

United States Government

NEW MEXICO  
ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT

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*[Signature]*  
Department of Energy

# memorandum

NOV 23 AM 10:30

Carlsbad Area Office  
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

*WAPP File 94*

DATE: NOV 15 1994  
REPLY TO: CAO:MLM 94-2666  
ATTN OF:  
SUBJECT: October 1994 Highlights for the National TRU Program Office

TO: Those On Attached List

Transmitted for your information is the October 1994, Carlsbad Area Office's National Transuranic (TRU) Program Office (NTPO) highlights. This month's notable activities include:

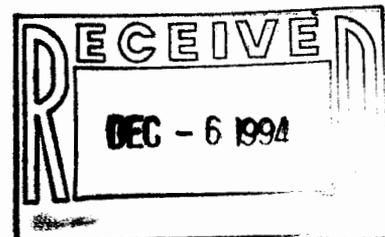
- The National TRU Program Office (NTPO) has published and will in November distribute the National TRU Program Charter and the National TRU Program Plan. The plan describes the functional elements of the NTP, establishes program baselines against which overall progress will be measured, and describes the organizational relationships, programmatic responsibilities, and division of work scopes among the various DOE organizations that comprise the program. The charter defines the authorities and responsibilities of the various NTP participants.
- An "external stakeholder" evaluation panel for the TRU Waste Carrier contract completed evaluations of technical proposals submitted in response to the TRU Waste Carrier solicitation. The panel included representatives from the following organizations: Southern States Energy Board (SSEB), Western Governors Association (WGA), the State of NM, and two technical experts from DOE Management and Operating contractors. "Best and Final Offers" are now being solicited. The contract is scheduled to be awarded on November 30, 1994.

Please note that the next National TRU Waste Steering Committee Quarterly Meeting is scheduled for November 29 to 30, 1994, in San Antonio, Texas, followed by the National TRU Waste Update Meeting on December 1. This will be the first Update Meeting since the establishment of the Carlsbad Area Office and the transfer of the National TRU Program Office to Carlsbad. We have announced the Update Meeting to a wide range of individuals and look forward to this opportunity to share information with them. If you have any items you wish to include on the agenda for the TRU Waste Update Meeting, please contact me on (505) 234-7467.

*Mark L. Matthews*

Mark L. Matthews, P.E.  
Manager  
National TRU Program Office

Attachment



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Addressees

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NOV 15 1994

cc w/attachment:  
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-3-

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Sheila Lott, WTAC  
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**NATIONAL TRANSURANIC PROGRAM OFFICE (NTPO)  
SYSTEM PLANNING & INTEGRATION  
HIGHLIGHTS, OCTOBER 1994**

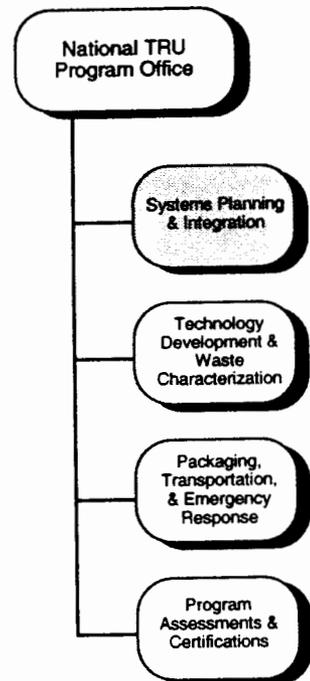
For additional information, please contact Joe Lippis, (505) 234-7473;  
FAX: (505) 887-0292.

The National TRU Program Office (NTPO) has published and will in November distribute the National TRU Program Charter and the National TRU Program Plan. The plan describes the functional elements of the NTP, establishes program baselines against which overall progress will be measured, and describes the organizational relationships, programmatic responsibilities, and division of work scopes among the various DOE organizations that comprise the program. The charter defines the authorities and responsibilities of the various NTP participants. The NTPO also produced the National TRU Program Office Communications Management Plan. This plan describes the methods of communications that will be used between the NTPO and the generator/storage sites. The goal of the plan is to establish constructive and efficient working relationships among the involved organizations.

A TRU Partnership Working Group meeting was held on October 26-27, 1994 in Augusta, Georgia. Among the topics discussed at this meeting were the Pilot Retrieval Program at Hanford, Retrieval Project at the Los Alamos National Laboratory, sludge core drilling apparatus at Argonne National Laboratory-West, the Small Quantity Sites Demonstration Project, and other projects that are ongoing throughout the TRU waste system.

A Small Quantity Sites (SQS) Demonstration Project meeting was held in Augusta, Georgia, on October 28, 1994. This meeting brought together three selected Small Quantity Sites (National Institute for Standards Testing, Bettis and Knolls Atomic Power Labs, and Babcock and Wilcox) and one potential receiver site, Savannah River Site, to discuss the implementation of the SQS Demonstration Project. The SQS Demonstration Project is being used to determine appropriate solutions for all small quantity waste sites and to exercise proper waste management by consolidating small quantity waste at the more appropriate larger sites.

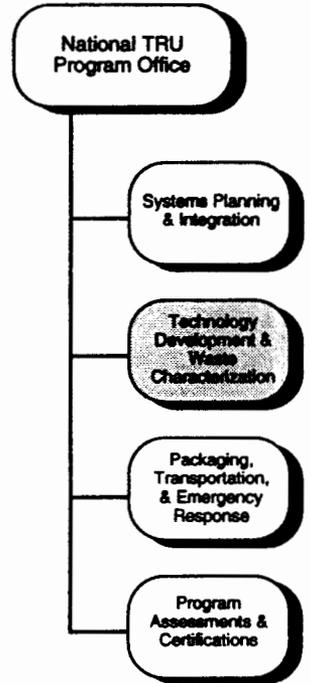
The Remote Handled (RH) Plan was revised and was sent to the four sites with the majority of RH TRU waste: LANL, Oak Ridge, Hanford and INEL. The final revised RH Plan will be presented with comments to the Steering Committee in November.



**NATIONAL TRANSURANIC PROGRAM OFFICE (NTPO)  
TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT & WASTE CHARACTERIZATION  
HIGHLIGHTS, OCTOBER 1994**

For additional information, please contact Mark Matthews, (505) 234-7467,  
FAX: (505) 887-0292.

The CAO hosted the first Non-Destructive Assay/Non-Destructive Examination (NDA/NDE) Interface Working Group (IWG) meeting under the NTPO in Carlsbad, NM on October 4, 5 and 6, 1994. The meeting, which included two and one-half days of technical discussions and presentations, also included a tour of the WIPP site. There were over eighty people in attendance. NTPO focused this group's output on the development of mobile characterization units and development of new, more efficient methods for characterizing waste.



**NATIONAL TRANSURANIC PROGRAM OFFICE (NTPO)  
PACKAGING, TRANSPORTATION, & EMERGENCY RESPONSE  
HIGHLIGHTS, OCTOBER 1994**

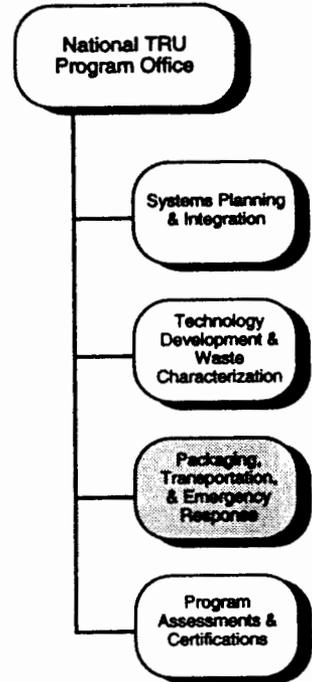
For additional information, please contact Bob Spooner, (505) 234-7474,  
FAX: (505) 887-0292.

The "external stakeholder" evaluation panel for the TRU Waste Carrier contract completed evaluations of technical proposals submitted in response to the TRU Waste Carrier solicitation. Based on agreement of CAO and WID, "Best and Final Offers" are now being solicited. The contract is scheduled to be awarded on November 30, 1994.

The first draft of the revised Safety Analysis Report for Packaging (SARP) for the 72-B RH-TRU shipping cask was completed on October 28, 1994. The scope of the revision was to bring this document up to current federal standards before submittal to DOE-HQ EH-332 for approval. The SARP is scheduled for submittal to DOE-HQ EH-332 by March 30, 1995.

The Incident/Accident Response Team Guide (DOE/CAO-94-1008) has been completed and is being distributed. The guide provides direction to the Incident/Accident Response Team (IART) in their role in responding to a TRU waste incident. This is a rewrite of a previous document, the TRUPACT-II Accident Response Team, to incorporate changes in CAO structure as well as procedures to be followed by the IART.

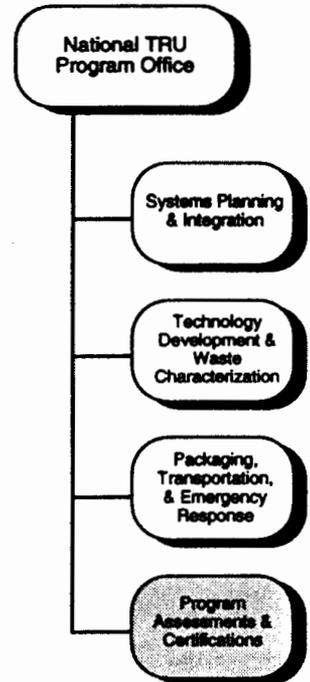
The response to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) comments regarding the TRUPACT-II SARP Revision 13 submittal has been completed. The finalized response, in the form of Revision 14, was transmitted to the NRC on October 26, 1994. The response resolution process for the NRC is a re-submittal for each round of comments as a new revision number. No NTPO action is required unless the NRC has additional questions.



**NATIONAL TRANSURANIC PROGRAM OFFICE (NTPO)  
PROGRAM ASSESSMENTS & CERTIFICATIONS  
HIGHLIGHTS, OCTOBER 1994**

For additional information, please contact Joe Lippis (acting), (505) 234-7473,  
FAX: (505) 887-0292.

NTPO is working with the CAO Compliance Branch's QA group and contractor staff to finalize the scope and schedule for program assessments and certification activities at generator sites.



**NATIONAL TRANSURANIC PROGRAM OFFICE (NTPO)  
Activities Calendar**

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<b>Date</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Event</b>
11/7/94	Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, CA	TRUPACT-II Loading and Unloading Demonstration (NTPO to coordinate and participate)
11/15/94	Hanford, WA	Small Quantity Site Survey for western states (NTPO to participate)
11/17/94	Roswell, NM	WIPPTREX Functional Exercise & FEMA training (NTPO to coordinate and participate)
11/29-30/94	San Antonio, TX	Quarterly TRU Waste Steering Committee Meeting (NTPO to coordinate and participate)
12/1/94	San Antonio, TX	National TRU Waste Update Meeting (NTPO to coordinate and participate)

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