



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

OFFICE OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
MANAGEMENT

# WIPP Legacy TRU Waste Disposal Plan

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STGWG Spring Meeting  
May 8, 2024

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# 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.**

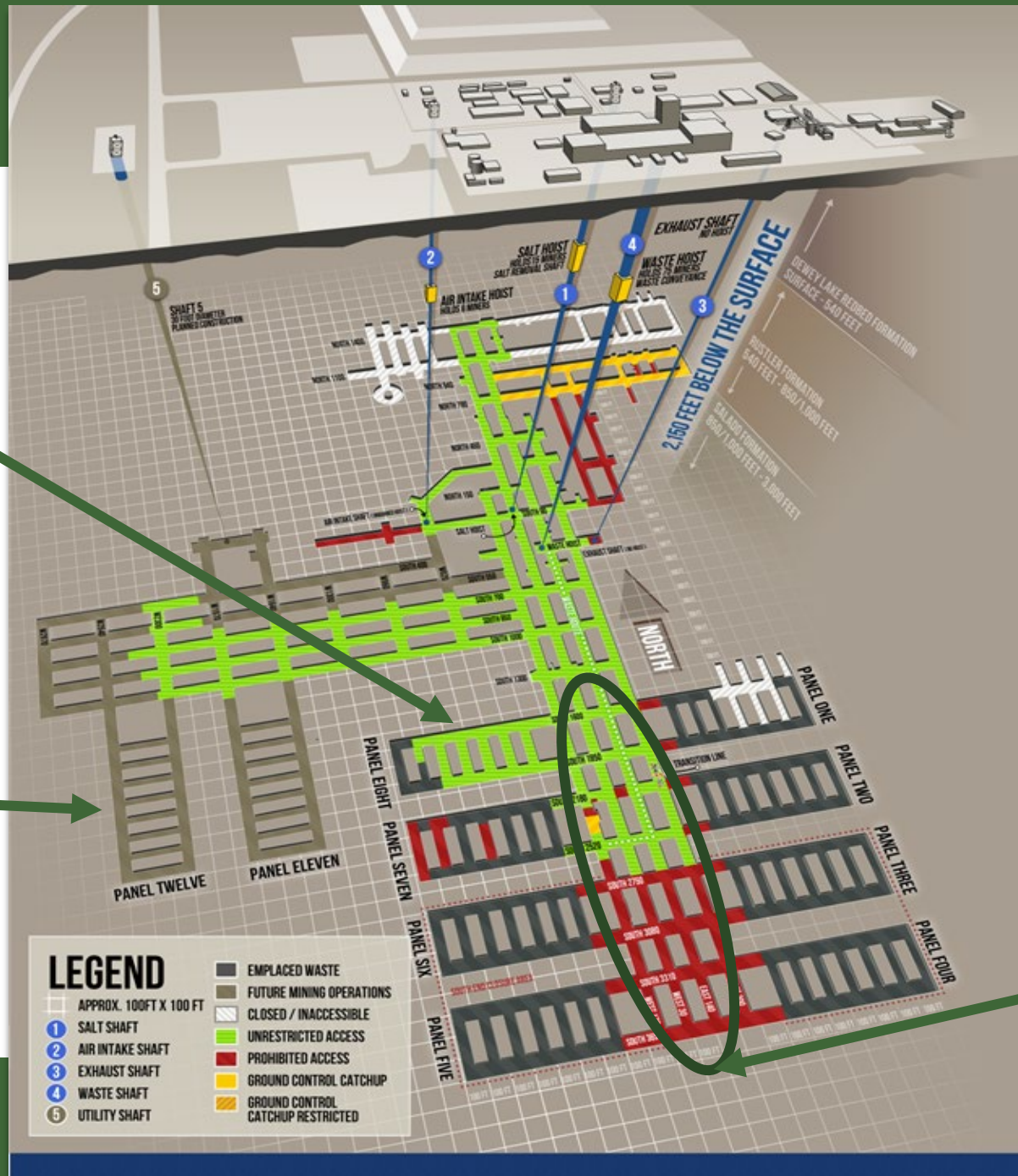
# Objectives

- Today: Provide background on the Legacy Waste Plan, development process, schedule, and opportunities for engagement and input
- Overall:
  - Develop Legacy TRU Waste Disposal Plan in consultation with generator/storage sites and stakeholders.
    - Define legacy TRU and TRU mixed waste
    - Articulate how Panel 12 will be reserved for disposal of legacy TRU and TRU mixed waste to the extent practicable
  - Submit plan to the NMED Secretary no later than November 3, 2024 (i.e., less than one year after the effective date of the Permit)

Panel 8  
(current)

Panel 12

Panels 9  
and 10



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# Overview of Activities

- 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
- Generator sites consultation – December 2023-April 2024
- Additional stakeholder consultation: May-Aug 2024
  - Second WIPP Information Exchange – June/July 2024
  - STGWG, ECA, CABs, ...
- Compile data and prepare plan – May-September 2024
- Generator site fact check – September 2024
- Finalize Plan and submit to NMED – by November 3, 2024
- 60-day public comment period by NMED on final Plan – November-January

# Consultation with Stakeholders

- Generator site consultation and data collection
  - Los Alamos National Laboratory
  - Savannah River Site
  - Oak Ridge National Laboratory
  - Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory
  - Hanford Site
  - Argonne National Laboratory
  - Idaho National Laboratory

# Consultation with Generator Sites

Example lines of inquiry:

- How is disposition (removal) of TRU waste prioritized?
  - What are the engineering, risk and budget considerations?
  - What are the regulatory requirements and agreements driving TRU waste removal?
- (How) does each site define legacy waste? Where and why is it documented?
- What is the inventory of legacy waste?
- What are the complexities associated with cleanup activities?



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  - Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory
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  - Argonne National Laboratory
  - Idaho National Laboratory
- Other stakeholder consultation and engagement
  - Public meetings, direct engagement with stakeholders, members of the public, tribal nations
  - Dedicated web site and email address for information: <https://wipp.energy.gov/Legacy-TRU-Waste-Disposal-Plan.asp> and [LTWDP@wipp.doe.gov](mailto:LTWDP@wipp.doe.gov)
  - Fact sheet and soon-to-be released survey

# Stakeholder Input

- What do you consider legacy waste from your site?
- (Why) Is it important to distinguish between legacy waste and other defense-related TRU waste?
- What do you think would be the benefits and risks of reserving panel 12 for the disposal of legacy TRU mixed waste?
  - What impact could have on the missions at DOE sites?
  - What impact could it have on risks at/near DOE sites?
- What factors should be considered in defining the phrase “to the extent practicable”?

# Context

- There is no established definition of “legacy waste.”
- Panel 12 will be reserved for the disposal of legacy waste *to the extent practicable*.



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# QUESTIONS/ DISCUSSION

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# THANK YOU

<https://wipp.energy.gov/Legacy-TRU-Waste-Disposal-Plan.asp>

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