



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

OFFICE OF
ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGEMENT

WIPP Information Exchange

Legacy TRU Waste Disposal Plan

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Purpose

- Engage with stakeholders and generators regarding the development of a Legacy TRU Waste Disposal Plan.
- Questions and comments outside the scope of the Legacy TRU Waste Disposal Plan should be directed to the WIPP Community Forum.

Legacy TRU Waste Disposal Plan

- New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) issued the final Hazardous Waste Facility Permit effective on November 3, 2023.
- The following Permit condition was added:

4.2.1.5 Legacy TRU Waste Disposal Plan

The Permittees shall define legacy TRU and TRU mixed waste and develop the Legacy TRU Waste Disposal Plan (Plan). The Plan will be developed in consultation with the generator/storage sites and stakeholders. Consultation with stakeholders shall begin within 90 days of the effective date of this Permit. The Plan shall be submitted to the Secretary within one year of the effective date of this Permit. The Permittees shall seek public input for 60 days following the submittal of the Plan and submit received comments to the Secretary. To the extent practicable as articulated in the final Plan, Panel 12 will be reserved for the disposal of legacy TRU mixed waste.

Objectives

- Today's Objective
 - Seek conceptual input on Plan development.
- Permittees' Objectives
 - Develop Legacy TRU Waste Disposal Plan in consultation with generator sites and stakeholders.
 - Define “legacy” TRU and TRU mixed waste
 - Develop the Plan to articulate how Panel 12 will be used for the disposal of legacy TRU and TRU mixed waste to the extent practicable
 - Submit the Plan to the NMED Secretary no later than November 3, 2024 (i.e., within one year of the effective date of this Permit).

Overview of Activities

- Proposed schedule for Plan
 - Consultation with stakeholders shall begin within 90 days of the effective date of this Permit
 - Held meeting with some NM stakeholders – November 15, 2023
 - WIPP Information Exchange – December 13, 2023
 - Permittees' generator site consultations – December 2023-April 2024
 - Hold second WIPP Information Exchange – June/July 2024
 - Compile data and prepare Plan – May-September 2024
 - Generator sites review/comment – September 2024
 - Finalize Plan and submit to the NMED – by November 3, 2024
 - 60-day public comment period on final Plan – November 3, 2024-January 2, 2025

Consultation with Generator/Storage Sites

- The WIPP facility serves the generator sites, the customer.
- Example lines of inquiry
 - How is disposition (removal) of waste prioritized?
 - Are there engineering, risk and budget considerations?
 - What are the regulatory drivers, directives, agreements, etc., driving TRU waste removal?
 - How does each site define legacy waste?
 - What is the inventory of legacy waste?
 - What are the complexities associated with cleanup activities?

Consultation with Stakeholders

- Consulting with Stakeholders to obtain input for developing Plan:
 - Permittees are in the data collection stage of Plan development.
 - November 15, 2023, consultation
 - Received recommendations and input from some stakeholders.
 - Posted dedicated page on wipp.energy.gov for public access to Plan information.
 - Reached out to CAB contacts at generator sites to share meeting notice.

Input/Questions

- What do you consider legacy waste from your site?
- What additional questions should we consider in our data call to sites?
- What aspects and complexities at your sites should we consider in developing the plan?
- Should there be a distinction between legacy waste and other defense-related waste?
 - What are the benefits and challenges?
 - What impacts could this have on the other missions at DOE sites?
- Regarding TRU waste disposal, what risks are most significant to you?