

Legacy TRU Waste Disposal Plan Draft Definition and Description

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Legacy TRU Waste Disposal Plan Draft Definition and Description

Proposed Draft Definition:

Legacy TRU and TRU mixed waste is defense-related TRU waste generated from the safe cleanup of environmental legacy resulting from decades of nuclear weapons development and defense-related testing and research.

Description

Pursuant to the EM mission and based on consultation with generator/storage sites and stakeholders, this includes TRU defense related waste from cleanup of contaminated nuclear weapons manufacturing and testing sites across the United States, waste from disposition of nuclear materials that could be used in nuclear weapons, deactivation and decommissioning of several thousand radiologically and chemically contaminated facilities no longer needed to support the Department of Energy's mission and remediation of extensive surface and groundwater contamination.

Similar and differing views were considered in the different waste types this would include as shown below. This includes, but is not limited to:

- all TRU defense-related waste at generator/storage sites currently in retrievable storage, waste covered or buried, waste in trenches, caissons, underground tanks and cribs, environmental media from remediation/cleanup activities
 - Generator/storage sites and stakeholders agree that this type of waste should be included in the definition of legacy waste. Stakeholders showed an emphasis on cleanup activities. This waste is included based on generator/storage site definitions and input received from stakeholders.
- future decontamination and decommissioning (D&D) waste of facilities used for weapons production or research that generated legacy waste.
 - Some New Mexico stakeholders do not believe D&D waste should be included in the definition of legacy waste. While some Washington stakeholders feel strongly that D&D waste should be included. Hanford Site includes D&D waste in their definition of legacy waste. This waste is included based on generator/site definitions, input received from stakeholders and because D&D waste would be contaminated with legacy materials.
- Waste resulting from materials declared excess to national security as a result of the end of the Cold War including materials from dismantling surplus nuclear weapons (e.g. plutonium identified as surplus to national security)

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needs) or excess materials created for, used in, or resulting from weapons manufacturing processes.

- Some New Mexico stakeholders do not believe this waste is considered legacy waste and should be considered newly generated waste. Some stakeholders from Washington have requested waste from Hanford have priority over down-blended plutonium. DOE has an enforceable Settlement Agreement with the state of South Carolina to remove 9.5 MT of surplus plutonium from South Carolina by 12/31/36. This waste is included based on the dismantling of legacy weapons and the Settlement Agreement.
- tank waste that is determined to be defense-related TRU and TRU mixed waste, is approved through a Class 3 permit modification and meets WIPP Waste Acceptance Criteria requirements.
 - Some New Mexico stakeholders believe tank waste should not be included in the legacy definition. While some Washington stakeholders have urged to not exclude any waste from Hanford Site. This waste is included because it is from the legacy cleanup for waste that meets the WIPP Waste Acceptance Criteria.
- CERCLA waste that may be excavated/removed and requires disposition
 - Washington Department of Ecology is supportive of a definition that would include CERCLA waste. Generator/storage sites and stakeholders agree that this type of waste should be included in the definition of legacy waste. This waste is included based on previous cleanup activities and potential future cleanup needs.
- future Record of Decisions (RODs) and RCRA Corrective Actions
 - Hanford indicated that they have numerous burial sites that don't have RODs yet, which will also be included in the inventory once a ROD is obtained. This waste is included to support Hanford and facilities that may have similar issues.

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