

WM2014 Conference Panel Report

Panel Session 053 – US Nuclear Power Plant Waste Management – LLW Disposal Issues

Co-Chairs: **Mark Lewis**, *EnergySolutions (USA)*
 Clint Miller, *PG&E (USA)*

Panel Reporter: **Clint Miller**, *PG&E (USA)*

Panellists:

1. **Mark Lewis**, *VP Business Development, Energy Solutions (USA)*;
2. **Dan Burns**, *Senior VP Planning and Business Development, WCS (USA)*;
3. **James Harris**, *EnergySolutions (USA)*

Following introductions by the Co-chair, **Mark Lewis** opened the proceedings providing an update on the Energy Solutions Clive, Utah disposal site. This site has been providing disposal services for 26 years for both bulk and containerized LLRW. The site has a remaining capacity of about 130 million cubic feet. This equates to 30 to 40 years based on current shipment levels. Should an increase in commercial plant decommissioning happen the site life would be reduced.

Clive is accepting some sealed sources for disposal under a 1 year exemption which ends 9/30/14. There have been 42 shipments of blended resin since this waste stream was approved. There is currently a moratorium on depleted U at Clive. Some depleted U is at the site in storage. A performance assessment on disposal of depleted U was submitted to the State of Utah in 2011 and ruling is expected 3rd to 4th quarter 2014.

Dan Burns gave a status report on the Waste Control Specialists' Texas disposal site. The Texas-Vermont compact disposal unit for Commercial LLW Class A, B and C is called the Compact Facility. A performance assessment update was submitted as a license amendment. Four Steam Generators are expected in June from Point Beach.

A new cell for very LLW (RCRA/ 2002 exemption) opened in January 2014. This cell has concentration based limits which should ease assess.

James Harris provided an update on the Barnwell, SC site. This site has had 43 years of uninterrupted operation. All the closed trenches have been capped and unused structures removed. Barnwell is collecting a fixed quarterly fee from each of the 13 NPP that still have access to the site.

Questions:

1- The disposal sites were asked how they are reporting attribution to their host State versus reporting to the DOE Manifest Information Management System (MIMS).

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Barnwell requires every waste generator to obtain a State permit and the manifest must state this number. Barnwell is not receiving much if any thermally treated waste so attribution of ash or resin residue is not an issue.

The State of Utah requires a separate attribution report for thermally treated waste that states waste origin if the 542 Form only lists the waste Processor. Clive only submits Manifest data to DOE for MIMS. Clive has not sent this attribution report on to DOE to correct MIMS. Clive has sent multiple Gen ID numbers to DOE MIMS if that generator had sent their waste through processors and also shipped direct. Recently, Clive has been able to find a method to collect and transfer these data under a single Gen ID #.

Texas also requires a separate attribution report for thermally treated waste if the manifest lists only the waste processor. WCS is in the process of submitting data to DOE MIMS. WCS at this time does not intend on correcting the manifested attribution information with the attribution report. WCS has not sent attribution reports to DOE for MIMS update.

2- WCS was asked about C-14 cap in Texas. Irradiated hardware is now excluded from the C-14 cap.

3- NRC asked about the disposal of very LLW at RCRA sites and impact on these sites. The general answer was that this was not seen as a problem for continued site operation. WCS has both kinds of cells. Diverting very LLW to RCRA was seen as preserving the "asset" of licensed LLW disposal sites in the USA.