling equipment malfunctions prevent the  
2       Permittees from moving waste to disposal locations;
- 3       • Hoisting or underground ventilation equipment malfunctions prevent the Permittees  
4       from moving waste into the underground;
- 5       • Power outages cause a suspension of waste emplacement activities;
- 6       • Inbound shipment delays are imminent because the PAU is full; or
- 7       • Onsite or offsite emergencies cause a suspension of waste emplacement activities.

8       The Permittees must notify NMED and those on the e-mail notification list (as specified in Permit  
9       Part 1, Section 1.11 and Permit Part 3, Section 3.1.2.4) upon using the PAU Surge Storage  
10      Area and provide justification for its use.

#### 11      A1-1d   Container Management Practices

12      20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR §264.173) requires that containers be managed in a  
13      manner that does not result in spills or leaks. Because containers at the WIPP facility contain  
14      radioactive waste, safety concerns require that containers be continuously vented to prevent the  
15      buildup of gases within the container. These gases could result from radiolysis, which is the  
16      breakdown of moisture by radiation. The vents are generally installed on or near the lids of the  
17      containers. These vents are filtered so that gas can escape while radioactive particulates are  
18      retained.

19      TRU mixed waste containers, containing off-site waste, are never opened at the WIPP facility.  
20      Derived waste containers are kept closed at all times unless waste is being added or removed.

21      Off-normal (unplanned) events could interrupt normal operations in the waste management  
22      process line. Shipments of waste from the generator sites will be stopped in an off-normal event  
23      which results in an interruption to normal waste handling operations that exceeds three days  
24      and could potentially cause the maximum permitted storage capacities and/or time limits to be  
25      exceeded. These off-normal events typically fall into the following categories:

- 26      • Waste management system equipment malfunctions that prevent unloading or  
27      downloading waste to the underground
- 28      • Waste shipments with unacceptable levels of surface contamination that prevent  
29      unloading or downloading waste to the underground
- 30      • Hazardous Waste Manifest discrepancies that are not immediately resolved and  
31      prevent unloading or downloading waste to the underground
- 32      • A suspension of emplacement activities for regulatory reasons

#### 33      A1-1d(1)   Derived Waste

34      The WIPP facility operational philosophy is to introduce no new hazardous chemical  
35      components into TRU mixed waste or TRU mixed waste residues that could be present in the

1 controlled area. This is accomplished principally through written procedures and the use of Safe  
2 Work Permits (**SWP**)<sup>1</sup> and Radiological Work Permits (**RWP**)<sup>2</sup> which govern the activities within  
3 a controlled area involving TRU mixed waste. The purpose of this operating philosophy is to  
4 avoid generating TRU mixed waste that is compositionally different than the TRU mixed waste  
5 shipped to the WIPP facility for disposal.

6 Some additional TRU mixed waste, such as used personal protective equipment, swipes, and  
7 tools, may result from decontamination operations and off-normal events. Such waste will be  
8 assumed to be contaminated with RCRA-regulated hazardous constituents in the TRU mixed  
9 waste containers from which it was derived. Derived waste may be generated as the result of  
10 decontamination activities during the waste handling process. Should radiological  
11 decontamination activities be performed, the work will be conducted consistent with radiological  
12 control procedures pursuant to 10 CFR Part 835. For decontamination of hazardous waste  
13 constituents, water and a cleaning agent such as those listed in Permit Attachment D will be  
14 used. Derived waste will be considered acceptable for management at the WIPP facility  
15 because any TRU mixed waste shipped to the facility will have already been determined to be  
16 acceptable and because no new hazardous waste constituents will be added. Data on the  
17 derived waste will be entered into the WWIS database. Derived waste will be contained in  
18 standard DOT approved Type A containers.

19 As each derived waste container is filled, it is closed with a lid containing a high efficiency  
20 particulate air (**HEPA**)-grade filter and moved to an underground HWDU using the same  
21 equipment used for handling TRU mixed waste.

#### 22 A1-1d(2) CH TRU Mixed Waste Handling

23 Contact-handled TRU mixed waste containers arrive by tractor-trailer at the WIPP facility in  
24 sealed shipping containers (e.g., TRUPACT-IIs, HalfPACTs, or TRUPACT-IIIs) (see Figure M-  
25 37). Prior to unloading the packages from the trailer, they undergo security and radiological  
26 checks and shipping documentation reviews. A forklift removes the CH packages which are  
27 transported by forklift or Yard Transfer Vehicle through an air lock that is designed to maintain  
28 differential pressure in the WHB. The forklift places the shipping containers at either one of the  
29 two TRUDOCKs in the TRUDOCK Storage Area of the WHB Unit, or the Yard Transfer Vehicle  
30 locates the TRUPACT-III at the bolting station in Room 108. An external survey of the CH  
31 package ICV lid (Figure M-17 and M-18) is performed as the Outer Confinement Vessel (**OCV**)  
32 lid is removed. The ICV lid or closure lid is lifted under the Vent Hood System (**VHS**), and the  
33 contents are surveyed during and after this process is complete. The VHS<sup>3</sup> is attached to the

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<sup>1</sup> SWPs are prepared to assure that any hazardous work (not already covered by a procedure) is performed with due precaution. SWPs are issued by the Permittees after a job supervisor completes the proper form detailing the job location, work description, personnel involved, specific hazards involved, and protective requirements. The Permittees review the form, check on the adequacy of the protective measures, and if sufficient, approve the work permit. Conditions of the SWPs must be met while any hazardous work is proceeding. Examples of activities covered by the SWP program include confined space entry, overhead work, and work on energized equipment.

<sup>2</sup> RWPs are used to control entry into and performance of work within a controlled area (**CA**). Managers responsible for work within a CA must generate a work permit that specifies the work scope, limiting conditions, dosimetry, respiratory protection, protective clothing, specific worker qualifications, and radiation safety technician support. RWPs are approved by the Permittees after thorough review. No work can proceed in a CA without a valid RWP.

<sup>3</sup> The TRU mixed waste container headspace may contain radiologically contaminated airborne dust particles.



1 CH package to provide atmospheric control and confinement of headspace gases at their  
2 source. It also prevents potential personnel exposure and facility contamination due to the  
3 spread of radiologically contaminated airborne dust particles and minimizes personnel exposure  
4 to VOCs.

5 Contamination surveys at the WIPP facility are based in part on radiological surveys used to  
6 indicate potential releases of hazardous constituents from containers by virtue of detection of  
7 radioactive contamination (see Permit Attachment G3). Radiological surveys may be applicable  
8 to most hazardous constituent releases except the release of gaseous VOCs from TRU mixed  
9 waste containers. Radiological surveys provide the WIPP facility with a very sensitive method of  
10 indicating the potential release of nongaseous hazardous constituents through the use of  
11 surface sampling (swipes) and radioactivity counting. Radiological surveys are used in addition  
12 to the more conventional techniques such as visual inspection to identify spills.

13 Under normal operations, it is not expected that the waste containers will be externally  
14 contaminated pursuant to 10 CFR Part 835. However, should there be contamination in excess  
15 of the radiological control limits pursuant to 10 CFR Part 835, the shipping package or the waste  
16 container will be managed in accordance with radiological control procedures pursuant to 10  
17 CFR Part 835. Decontamination activities will not be conducted on containers that are not in  
18 good condition or are leaking. Containers that are not in good condition, and containers that are  
19 leaking, will be overpacked (if applicable) in an approved container, repaired/patched in  
20 accordance with appropriate standards and guidance (e.g., 49 CFR §173.28), returned to the  
21 generator, or sent to a third-party contractor. In addition, if during the waste handling process at  
22 the WIPP facility, a waste container is breached, it will be overpacked (if applicable) in an  
23 approved container, repaired/patched in accordance with appropriate standards and guidance  
24 (e.g., 49 CFR §173.28), or managed in accordance with radiological control procedures  
25 pursuant to 10 CFR Part 835. The overpacked or repaired container will be labeled and  
26 emplaced in an underground HWDU for disposal. Should WIPP facility structures or equipment  
27 become contaminated, waste handling operations in the affected area will be managed in  
28 accordance with standard operating procedures, and the contaminated structures or equipment  
29 will be managed consistent with radiological control procedures pursuant to 10 CFR Part 835.

30 Hazardous waste decontamination activities will use water and cleaning agents (see Permit  
31 Attachment D) so as to not generate any waste that cannot be considered derived waste. Items  
32 that are radiologically contaminated are also assumed to be contaminated with the hazardous  
33 wastes that are in the container involved in the spill or release. A complete listing of these waste  
34 components can be obtained from the WWIS, as described in Permit Attachment C, for the  
35 purpose of characterizing derived waste.

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1. ~~Without the VHS, a potential mechanism will exist to spread contamination (if present) in the immediate CH TRU mixed waste handling area, because lid removal will immediately expose headspace gases to prevailing air currents induced by the building ventilation system.~~

2. With the VHS, a confined and controlled set of prevailing air currents will be induced by the system blower. The VHS will function as a local exhaust system to effectively control radiologically contaminated airborne dust particles (and VOCs) at essentially atmospheric pressure conditions.

Functionally, the VHS will draw the TRU mixed waste container headspace gases, convey them through a HEPA filter, and ultimately duct them through the WHB exhaust ventilation system. VOCs will pass through the HEPA filter and will be conveyed to the ventilation exhaust duct system. The system principally consists of a functional aggregation of 1) vent hood assembly, 2) HEPA filter assemblies (to capture any airborne radioactive particles), 3) blower (to provide forced airflow), 4) ductwork, and 5) flexible hose.

1 It is assumed that the process of localized surface decontamination will remove the hazardous  
2 waste constituents along with the radioactive waste constituents. Therefore, waste containers  
3 will be emplaced in the underground HWDUs without further action once localized radiological  
4 contamination is removed unless there is visible evidence of hazardous waste spills or  
5 hazardous waste on the container. Hazardous waste decontamination will be conducted, if  
6 necessary, in accordance with the requirements of the Permit and the standards of 20.4.1.500  
7 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR Part 264). In the event of area contamination, a radiological  
8 boundary will be established in accordance with radiological control procedures. Inside this  
9 boundary, cleanup activities are controlled with protocols for the cleanup of spills and releases.  
10 As dictated by cleanup protocols, decontamination will be managed consistent with radiological  
11 control procedures pursuant to 10 CFR Part 835. Once the area is cleaned up and is shown to  
12 be radiologically clean, it will be sampled for the presence of hazardous waste residues.  
13 Hazardous waste decontamination will be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the  
14 Permit and the standards of 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR Part 264). A sampling  
15 plan will be developed, as needed, which incorporates the guidance of SW-846 (EPA, 2015) in  
16 selecting random samples over large areas. Selection of constituents for sampling analysis will  
17 be based on information (in the WWIS) about the waste that was spilled and information on  
18 cleanup procedures. If the results of the analysis show that residual contamination remains, a  
19 decision will be made whether further cleaning will be beneficial or whether final clean-up will be  
20 deferred until closure. Appropriate notations will be entered into the Operating Record to assure  
21 proper consideration of formerly contaminated areas at the time of closure. Furthermore,  
22 measures such as covering, barricading, and/or placarding will be used as needed to mark  
23 areas that remain contaminated.

24 In the event that extensive area contamination is discovered within a CH package during  
25 unloading, the waste will be left in the CH package and the shipping container will be resealed.  
26 The DOE considers such contamination problems the responsibility of the shipping site. If an  
27 incident occurs involving the release of contamination within a shipping container or which  
28 compromises the integrity of the shipping container associated with TRU mixed waste shipped  
29 to the WIPP facility and the incident is reported under DOE Order 232.2A, then the Permittees  
30 will provide the Secretary with a report prepared to evaluate the incident and the results of any  
31 follow-up actions required of the generator/storage sites to prevent the recurrence of the  
32 incident. The Permittees must perform a root cause analysis on generation, transport, or  
33 disposal activities for the following reasons: (1) contamination may have occurred within the  
34 shipping container; (2) a shipping container may be compromised; or (3) at any time when  
35 directed by the NMED. Once a root cause analysis is required on a specific shipment or waste  
36 stream, the shipment or waste stream may not be disposed of at the WIPP facility until the root  
37 cause analysis is completed and corrective measures are implemented to prevent such  
38 concerns in the future. Prior to submitting the root cause analysis and corrective measures to  
39 the NMED for review and approval, the Permittees shall provide a copy of the root cause  
40 analysis and corrective measures to all generator/storage sites that ship waste to the WIPP  
41 facility. When submitting the root cause analysis and corrective measures to the NMED for  
42 review and approval, the Permittees shall ensure that the generator/storage sites enter  
43 the report into their respective required reading programs. The Permittees shall provide a  
44 certification signed by responsible officials from each organization that the root cause  
45 analysis and corrective measures were received by a responsible official at the  
46 generator/storage sites. The DOE will make the analysis available to the audit team prior to the  
47 next audit. The shipping package will be dispositioned according to the following options:

- 1       • The CH Package can be returned to the shipper for decontamination and repackaging  
2       of the waste. Such waste would have to be re-approved prior to shipment to the WIPP.
  
- 3       • Shipment to another DOE site for management in the event the original shipper does  
4       not have suitable facilities for decontamination. If the repairing site wishes to return the  
5       waste to WIPP, the site will have to meet the characterization requirements of the  
6       Waste Analysis Plan.
  
- 7       • The waste could go to a third (non-DOE) party for decontamination. In such cases, the  
8       repaired shipment would go to the original shipper and be recertified prior to shipment  
9       to the WIPP.

10      Written procedures specify materials, protocols, and steps needed to put an object into a safe  
11      configuration for decontamination of surfaces. TRU mixed waste products from decontamination  
12      will be managed as derived waste and in accordance with radiological control and waste  
13      handling procedures.

14      The TRUPACT-II may hold up to two seven-packs, two four-packs, and two three-packs of  
15      drums; two SWBs; or one TDOP. A HalfPACT may hold seven 55-gal (208-L) drums, one SWB,  
16      three shielded containers, or four 85-gal drums. The TRUPACT-III holds a single SLB2. An  
17      overhead bridge crane or Payload Transfer Station is used to remove the contents of the CH  
18      package and place them on a facility pallet.

19      For inventory control purposes, TRU mixed waste container identification numbers are verified  
20      in accordance with Permit Attachment C, Section C-5b(1). Inconsistencies will be resolved with  
21      the generator before TRU mixed waste is emplaced. Discrepancies that are not resolved within  
22      15 days will be reported to the NMED in accordance with 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40  
23      CFR §264.72).

24      Each facility pallet has two recessed pockets to accommodate two sets of seven-packs (see  
25      Figure M-21), two sets of four-packs, two sets of three-packs; two sets of SWBs stacked two-  
26      high; two TDOPs; two shielded container assemblies, or three-packs; or any combination  
27      thereof. Each facility pallet will accommodate one SLB2. Each stack of waste containers is  
28      secured prior to transport underground. A forklift or the Facility Transfer Vehicle will transport  
29      the loaded facility pallet to the conveyance loading room located adjacent to the Waste Shaft.  
30      The conveyance loading room serves as an air lock between the CH Bay and the Waste Shaft,  
31      preventing excessive air flow between the two areas. The Facility Transfer Vehicle is driven  
32      onto the Waste Shaft Conveyance deck, where the loaded facility pallet is transferred to the  
33      Waste Shaft Conveyance, and the Facility Transfer Vehicle is backed off. Containers of CH  
34      TRU mixed waste (55-gal (208-L) drums, SWBs, 85-gal (322-L) drums, 100-gal (379-L) drums,  
35      and TDOPs) or shielded container assemblies can be handled individually, if needed, using the  
36      forklift and lifting attachments (i.e., drum handlers, parrot beaks).

37      The Waste Shaft Conveyance will lower the loaded facility pallet to the Waste Shaft Station  
38      underground. From there, an underground transporter is used to transport the CH TRU mixed  
39      waste to the underground HWDU. Figures M-38 and M-39 are flow diagrams of the CH TRU  
40      mixed waste handling process.

1 A1-1d(3) RH TRU Mixed Waste Handling

2 The RH TRU mixed waste that is not in a shielded container will be received in the RH-TRU 72-  
3 B cask or CNS 10-160B cask loaded on a trailer, as illustrated in process flow diagrams in  
4 Figures M-40 and M-41, respectively. Remote-handled TRU mixed waste received in shielded  
5 containers is managed and stored as CH TRU mixed waste. Prior to unloading the cask from  
6 the trailer, external radiological surveys, security checks, shipping documentation reviews are  
7 performed, and the Uniform Hazardous Waste Manifest is signed. The generator's copy of the  
8 Uniform Hazardous Waste Manifest is returned to the generator. Should the results of the  
9 contamination survey exceed acceptable levels, the shipping cask and transport trailer remain  
10 outside the WHB in the PAU, and the appropriate radiological boundaries (i.e., ropes, placards)  
11 are erected around the shipping cask and transport trailer. A determination will be made  
12 whether to return the cask to the originating site or to decontaminate the cask.

13 Following cask inspections, the shipping cask and trailer are moved into the RH Bay or held in  
14 the PAU. The waste handling process begins in the RH Bay where the impact limiter(s) are  
15 removed from the shipping cask while it is on the trailer. Additional radiological surveys are  
16 conducted on the end of the cask previously protected by the impact limiter(s) to verify the  
17 absence of contamination. The cask is unloaded from the trailer using the RH Bay Overhead  
18 Bridge Crane and placed on a Cask Transfer Car.

19 Whenever RH TRU mixed waste is present, differential air pressure between the RH TRU mixed  
20 waste handling locations in the RH Complex protects workers and prevents potential spread of  
21 contamination during handling of RH TRU mixed waste. Airflow between key rooms in the WHB  
22 is controlled by maintaining differential pressures between the rooms. The CH Receiving Bay is  
23 maintained with a negative pressure relative to outside atmosphere. The RH Receiving Bay is  
24 maintained with a requirement to be positive pressure relative to the CH Receiving Bay. The RH  
25 Hot Cell is maintained with a negative differential pressure relative to the RH Receiving Bay.  
26 The Hot Cell ventilation is exhausted through high-efficiency particulate air filters prior to venting  
27 through the WHB filtered exhaust.

28 RH-TRU 72-B Cask Unloading

29 The Cask Transfer Car moves the RH-TRU 72-B cask to a work stand in the RH Bay. The work  
30 stand allows access to the head area of the RH-TRU 72-B cask for conducting radiological  
31 surveys, performing physical inspections or minor maintenance, and decontamination, if  
32 necessary. The outer lid bolts on the RH-TRU 72-B cask are removed, after which the outer lid  
33 is removed to provide access to the lid of the cask inner vessel. The RH-TRU 72-B cask is  
34 moved into the Cask Unloading Room by a Cask Transfer Car and is positioned under the Cask  
35 Unloading Room Bridge Crane. The Cask Unloading Room Bridge Crane attaches to the RH-  
36 TRU 72-B cask and lifts and suspends the cask to clear the Cask Transfer Car. The suspended  
37 RH-TRU 72-B cask is then aligned over the Cask Unloading Room port.

38 The Cask Unloading Room shield valve is opened, and the cask is lowered through the port into  
39 the Transfer Cell Shuttle Car. The Cask Unloading Room Bridge Crane is unhooked and  
40 retracted, and the Cask Unloading Room shield valve is closed. After the cask is lowered into  
41 the Transfer Cell Shuttle Car, the bolts on the lid of the cask inner vessel are loosened by a  
42 robotic Manipulator. The Transfer Cell Shuttle Car is then aligned directly under the Transfer  
43 Cell shield valve in preparation for removing the inner-vessel lid and transferring the canister to  
44 the Facility Cask. Operations in the Transfer Cell are monitored by closed-circuit video cameras.

1 Using the remotely-operated fixed 6.25 Ton Grapple Hoist in the Facility Cask Loading Room,  
2 the inner-vessel lid is lifted clear of the RH-TRU 72-B cask, and a robotic Manipulator takes  
3 swipe samples and places them in a swipe delivery system for counting outside the Transfer  
4 Cell. If found to be contaminated above acceptable surface contamination levels as described in  
5 10 CFR Part 835, the Permittees have the option to decontaminate consistent with radiological  
6 control procedures, return the RH TRU Canister to the generator/storage site or another site for  
7 remediation, or manage the RH TRU Canister consistent with radiological control procedures  
8 pursuant to 10 CFR Part 835. Hazardous waste decontamination, if needed, will be conducted  
9 in accordance with the requirements of the Permit and the standards of 20.4.1.500 NMAC  
10 (incorporating 40 CFR Part 264). If no contamination is found, the Transfer Cell Shuttle Car  
11 moves a short distance, and the inner-vessel lid is lowered onto a stand on the Transfer Cell  
12 Shuttle Car, after which the canister is transferred to the Facility Cask as described below.

### 13 CNS 10-160B Cask Unloading

14 After the lid bolts are removed, the CNS 10-160B cask is moved using the Cask Transfer Car  
15 from the RH Bay into the Cask Unloading Room and centered beneath the Hot Cell shield plug  
16 port. The Cask Unloading Room shield door is closed, and the inner and outer Hot Cell shield  
17 plugs are removed simultaneously and set aside on the floor of the Hot Cell using the remotely  
18 operated Hot Cell Bridge Crane. The Hot Cell Bridge Crane is then lowered through the Hot Cell  
19 port and is connected to the CNS 10-160B cask lid rigging or lifting device. The Hot Cell Bridge  
20 Crane lifts the CNS 10-160B cask lid through the Hot Cell port and sets the lid aside on the Hot  
21 Cell floor.

22 Operations in the Hot Cell are monitored by closed-circuit television cameras. The drum  
23 carriage unit lifting fixture (hereafter referred to as lifting fixture) is attached to the Hot Cell  
24 Bridge Crane and lowered through the Hot Cell port. The lifting fixture is connected to the upper  
25 drum carriage unit contained in the CNS 10-160B cask. The Hot Cell Bridge Crane lifts the  
26 upper drum carriage unit from the CNS 10-160B cask through the port into the Hot Cell and sets  
27 it near the Hot Cell inspection station. The Hot Cell Bridge Crane again lowers the lifting fixture  
28 through the Hot Cell port and connects to the lower drum carriage unit. The Hot Cell Bridge  
29 Crane lifts the lower drum carriage unit from the CNS 10-160B cask through the port into the  
30 Hot Cell and sets it near the upper drum carriage unit.

31 The Hot Cell Bridge Crane lifts the CNS 10-160B cask lid from the Hot Cell floor, lowers it  
32 through the Hot Cell port and onto the top of the CNS 10-160B cask. The inner and outer Hot  
33 Cell shield plugs are replaced simultaneously. The Cask Unloading Room shield door is  
34 opened, and the CNS 10-160B cask is moved into the RH Bay using the Cask Transfer Car.  
35 The CNS 10-160B cask is inspected and surveyed, the lid and impact limiter are reinstalled on  
36 the CNS 10-160B cask, and it is prepared for transportation off-site.

37 The Hot Cell Bridge Crane connects to an empty Facility Canister, places it into a sleeve at the  
38 inspection station, and removes the canister lid. The Overhead Powered Manipulator or Hot Cell  
39 Crane lifts one drum from the drum carriage unit. The Hot Cell Manipulators collect swipe  
40 samples from the drum and transfer the swipes via the Transfer Drawer to the Hot Cell Gallery  
41 for counting. If the 55-gal (208-L) drums are contaminated, the Permittees may decontaminate  
42 the 55-gal (208-L) drums or return them to the generator/storage site or another site for  
43 remediation. The drum identification number is recorded, and the recorded numbers are verified  
44 against the WWIS. If there are any discrepancies, the drum(s) in question are stored within the  
45 Hot Cell, and the generator/storage site is contacted for resolution. Discrepancies that are not

1 resolved within 15 days will be reported to the NMED as required by 20.4.1.500 NMAC  
2 (incorporating 40 CFR §264.72).

3 Either the Overhead Powered Manipulator or Hot Cell Bridge Crane lowers the drum into the  
4 Facility Canister. This process is repeated to place three drums in the Facility Canister. The Hot  
5 Cell Bridge Crane or powered Manipulator lifts the canister lid and places it onto the Facility  
6 Canister. The lid is locked in place using a Manipulator. Each CNS 10-160B cask shipment will  
7 contain up to ten drums. Drums are managed in sets of three. If there is a tenth drum, it will be  
8 placed in a Facility Canister or stored until receipt of the next CNS 10-160B cask shipment at  
9 the WIPP facility. The Hot Cell Bridge Crane lifts the Facility Canister and lowers it into the  
10 Transfer Cell.

11 To prepare to transfer a loaded Facility Canister from the Hot Cell to the Transfer Cell, a  
12 Shielded Insert is placed onto a Cask Transfer Car in the RH Bay. The Cask Transfer Car is  
13 then moved into the Cask Unloading Room and positioned under the Cask Unloading Room  
14 Bridge Crane. The Bridge Crane attaches to the Shielded Insert. The Cask Unloading Room  
15 Bridge Crane lifts and suspends the Shielded Insert clear of the Cask Transfer Car. The  
16 Shielded Insert is aligned over the Cask Unloading Room port. The floor valve is opened, and  
17 the Shielded Insert is lowered into the Transfer Cell Shuttle Car. The Cask Unloading Room  
18 Bridge Crane is unhooked and retracted, and the Cask Unloading Room shield valve is closed.  
19 The Shielded Insert is positioned under the Hot Cell port.

20 The Hot Cell Bridge Crane lifts a loaded, closed Facility Canister and positions it over the Hot  
21 Cell port. The Hot Cell shield valve is opened, and the crane lowers the Facility Canister through  
22 the port into the Shielded Insert positioned in the Transfer Cell Shuttle Car in the Transfer Cell.  
23 The Hot Cell Bridge Crane is disconnected from the Facility Canister and raised until the crane  
24 hook clears the Hot Cell shield valve. The Hot Cell shield valve is then closed.

#### 25 Transfer of Disposal Canister into the Facility Cask

26 The transfer of a canister into the Facility Cask from the Transfer Cell is monitored by closed-  
27 circuit television cameras. The Transfer Cell Shuttle Car positions the RH-TRU 72-B cask or  
28 Shielded Insert under the Facility Cask Loading Room port and the shield valve is opened. Then  
29 the remotely operated 6.25 Ton Grapple Hoist attaches to the canister, and the canister is lifted  
30 through the open shield valve into the vertically-oriented Facility Cask located on the Facility  
31 Cask Transfer Car in the Facility Cask Loading Room. During this cask-to-cask transfer, the  
32 telescoping port shield is in contact with the underside of the Facility Cask to assure shielding  
33 continuity, as does the shield bell located above the Facility Cask.

34 For canisters received at the WIPP facility from the generator site in a RH-TRU 72-B cask, the  
35 identification number is verified using cameras, which also provide images of the canister  
36 surfaces during the lifting operation. Identification numbers are verified in accordance with  
37 Permit Attachment C, Section C-5b(1). If there are any discrepancies, the canister is returned to  
38 the RH-TRU 72-B cask, returned to the PAU, and the generator is contacted for resolution.  
39 Discrepancies that are not resolved within 15 days will be reported to the NMED as required by  
40 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR §264.72). As the canister is being lifted from the RH-  
41 TRU 72-B cask into the Facility Cask, additional swipe samples may be taken.

1 Transfer of the Canister to the Underground

2 When the canister is fully within the Facility Cask, the lower shield valve is closed. The 6.25 Ton  
3 Grapple Hoist detaches from the canister and is raised until the 6.25 Ton Grapple Hoist clears  
4 the Facility Cask, at which time the upper shield valve is closed. The 6.25 Ton Grapple Hoist  
5 and shield bell are then raised clear of the Facility Cask, and the telescoping port shield is  
6 retracted. The Facility Cask Rotating Device rotates the Facility Cask until it is in the horizontal  
7 position on the Facility Cask Transfer Car. The shield doors on the Facility Cask Loading Room  
8 are opened, and the Facility Cask Transfer Car moves onto the Waste Shaft Conveyance and is  
9 lowered to the Waste Shaft Station underground. At the Waste Shaft Station underground, the  
10 Facility Cask Transfer Car moves the Facility Cask from the Waste Shaft Conveyance. A forklift  
11 is used to remove the Facility Cask from the Facility Cask Transfer Car and to transport the  
12 Facility Cask to the underground HWDU.

13 Returning the Empty Cask

14 The empty RH-TRU 72-B cask or Shielded Insert is returned to the RH Bay by reversing the  
15 process. In the RH Bay, swipe samples are collected from inside the empty cask. If necessary,  
16 the inside of the cask is decontaminated. The RH-TRU 72-B cask lids are replaced, and the  
17 cask is replaced on the trailer using the RH Bay Bridge Crane. The impact limiters are replaced,  
18 and the trailer and the RH-TRU 72-B cask are then moved out of the RH Bay. The Shielded  
19 Insert is stored in the RH Bay until needed.

20 A1-1d(4) Handling Waste in Shielded Containers

21 Remote-handled TRU mixed waste received at the WIPP facility in shielded containers are  
22 managed, stored, and emplaced as CH TRU mixed waste using the CH TRU mixed waste  
23 handling equipment described in this Permit. Shielded containers with RH TRU mixed waste  
24 will arrive by tractor-trailer at the WIPP facility in sealed HalfPACTs. Prior to unloading the  
25 packages from the trailer, they will undergo security and radiological checks and shipping  
26 documentation reviews. Consistent with the handling of HalfPACT shipping packages in Section  
27 A1-1d(2), a forklift will remove the HalfPACT and transport it into the WHB and place the  
28 HalfPACT at either one of the two TRUDOCKs in the TRUDOCK Storage Area of the WHB Unit.

29  
30 An external survey of the HalfPACT ICV lid is performed as the OCV lid is removed. The ICV lid  
31 is lifted under the VHS, and the contents are surveyed during and after this process is complete.  
32 A description of the VHS and criteria that are applied if radiological contamination is detected  
33 are discussed in Section A1-1d(2).

34  
35 Shielded containers are received as three-pack assemblies in HalfPACTs. An overhead bridge  
36 crane is used to remove the shielded container assembly and place them on a facility pallet.  
37 The containers are visually inspected for physical damage and leakage to ensure they are in  
38 good condition prior to storage. Waste containers are also checked for external radiological  
39 surface contamination through the use of swipes and radiation monitoring equipment, consistent  
40 with radiological control procedures pursuant to 10 CFR Part 835. If a primary waste container  
41 is not in good condition, the Permittees will either overpack the container with another approved  
42 container, repair/patch the container in accordance with appropriate standards and guidance  
43 (e.g., 40 CFR §173.28), return the container to the generator, or send the HalfPACT to a third-  
44 party contractor. If local decontamination activities are opted for, the work will be conducted in  
45 the WHB Unit, consistent with radiological control procedures.

1 Once the shielded container assembly is on the facility pallet, the TRU mixed waste container  
2 identification numbers are verified in accordance with Permit Attachment C, Section C-5b(1).  
3 Inconsistencies will be resolved as discussed in Section A1-1d(2) of this Permit Attachment. Up  
4 to two three-pack assemblies of shielded containers are placed on a facility pallet. The use of  
5 facility pallets elevates the waste at least 6 in. (15 cm) from the floor surface. Pallets of waste  
6 are then maintained in the CH Bay Storage Area of the WHB Unit for normal storage or are  
7 transported to the conveyance loading room as described in Section A1-1d(2).

#### 8 9 A1-1e Inspections

10 Inspection of containers and container storage area are required by 20.4.1.500 NMAC  
11 (incorporating 40 CFR §264.174). These inspections are described in this section.

#### 12 A1-1e(1) WHB Unit

13 The waste containers in storage are inspected visually or by closed-circuit television camera  
14 prior to each movement and, at a minimum, weekly, to ensure that the waste containers are in  
15 good condition and that there are no signs that a release has occurred. This visual inspection of  
16 CH TRU mixed waste containers shall not include the center drums of seven-packs and waste  
17 containers positioned such that visual observation is precluded due to the arrangement of waste  
18 assemblies on the facility pallets. If waste handling operations should stop for any reason with  
19 containers located at the TRUDOCK while still in the CH package, primary waste container  
20 inspections will not be accomplished until waste handling operations are resumed and the  
21 containers of waste are removed from the CH package. If the lid to the CH package ICV is  
22 removed, radiological checks (swipes of CH package inner surfaces) are used to determine if  
23 there is contamination within the CH package. Such contamination could indicate a possible  
24 waste container leak or spill. Using radiological surveys, a detected spill or leak of a radioactive  
25 contamination from a waste container will also be assumed to be a hazardous waste spill or  
26 release.

27 Loaded RH-TRU 72-B and CNS 10-160B casks are inspected when present in the RH Bay.  
28 Physical or closed-circuit television camera inspections of the RH Complex are conducted as  
29 described in Table E-1a. Canisters loaded in an RH-TRU 72-B cask are inspected in the  
30 Transfer Cell during transfer from the cask to the Facility Cask. Waste containers received in  
31 CNS 10-160B casks are inspected in the Hot Cell during transfer from the cask to the Facility  
32 Canister by camera and/or visual inspection (through shield windows).

#### 33 A1-1e(2) Parking Area Unit

34 Inspections are conducted in the PAU at a frequency not less than once weekly when waste is  
35 present. These inspections are applicable to loaded, stored CH and RH packages. The  
36 perimeter fence located at the lateral limit of the PAU, coupled with personnel access  
37 restrictions into the WHB, provides the needed security. The perimeter fence and the southern  
38 border of the WHB shall mark the lateral limit of the PAU (Figure M-2). Inspections of the CH or  
39 RH packages stored in the PAU focus on the inventory and integrity of the shipping containers  
40 and the spacing between CH or RH packages. This spacing is maintained at a minimum of four  
41 feet.

42 Inspection of waste containers is not possible when the containers are in their shipping  
43 container. Inspections can be accomplished by bringing the shipping containers into the WHB



1 Unit and opening them and removing the waste containers for inspection. The DOE, however,  
2 believes that removing containers strictly for the purposes of inspection results in unnecessary  
3 worker exposures and subjects the waste to additional handling. The DOE has proposed that  
4 waste containers need not be inspected until they are ready to be removed from the shipping  
5 container for emplacement underground. Because shipping containers are sealed and are of  
6 robust design, no harm can come to the waste while in the shipping containers and the waste  
7 cannot leak or otherwise be released to the environment. The longest amount of time waste  
8 containers would be uninspected would be for 59 days after the ICV Closure Date, as recorded  
9 in the WWIS. The following strategy will be used for inspecting waste containers that will be  
10 retained within their shipping containers for an extended period of time; this will minimize the  
11 amount of shipping and waste handling, while maintaining a reasonable inspection schedule:

- 12 • If the reason for retaining the TRU mixed waste containers in the shipping container is  
13 due to an unresolved manifest discrepancy, the DOE will return the shipment to the  
14 generator prior to the expiration of the 60-day NRC venting period or within 30 days  
15 after receipt at the WIPP facility, whichever comes sooner. In this case, no inspections  
16 of the internal containers will be performed. The stored CH or RH package will be  
17 inspected weekly as described above.
- 18 • If the reason for retaining the TRU mixed waste containers in the CH or RH package is  
19 due to an equipment malfunction that prevents unloading the waste in the WHB Unit,  
20 the DOE will return the shipment to the generator prior to the expiration of the 60-day  
21 NRC venting period. In this case, the DOE would have to ship the TRU mixed waste  
22 containers back with sufficient time for the generator to vent the shipment within the  
23 60-day NRC venting period. In this case, no inspections of the internal containers will  
24 be performed. The stored CH or RH package will be inspected weekly as described  
25 above.
- 26 • If the reason for retaining the TRU mixed waste containers is due to an equipment  
27 malfunction that prevents the timely movement of the waste containers into the  
28 underground, the waste containers may be kept in the CH or RH package no longer  
29 than day 59 of the 60-day NRC venting period. At that time the CH or RH package will  
30 be moved into the WHB Unit. Contact-handled TRU mixed waste containers will be  
31 removed from their shipping package; if the maximum capacity of the CH Bay Storage  
32 Area has been reached, the Permittees may implement CH Bay Surge Storage in  
33 accordance with the notification requirements of Permit Part 3, Section 3.1.1.3. The  
34 RH package will be vented, however, the containers will not be removed from the  
35 shipping package. If there is no additional space within the permitted storage areas of  
36 the WHB Unit, the Permittees will discuss an emergency permit with the NMED for the  
37 purposes of storing the waste. Waste containers will be inspected when removed from  
38 the CH packaging and weekly while in storage in the WHB Unit. The CH or RH  
39 packages will be inspected weekly while they contain TRU mixed waste containers as  
40 discussed above.

41

1 A1-1f Containment

2 The WHB Unit has concrete floors, which are sealed with a coating that is designed to resist all  
3 but the strongest oxidizing agents. Such oxidizing agents do not meet the TSDF-WAC and are  
4 not accepted in TRU mixed waste at the WIPP facility. Therefore, TRU mixed wastes pose no  
5 compatibility problems with respect to the WHB Unit floor. During normal operations, the storage  
6 areas within the WHB Unit are visually inspected on a weekly basis to verify that the concrete  
7 floor is in good condition and free of obvious cracks and gaps. Floor areas of the WHB Unit in  
8 use during off-normal events are inspected prior to use and weekly thereafter. Transuranic  
9 mixed waste containers located in the permitted storage areas are elevated at least 6 in. (15  
10 cm) from the surface of the floor. TRU mixed waste containers that have been removed from  
11 CH or RH packages are stored inside the WHB Unit so as to preclude exposure to the  
12 elements.

13 Secondary containment at the CH Bay Storage Area inside the WHB Unit is provided by the  
14 WHB Unit concrete floor (See Figure M-1). The WHB Unit is engineered such that during normal  
15 operations, the floor capacity is sufficient to contain liquids upon release. Secondary  
16 Containment at the Derived Waste Storage Area of the WHB Unit is provided by a polyethylene  
17 containment pallet. The PAU and TRUDOCK Storage Area of the WHB Unit require no  
18 engineered secondary containment since no waste is to be stored there unless it is protected by  
19 the CH or RH packaging.

20 Calculations to determine the floor surface area required to provide secondary containment in  
21 the event of a release are based on the maximum quantity of liquid which could be present  
22 within ten percent of one percent of the volume of the containers or one percent of the capacity  
23 of the largest single container, whichever is greater.

24 Secondary containment at storage locations inside the RH Bay and Cask Unloading Room is  
25 provided by the cask. Secondary containment at storage locations inside the Transfer Cell is  
26 provided by the RH-TRU 72-B cask or Shielded Insert. Secondary containment at storage  
27 locations in the Facility Cask Loading Room is provided by the Facility Cask. In the Hot Cell,  
28 waste containers are stored in either the drum carriage unit or in Facility Canisters. The Lower  
29 Hot Cell provides secondary containment as described in section A1-f(2). In addition, the RH  
30 Bay, Hot Cell, and Transfer Cell contain 220-gal (833-L) (Hot Cell), 11,400-gal (43,152-L) (RH  
31 Bay), and 220-gal (833-L) (Transfer Cell) sumps, respectively, to collect any liquids.

32 A1-1f(1) Secondary Containment Requirements for the WHB Unit

33 The maximum TRU mixed waste volume on facility pallets that could be stored in the CH Bay  
34 Storage and Surge Storage Areas of the WHB is 18 facility pallets @ 2 TDOPs per pallet = 36  
35 TDOPs of waste. 36 TDOPs @ 1,200 gal (4,540 L) per TDOP = 43,200 gal (163,440 L) waste  
36 container capacity. 43,200 gal (163,440 L) x ten percent of the total volume = 4,320 gal  
37 (16,344 L) of waste. Since 4,320 gal (16,344 L) is greater than 1,200 gal (4,540 L), the  
38 configuration of possible TDOPs in the storage area is used for the calculation of secondary  
39 containment requirements. 4,320 gal (16,344 L) of liquid x one percent liquids = 43.2 gal (163.4  
40 L) of liquid for which secondary containment is needed.

41 The maximum TRU mixed waste volume that could be stored in the Derived Waste Storage  
42 Area of the WHB Unit is one SWB. 1 SWBs @ 496 gal (1,878 L) per SWB = 496 gal (1,878 L)  
43 waste container capacity. Since the maximum storage volume of 496 gal (1,878 L) is equal to

1 the volume of the largest single container, the volume of a single SWB is used for the  
2 calculation of secondary containment requirements. 496 gal (1,878 L) of liquid x one percent  
3 liquids = 4.96 gal (18.8 L) of liquid for which secondary containment is needed.

4 The maximum TRU mixed waste volume that could be stored in the Hot Cell is 13 RH TRU  
5 drums @ 55 gal (210 L) per drum = 715 gal (2,730 L) of waste in drums. 715 gal (2,730 L) of  
6 waste x ten percent of total volume = 71.5 gal (273 L) of waste. Secondary containment for  
7 liquids will need to have a capacity of 71.5 gal (273 L). Since 71.5 gal (273 L) is less than the  
8 volume of the single container of 235 gal (890 L) therefore, the larger volume is used for  
9 determining the secondary containment requirements. 235 gal (890 L) of waste x one percent  
10 liquids = 2.35 gal (8.9 L) of liquid needed for secondary containment.

11 The maximum TRU mixed waste volume that could be stored in the Transfer Cell is one RH-  
12 TRU 72-B Canister or one Facility Canister @ 235 gal (890 L) per canister x ten percent of total  
13 volume = 23.5 gal (8.90 L) of waste. Since 23.5 gal (8.90 L) is less than the volume of the single  
14 container of 235 gal (890 L) therefore, the larger volume is used for determining the secondary  
15 containment requirements. 235 gal (890 L) of waste x one percent liquids = 2.35 gal (8.9 L) of  
16 liquid needed for secondary containment.

#### 17 A1-1f(2) Secondary Containment Description

18 The following is a calculation of the surface area the quantities of liquid would cover. Using a  
19 conversion factor of 0.1337 ft<sup>3</sup>/gal (0.001 m<sup>3</sup>/L) and assuming the spill is 0.0033 ft (0.001 m)  
20 thick, the following calculation can be used:

21 gallons × cubic feet per gallon ÷ thickness in feet = area covered in square feet

#### 22 CH Bay Storage Area

23 43.2 gal × 0.1337 ft<sup>3</sup>/gal ÷ 0.0033 ft = 1,750 ft<sup>2</sup> (162.7 m<sup>2</sup>)

#### 24 Hot Cell

25 2.35 gal × 0.1337 ft<sup>3</sup>/gal ÷ 0.0033 ft = 95 ft<sup>2</sup> ( 8.8 m<sup>2</sup>)

#### 26 Transfer Cell

27 2.35 gal × 0.1337 ft<sup>3</sup>/gal ÷ 0.0033 ft = 95 ft<sup>2</sup> ( 8.8 m<sup>2</sup>)

28 The WHB Unit has 33,175 ft<sup>2</sup> (3,082 m<sup>2</sup>) of floor space, the CH Bay Storage Area has 26,151 ft<sup>2</sup>  
29 (2,430 m<sup>2</sup>) of floor space. The CH Bay Storage Area requires 1,750 ft<sup>2</sup> (162.7 m<sup>2</sup>) for  
30 containment, Thus, the floor area of the CH Bay Storage Area of the WHB Unit provide  
31 sufficient secondary containment to contain a release of ten percent of one percent of the  
32 volume of the containers, or one percent of the capacity of the largest container, whichever is  
33 greater.

34 The Hot Cell and Transfer Cell are the only portions of the RH Complex managing RH TRU  
35 mixed waste outside of casks or canisters. The Hot Cell has 1,841 ft<sup>2</sup> (171 m<sup>2</sup>) of floor space  
36 and the Transfer Cell has 1,003 ft<sup>2</sup> (93 m<sup>2</sup>) of floor space. The Hot Cell and Transfer Cell require

1 only 95 ft<sup>2</sup> for containment, therefore there is sufficient floor space to contain a release of ten  
2 percent of one percent of containers in these storage areas.

3 In addition, both the Hot Cell and the Transfer Cell each contain a 220 gal (833 L) sump that will  
4 collect liquids that spill from containers.

#### 5 Derived Waste Storage Area

6 The derived waste containers in the Derived Waste Storage Area are stored on containment  
7 pallets, which provides approximately 50 gal (190 L) of secondary containment capacity. Thus,  
8 the secondary containment capacity of the containment pallet is sufficient to contain a release of  
9 ten percent of one percent of the largest container (4.96 gal or 18.8 L).

#### 10 Parking Area Unit

11 Containers of TRU mixed waste to be stored in the PAU are in CH or RH packages. There are  
12 no additional requirements for engineered secondary containment systems.

#### 13 A1-1g Special Requirements for Ignitable, Reactive, and Incompatible Waste

14 Special requirements for ignitable, reactive, and incompatible waste are addressed in  
15 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR §§264.176 and 264.177). Permit Part 2 precludes  
16 ignitable, reactive, or incompatible waste at the WIPP facility. No additional measures are  
17 required.

#### 18 A1-1h Closure

19 Clean closure is planned in accordance with 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR  
20 §264.178) for permitted container storage areas. The applicable areas and the plans for clean  
21 closure are detailed in Permit Attachment G.

#### 22 A1-1i Control of Run On

23 The WHB Unit is located indoors which prevents run-on from a precipitation event. In addition,  
24 the CH TRU containers are stored on facility pallets or containment pallets, which elevate the  
25 CH TRU mixed waste containers at least 6 in. (15 cm) off the floor, or in CH or RH packages, so  
26 that any firewater released in the building will not pool around containers. Within the RH Bay,  
27 Cask Unloading Room, Transfer Cell, and Facility Cask Loading Room, waste containers are  
28 stored in casks or Shielded Inserts and protected from any potential run on. Any firewater  
29 released in the building will not pool around the waste containers as they are stored in casks, or  
30 Shielded Inserts. Within the Hot Cell, there is no source of water during operations. However,  
31 control of run-on is provided by the Lower Hot Cell, which lies below a sloped floor surrounded  
32 by a grating and Facility Canisters in the Hot Cell above.

33 In the PAU, the containers of TRU mixed waste are always in CH or RH packages which protect  
34 them from precipitation and run on. Therefore, the WIPP facility container storage units will  
35 comply with the requirements of 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR §264.175(b)(4)).

36

1 References

2 DOE, 1997a. Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Part B Permit Application, Waste  
3 Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP), Carlsbad, New Mexico, Rev. 6.5, 1997.

4 DOE, 2009. WIPP Hazardous Waste Facility Permit Amended Renewal Application, Carlsbad,  
5 New Mexico, September 2009.

6 EPA. 2015. SW-846, *Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste, Physical/Chemical Methods*.  
7 Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, Washington, D.C.

8

## **TABLES**

1  
 2

**Table A1-1  
 TRU Mixed Waste Containers<sup>a</sup>**

DESCRIPTION	VOLUME		DIMENSIONS (inches)			LINER	USE FOR DERIVED WASTE	FIGURE
	CUBIC FEET	CUBIC METERS	LENGTH	WIDTH OR DIAMETER	HEIGHT			
55-gal (208-L) drum	7.4	0.21	N/A	24	35	Optional	Yes	M-3
Standard waste box	66.3	1.88	71	54	36	No	Yes	M-4
Ten-drum overpack	160	4.5	N/A	72	73	No	Yes, in underground	M-5
85-gal (322-L) drum	11.4	0.32	N/A	26	36	Optional	Yes	M-6
100-gal (379-L) drum	13.4	0.38	N/A	32	35	Optional	No	M-7
Standard large box 2	261	7.39	108	69	73	No	No	M-8
Facility canister	31.4	0.89	N/A	28	117	No	No	M-9
RH TRU canister	31.4	0.89	N/A	26	120	Insert optional	No	M-10
Shielded container	7.4	0.21	N/A	23	36	1 inch of lead shielding	No	M-11

N/A Not applicable to drums

<sup>a</sup> TRU mixed waste containers may also be used to overpack waste containers that, upon removal from the shipping package, have been determined to be leaking or not in good condition.

1  
2

**Table A1-2  
 CH TRU Mixed Waste Handling Equipment Capacities**

<b>CAPACITIES FOR EQUIPMENT (lb)</b>	
CH Bay overhead bridge crane	12,000
Surface forklifts	26,000 (CH Bay forklift) 70,000 (TRUPACT-III Handler forklift)
Facility Pallet	25,000
Lift Fixture	10,000
Facility Transfer Vehicle	30,000
Yard Transfer Vehicle	60,000
<b>MAXIMUM GROSS WEIGHTS OF CONTAINERS (lb)</b>	
Seven-pack of 55-gal (208-L) drums	7,000
Four-pack of 85-gal (322-L) drums	4,000
Three-pack of 100-gal (379-L) drums	3,000
Ten-drum overpack	6,700
Standard waste box	4,000
Standard large box 2	10,500
Shielded container	2,260
Three-pack of shielded containers	7,000
<b>MAXIMUM NET EMPTY WEIGHTS OF EQUIPMENT (lb)</b>	
TRUPACT-II	13,140
HalfPACT	10,500
TRUPACT-III	43,600
Lift Fixture	2,500
Facility pallet	4,120

3



1  
2

**Table A1-3  
 RH TRU Mixed Waste Handling Equipment Capacities**

<b>CAPACITIES FOR EQUIPMENT (tons)</b>	
RH Bay Overhead Bridge Crane	140 main hoist 25 auxiliary hoist
RH-TRU 72-B Cask Transfer Car	20
CNS 10-160B Cask Transfer Car	35
Transfer Cell Shuttle Car	29
Hot Cell Bridge Crane	15
Overhead Powered Manipulator	2.5
Facility Cask Rotating Device	No specific load rating
Cask Unloading Room Crane	25
6.25 Ton Grapple Hoist	6.25
Facility Cask Transfer Car	40
<b>MAXIMUM GROSS WEIGHTS OF RH TRU CONTAINERS (lb)</b>	
RH TRU Canister	8,000
55-gal (208-L) Drum	1,000
Facility Canister	10,000
<b>MAXIMUM NET EMPTY WEIGHTS OF EQUIPMENT (lb)</b>	
RH-TRU 72-B Cask	37,000
CNS 10-160B Cask	57,500
Facility Cask	67,700
Light Weight Facility Cask	48,450
Shielded Insert	26,300

3  
4