

STATE OF TENNESSEE



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SUBJECT: Per Request - TRANSURANIC MIXED WASTE STREAMS

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MESSAGE:
ORNL Site Treatment Plan excerpt
for TRU mixed waste



4. TRANSURANIC MIXED WASTE STREAMS

The transuranic mixed wastes (MTRU) on the Oak Ridge Reservation are all located at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. These wastes are divided into two primary waste streams, RH-TRU sludges and CH- and RH-TRU solids. The strategy for compliance for the RH-TRU sludges is to stabilize the sludges and ship the final waste form to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) in Carlsbad, New Mexico. DOE announced May 29, 1998, the selection of Foster Wheeler Environmental Corporation (Foster Wheeler) to retrieve, treat, package, and certify TRU waste stored at ORNL for disposal off-site. Under the contract, Foster Wheeler will construct an on-site processing facility to treat and package the waste. All CH- and RH-TRU waste will be processed to meet LDR treatment standards. Foster Wheeler is also responsible for cleaning up of the processing facility after its work is finished and restoring the site to its original condition.

On September 21, 2000, DOE signed an agreement with the State of Tennessee to settle a dispute regarding the disposal of transuranic wastes in trenches within Melton Valley's Solid Waste Storage Area 5 North. A copy of the Dispute Resolution Agreement is shown in Appendix B.

Key assumptions. TRU waste shipments to WIPP will occur in the 2002-2008 period based on a capacity allotment to be given by WIPP to each approved shipper of certified TRU waste.

FY 2001, 2002 and 2003 milestones - DOE shall accomplish the following:

1. By September 30, 2001, provide TDEC with the project management plan complete with treatment and shipment schedules.
2. By January 29, 2003, initiate shipment of stabilized RH-TRU sludges to WIPP.

Target dates:

1. By January 30, 2004, initiate processing of CH- and RH-TRU solids.
2. By April 30, 2004, initiate shipment of processed CH- and RH-TRU solids to WIPP
3. By September 30, 2004, complete shipment of stabilized RH-TRU sludges.
5. By September 30, 2005, complete shipment of CH-TRU solids to WIPP.
6. By September 30, 2008, complete shipment of RH-TRU solids to WIPP.

FY 2000 milestones completed:

1. By March 31, 2000, provide a summary report of NEPA analysis. (*February 22, 2000*)

Previous FY milestones completed:

1. By November 1, 1995, obtain Key Decision 0 approval from DOE-HQ for the government sector line item TPF. (October 26, 1995)

2. By April 30, 1997, notify TDEC of the identification of existing facilities and facility ownership to support the treatment and storage of RH-TRU sludges and CH-and RH-TRU solids. (April 30, 1997)
3. By June 30, 1997, issue a request for proposal in the private sector for treatment of RH-TRU sludges. (June 30, 1997)
4. By August 30, 1998, award a contract for the first production increment of RH-TRU sludge. (August 28, 1998)

Note: Selection of Foster Wheeler Environmental Corporation to retrieve, treat, package, and certify TRU waste stored at ORNL was announced May 29, 1998. Contract award is contingent upon a 90-day Congressional review. Milestone completion was submitted June 29, 1998. However, based on communication with TDEC, an extension to the milestone was submitted July 15, 1998, and formally granted by TDEC on July 23, 1998.

5. Provide a status report on the project by March 31, 1999 and update on September 30, 1999. (March 31, 1999 and September 30, 1999)

FY 1997 milestones no longer appropriate:

1. By December 31, 1996, complete a private sector feasibility study for the RH-TRU sludges.
2. By December 31, 1996, complete a conceptual design report for RH-TRU sludge retrieval and treatment at the TPF.