

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
CARLSBAD FIELD OFFICE**

**Management Assessment
Of
Contact Handled (CH) TRU Waste Characterization at Hanford**

Management Assessment CBFO MA-10-08

August 18-19, 2010



Prepared by: *Michael R. Brown*
Michael R. Brown
Assessment Team Leader

Date: 9/27/2010

Approved for Issue by: *Casey Gadbury*
Casey Gadbury
Director Office of the National TRU Program

Date: 9-27-10

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Management Assessment CBFO MA 10-08 was conducted at Hanford August 18-19, 2010. The assessment concluded that the communications between Washington TRU Solutions (WTS) Central Characterization Project (CCP) and Hanford CHPRC at WRAP met expectations, operational activities observed at the WRAP were efficient, and pre-job briefings were conducted on-time with good interactive participation from all participants. The second-shift hot-turnover in the field at WRAP was especially effective in maintaining CCP operations in the field.

The use of, or the integration, of the WRAP Data Management System (DMS) and software into the CCP program was considered. It was thought that the efficiencies gained by doing this, would not be enough to off-set the risk and cost of adding the program to the CCP program.

Several recommendations were identified that have the potential to increase efficiencies.

CCP is to evaluate the removal of "information only" paperwork pouches from the drums. The pouches can come off in the weather, as well as obscure required drum container markings. Electronic "information only," copies of characterization data forms may be able to be placed on a Hanford file-server. CHPRC will evaluate the feasibility of implementing that process.

CHPRC is to evaluate the feasibility of increasing the speed of the WRAP real-time radiography (RTR) turn-table to be consistent with other sites.

2.0 SCOPE

This management assessment evaluated the efficiencies in the movement of contact-handled (CH) TRU containers through the characterization processes (i.e., Container management, RTR, NDA) with an emphasis on programmatic interfaces and procedures which integrate the CHPRC program and facility support organizations with the CCP characterization program for WIPP WAP/WAC compliance.

3.0 ASSESSMENT TEAM

- Mike Brown – DOE/CBFO, Transportation Packaging Manager
- Howard Budweg – DOE/CBFO, Observer
- Gary Pyles – DOE/RL, TRU Programs Manager
- Dave DeRosa – CHPRC, TRU Disposition Manager
- Eric Greager – CHPRC, TRU Project STR
- Charlie Riggs – DOE/RL, TRU Program
- Mike Sensibaugh – WTS/CCP, CCP Projects Manager

- Ronnie Lee – WTS/CCP, CCP Small Quantity Site Project Manager
- Ron Reeves – WTS/CCP, CCP/Hanford Program Manager
- Veronica Waldram – WTS/CCP, CCP Site Project Manager

4.0 ASSESSMENT PARTICIPANTS

A list of personnel contacted during the course of the surveillance is provided as Attachment 1 of this report.

5.0 SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT RESULTS

5.1 Assessment Activities

Details of assessment activities, along with the specific activities observed, and the results of the review are described below. No conditions adverse to quality were identified.

The assessment started on August 18, 2010. A deviation was made from the original schedule and the WRAP pre-job briefing was attended on August 18, 2010. The change was made because the kick-off meeting for CBFO MA-10-07 regarding packaging and transportation on August 16th involved the same personnel and a second meeting was not required. Personnel were performing activities in accordance with, CCP-TP-086, Revision 14, WRP-OP-0522, Revision 13, Change 1, and WRP1-OP-0503, revision 16, Change 3. After the WRAP pre-job briefing, a tour was arranged of the retrieval activities at the area 12-B trench. The tour included the weather enclosure, overpacking area, non-WIPP assay area, non-WIPP RTR area with drum warmers and the drum darting/venting sampling system. The actual retrieval of drums from this area has been delayed and will probably not begin providing feed for WRAP until late 2011. After the drum retrieval area tour, the group broke into two teams and viewed the WRAP, RTR, NDA, flammable gas sampling operations and the container management operations.

On August 19, 2010, a tour was conducted for the one team of the high energy RTR pad and the Super HENC facility. In addition, drum container management was observed.

The impact of the delay of CCP WIPP certification was discussed along with the impact of other changes in TRU waste feed input to the WRAP. Significant changes in the amounts and schedule of TRU waste from the PFP were discussed.

6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS AND OBSERVATIONS

The assessment identified no deficiencies that required the issuance of Corrective Action Reports (CARs). Several recommendations were made that could potentially improve efficiency in operations. The recommendations are listed below:

- 1) CCP should evaluate the removal of "information only" paperwork pouches attached to the drums. The radiographer currently makes a PDF file of the radiography data sheet. If this was made available electronically, the nondestructive assay (NDA) personnel would not need the pouch. The pouch sometimes obscures drum markings and can come off. In addition, all the drums had multiple blue tags because the systems at the site are not certified at this time. The need for the blue tags is also being evaluated.
- 2) CHPRC should evaluate providing an on-site server to CCP for placement of informational electronic characterization data forms.
- 3) CHPRC should evaluate increasing the speed of the RTR turn-table. The current turn-table is slower than those in use at other sites.
- 4) CHPRC should evaluate prestaging a complete RTR batch. Currently, CCP personnel have to survey in and out of a radiation control zone numerous times while processing a batch.

The assessment concluded that the communications between the CCP and WRAP facility personnel met expectations, operational activities observed at the WRAP were efficient, pre-job briefings were conducted on-time with good participation from all participants. Overall it appeared that the different groups were communicating and working well together. The WRAP with 9 shifts currently staffed has the capability to process the waste to support at least 5-7 shipments per week given sufficient waste feed.

7.0 ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Personnel Contacted During the Assessment

Management Assessment-CBFO MA-10-7 Contact-Handled (CH) TRU Waste Packaging and Transportation at Hanford

Name of Person Contacted	Organization	Phone Number	Comments
Edward Mc Carthy	CHPRC Director	373-0044	
Ronnie Lee	WTS/CCP	575-706-2093	
Michael L. Samsbaugh	WTS/CCP	575-706-5174	
Eric Greaser	TRU Project	376-3132	
BRYAN A. HOWARD	LANL/CCP	505 500 7601	
Chris Foster	TRU Project	313-0374	
Brittany Edingsk	TRU PROJECT	373 2703	
Ron Reeves	CCP	865-816-4794	
GARY ALES	DOE/RL	509-376-2670	
DAVID DELOSA	CHPRC - TRU Project	509-376-7900	
David Haar	WTS/CCP	208-360-4880	
Ruby Bottenus	TRU PROJECT ENG.	509 373-3511	
HOWARD BUDWIG	CBFO(DOE) WIPP	575-706-2231	AUDIT OBSERVER
STU MORTENSEN	CHPRC / WRAP FACILITY MGR	373-1486	
Shawn Mellgren	WRAP RadCon	373-4221	
Terri-Anne Groover	CCP Vendor Project Manager	208-569-9803	509-376-0405

ATTACHMENT 1