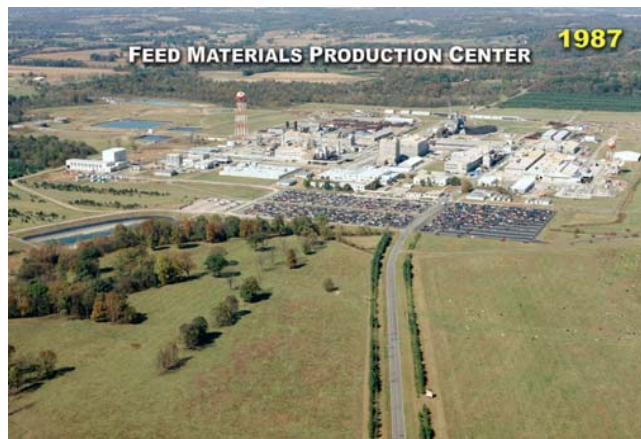


Waste Management '07

Views from Inside DOE— RadWaste Management

U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Environmental Management
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Deputy Assistant Secretary for Regulatory Compliance
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EM Environmental Management

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www.em.doe.gov



Office of Regulatory Compliance

- Leads on matters related to EM's legal and regulatory responsibilities
- Supports implementation of waste disposition plans
- Serves as primary interface with stakeholders within and outside DOE

These responsibilities are critical as EM focuses resources on critical risk reduction activities and the more challenging waste disposition projects.



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Regulatory Accomplishments

- Section 3116 Tank Waste Determinations
 - Idaho Tank Closure
 - Savannah River Site Salt Waste Disposal
- Site Closure
- Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Remote-Handled Transuranic Waste Disposal Permit
- Environmental Compliance Assessment Program
- National Environmental Policy Act
- Disposal facility performance assessment approvals



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Regulatory Challenges

- Section 3116 Tank Waste Determinations
 - Resolution of generic technical issues with Nuclear Regulatory Commission
- Natural Resource Damages
- Risk-reduction focus
- Scope growth



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Waste Disposition Accomplishments

- Disposed over 45,000 m³ of transuranic (TRU) waste at WIPP, nearly one-third of estimated inventory
- Initiated remote-handled TRU waste shipments to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in January 2007, 2 months ahead of schedule
- Progress toward Savannah River Site treatment
- Progress toward Sodium-Bearing Waste



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Waste Disposition Challenges and Goals

- Continue progress in treatment and disposition of tank wastes
- Process K-Basin sludges
- Determine disposition plan for calcine
- Downblend and disposition of U-233 at ORNL
- Thermal treatment of MLLW wastes – pending closure of TSCA Incinerator and need for alternative technologies
- Ensure final disposal of Fernald Silo Residues
- Improve management of DOE's disposal assets to optimize disposal despite reduced volumes
- Optimize use of TRU waste characterization and processing capabilities



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Public and Intergovernmental Coordination

- The Environmental Management Advisory Board (EMAB) provides advice, and recommendations concerning complex-wide issues
- The Environmental Management Site Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB) focuses on specific facilities -- Hanford, Idaho, Northern New Mexico, Paducah, Savannah River, Oak Ridge, and Nevada
- EM supports relationships with various national intergovernmental organizations who assist when major changes in policy direction are contemplated and facilitate communication of these changes to a wide range of interested parties
(NGA, NAAG, NCSL, STGWG, ECA, and ECOS)
- Consistent with the Department's American Indian Policy, EM maintains cooperative agreements with the Tribal nations at Hanford, West Valley, and New Mexico to enhance their involvement in cleanup decisions.



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