#### **Changing Waste Management Paradigms**

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## **Presentation Summary**

- Vision
- Waste Management Challenges
- Changing Paradigms
- Key Waste Management Strategies

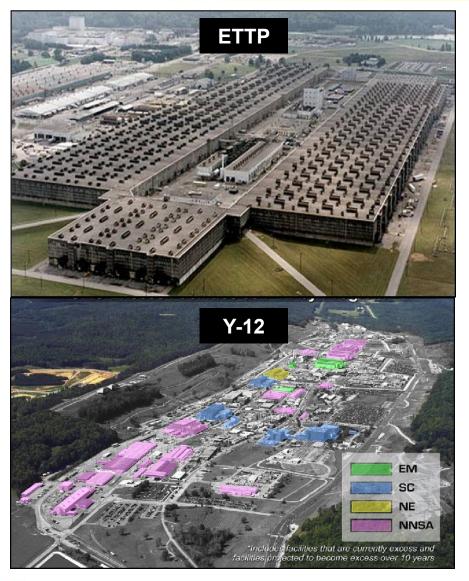


### **ORR Environmental Management - Vision**

- Set the National Standard for Performance
- Safely Meet Commitments in the Most Cost Effective Manner
- Protect the Environment and the Public
- Promote the Mission of the Department of Energy



## Waste Management Challenges Significant/Challenging Waste Volume







### **Changing Paradigms**

- Exemptions from DOE Order 435.1 program resulted in significant quantity of waste
  - ~625,000 cubic feet of LLW/MLLW located at ETTP, ORNL, and Y12 remains to be dispositioned
  - UCOR contract requires full compliance with DOE Order 435.1
  - Waste generation will **not** be allowed without a disposition path identified and funding allocated
  - Proper pre-planning will be conducted to characterize and determine disposition path prior to generation
  - Waste will be dispositioned from the point of generation (no storage)
  - Developing centralized waste management program implementing requirements of DOE Order 435.1
  - Disposition LLW/MLLW stored > one year
  - Develop Radioactive Waste Management Basis and obtain approval from DOE/ORO



#### **Changing Paradigms (cont)**

- Reliance on offsite disposal capabilities (e.g., NNSS, ES/Clive)
  - It is too difficult to prepare EMWMF documentation and obtain approval for waste streams meeting the EMWMF WAC
    - Streamline and manage process to profile and obtain approval for waste destined for EMWMF

 Plan well ahead of waste generation to meet project schedule needs

On-Site disposal as first priority

 Support CERCLA waste generators with utilizing EMWMF

Waste cannot meet ORR landfill WAC

- Utilize volumetric and surface contaminated object criteria consistent with ORR landfill WAC
- On-Site disposal as first priority
- Support ORR waste generators with utilizing ORR landfill



#### **Changing Paradigms (cont)**

- Need available processing capacity to disposition difficult to treat and no path to disposal waste
- Examples: highly radioactive waste, beryllium reflectors, classified dioxin/furan waste, mercury contaminated waste, etc.
  - Evaluate all DOE and commercial options to process waste
  - Continue to investigate new technologies to treat MLLW debris
  - Requested NNSS prepare RCRA Permit modification to allow for disposal of dioxin/furan waste codes
  - Working with TSDF's to conduct treatability studies on several no path to disposal waste streams





## Waste Management Paradigms (cont)

- Optimize waste characterization methodology to meet disposal WAC
  - Utilize K-25 data and apply to K-27 if relevant
  - Use process knowledge whenever possible
  - Approach characterization/waste generation in a strategic manner
    - Separate or combine waste streams while meeting disposal WAC
    - If process knowledge is sound, default to most conservative characterization without sampling to achieve cost savings



#### WM Strategy 1: Change in Business Philosophy

- Challenge Existing Paradigms
- Centralized Waste
  Management Program
- Funding Allocated and Disposition Path Identified Prior to Waste Generation
- Direct Shipment of Waste Without Storage





# WM Strategy 2: Utilize and Increase On-Site Disposal Capacity





#### EMWMF

- − ~2.3M yd³ capacity
- ~1.2M yd³ disposed
- Current capacity should last until ~2016
- Accepts LLW, TSCA, Haz.
  and mixed waste
- Streamline profile and waste acceptance process
- ORR Landfills
  - >2M yd³ in capacity
  - RCRA Subtitle D permit
  - Utilize to full extent



# WM Strategy 3: Support End-State Vision at ORR



- Y-12
  - D&D un-needed facilities and disposition waste
  - Address mercury contamination
- ORNL
  - D&D un-needed facilities and disposition waste allowing for lab modernization
- ETTP
  - Future Unrestricted Industrial End-State
  - Reindustrialization

# WM Strategy 4: Innovative Project Approach Tank W1A

- Characterization/excavation strategy eliminating TRU waste generation
- Offsite processing of tank and contents
- Direct shipments for disposal
- Strategic packaging strategies to meet NNSS WAC requirements (obtained deviation from WAC





# WM Strategy 4: Innovative Project Approach K-25

- Streamlined profiles for EMWMF
- Direct disposal of generated waste
- Successful testing of reusable packages for volutes
- Qualify convertors as own package (IP-1)
- Utilization of commercial TSDF to process waste
- Evaluation of waste acceptability at EMWMF



