



Waste Management Mid-Year FY 1999 Progress Report



June 1999

Mission

The mission of the Office of Waste Management program is to protect people and the environment from the hazards of chemical and radioactive waste by providing an effective and efficient system that minimizes, treats, and stores all of these wastes and disposes most of the wastes as soon as possible.

Featured on the front cover:

The first shipment of transuranic waste from Los Alamos National Laboratory arrives at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in Carlsbad, New Mexico on March 26, 1999.

Background photo: Aerial view of the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant.

Foreword



Department of Energy
Washington, D.C. 20585
May 1999

It is with great pleasure that I present the Mid-Year FY 1999 Waste Management Progress Report, highlighting the accomplishments of the first half of this fiscal year. The banner headline of this edition is the opening of the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) near Carlsbad, New Mexico. The opening of this facility is the culmination of many years of effort from many dedicated people associated with the Waste Management Program, and represents a major milestone for the Department of Energy in meeting our commitment to clean up the nation's nuclear waste. It is Waste Management's mission to protect people and the environment from the hazards of chemical and radioactive waste by providing an effective and efficient system that minimizes, stores, and treats these wastes, and then moves them to disposal as soon as possible. The start-up of disposal operations at WIPP represents a giant step toward achieving that mission.

Throughout the Waste Management Program, we are making great progress. In the high-level waste program we are continuing vitrification operations at Savannah River and the West Valley Demonstration Project. Several major treatment facility projects in the field are moving ahead, including the Advanced Mixed Waste Treatment Project in Idaho, the Transuranic Waste Treatment Privatization Project at Oak Ridge, and the Tank Waste Remediation System Privatization Project at Hanford. In the low-level waste and mixed low-level waste programs, we have completed the policy analysis on the role of commercial disposal of DOE waste, and are nearing the final decisions on treatment and disposal options. At Headquarters we are preparing to issue the final DOE Order on radioactive waste management.

Updates on these projects and other key waste management achievements are discussed in the following pages, along with our expectations for the second half of the year. The Waste Management team at Headquarters and in the field will continue their efforts to meet our fiscal year-end goals, and I look forward to reporting continued success.

Mark W. Frei
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary
Office of Waste Management

Included in this Report...

Measuring Progress

High-Level Waste Program

Transuranic Waste Program

Mixed Low-Level and Low-Level
Waste Programs

Crosscutting Headquarters
Initiatives

Looking Ahead

Introduction

This edition of the Waste Management Progress Report covers program activities and accomplishments for the first half of fiscal year 1999, from October 1998 through the end of March 1999. The report identifies the major goals planned for the first half of the year, discusses the significant accomplishments made so far this year, and updates the progress in several ongoing program initiatives. Our year-end report will present the full "report card" on Waste Management's FY 1999 goals and objectives and provide more in-depth discussion of the year's program activities.

Measuring Progress

Waste Management Performance Commitments

Waste Management measures volumes of waste stored, treated, and disposed as indicators of progress toward meeting the program's goals and specific objectives. Actual performance is measured and compared against established annual commitments. Mid-year status of key FY 1999 performance measures as of March 31, 1999, is presented in the following tables.

High-Level Waste Canisters Produced FY 1999 Performance		
	Annual Plan	Mid-Year Actual
Defense Waste Processing Facility	200	130
West Valley Demonstration Project	15	9
Total	215	139

Mixed Low-Level Waste FY 1999 Performance				
	Treated		Disposed	
	Annual Plan	Mid-Year Actual	Annual Plan	Mid-Year Actual
Albuquerque	0	0	79	89
Chicago	31	5	11	0
Idaho	113	24	50	0
Nevada	0	0	0	0
Oak Ridge	4,139	1,125	11,830	2,501
Oakland	150	168	203	242
Ohio	9	0	532	10
Richland	608	0	0	0
Rocky Flats	4,886	4,810	2,886	4,401
Savannah River	1,073	724	0	0
Total	11,009	6,856	15,591	7,243

(Volume in cubic meters)

Transuranic Waste FY 1999 Performance			
	Made Ready For Disposal		Shipped to WIPP
	Annual Plan	Mid-Year Actual	Mid-Year Actual
Albuquerque	0	11	11
Chicago	2	0	0
Idaho	10	0	0
Richland	22	0	0
Rocky Flats	670	46	0
Savannah River	44	0	0
Total	748	57	11
Disposed at WIPP			
	Annual Plan	Mid-Year Actual	
Carlsbad	100-200	11	

(Volume in cubic meters)

Low-Level Waste FY 1999 Performance				
	Disposed		Shipped to DOE Disposal Site	
	Annual Plan	Mid-Year Actual	Annual Plan	Mid-Year Actual
Albuquerque	0	0	0	0
Chicago	174	0	574	168
Idaho	6,500	1,963	0	0
Nevada	37,742	4,182	0	0
Oak Ridge	1,946	445	2,949	0
Oakland	1,446	1,306	1,863	1,401
Ohio	10,016	3,574	8,895	1,687
Richland	6,120	2,560	0	0
Rocky Flats	0	0	2,630	2,050
Savannah River	9,576	2,942	0	0
Total	73,520	16,972	16,911	5,306

(Volume in cubic meters)

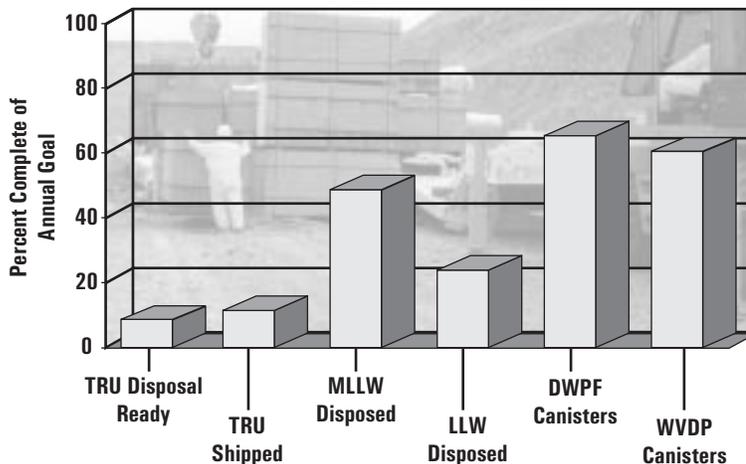
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FY 1999 Secretary's Agreement with the President

In FY 1999, the Secretary of Energy's Performance Agreement with the President includes six performance targets for the Waste Management Program that support the Departmental Environmental Quality objective to safely and expeditiously dispose of waste generated by defense nuclear materials production and civilian nuclear research and development programs, and make high-level radioactive waste disposal ready. Success in achieving our performance targets will demonstrate significant progress toward the Department's strategic goals and objectives. The FY 1999 performance targets are:

- Make disposal ready 700 cubic meters of transuranic (TRU) waste.
- Ship 100 to 200 cubic meters of TRU waste to WIPP for disposal.
- Dispose of 15,000 cubic meters of mixed low-level waste (MLLW).
- Dispose of 73,000 cubic meters of low-level waste (LLW).
- Produce 200 canisters of high-level waste (HLW) at the Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPF) at the Savannah River Site.
- Produce 15 canisters of high-level waste (HLW) at the West Valley Demonstration Project (WVDP).

Waste Management Commitments FY 1999 Mid-Year Status



HIGH-LEVEL WASTE PROGRAM

High-level waste (HLW) is the highly radioactive portion of the waste primarily resulting from the reprocessing of spent nuclear fuel at Department of Energy sites. The waste is stored mainly as liquids, sludges, or salts, with some waste in the form of a solid calcine. Removing stored HLW from underground tanks and immobilizing it reduces the potential for future environmental contamination.

Savannah River

In October 1998, the Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPF) began processing the second batch of stored HLW radioactive sludge. Savannah River once again expects to exceed canister projections this fiscal year. In the first six months of FY 1999, 130 canisters of HLW were produced toward a goal of 200, bringing the total canister inventory to 613.

As sludge-only operations continue at DWPF, Savannah River is making progress on the evaluation of alternatives for the path forward for the HLW salts. Three options were selected for further exploration: direct disposal as grout, small tank precipitation, and non-elutable ion exchange. A final decision will be accomplished through the NEPA process that is now underway. The DOE published a Notice of Intent to prepare a supplemental environmental impact statement that will assess the potential impacts of the three processes and a no action alternative. Public scoping meetings were held in March 1999.

West Valley

West Valley is continuing vitrification of HLW tank heels, producing canisters at the rate of just over 1 per month. By the end of March 1999, 9 canisters had been produced for the year, bringing the total canister inventory to 238. Approximately 325,000 curies of HLW have been transferred from the tank farm to the vitrification facility, two-thirds of the facility annual goal of 500,000.

Other efforts at West Valley are focused toward site completion, including development of a Preferred Alternative for the Environmental Impact Statement for Project Completion, and initiation of formal negotiations with the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority regarding DOE's responsibilities at the site.

Idaho

DOE resumed high-level waste calcining operations at the New Waste Calcining Facility in January. This facility converts highly radioactive liquid wastes into a dry powder form that reduces environmental risk during long-term storage. A Consent Order signed last August by DOE-Idaho, the State of Idaho, and the Environmental Protection Agency called for suspension of operations in April 1999. However, the Order has been revised to allow operations through June 2000, allowing DOE-Idaho to continue removing liquid sodium-bearing waste from the underground tanks and to gather emissions data to assist in future environmental permitting work. A decision on continuing calcine operations will be included in the ongoing environmental impact statement (EIS) process. The Draft EIS for Idaho HLW and Facilities Disposition is expected to be available for public comment by the end of FY 1999.

FY 1999 Goals

- Produce 200 canisters of vitrified HLW at the Defense Waste Processing Facility at Savannah River.
- Achieve resolution of Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board Recommendation 96-1 for In-Tank Precipitation (ITP) System at Savannah River (HLW salt disposal alternatives).
- Transfer 500,000 curies from the tank farm to the vitrification facility at the West Valley Demonstration Project in New York and produce 15 canisters of vitrified HLW.
- Issue draft Environmental Impact Statement for Idaho HLW and Facilities Disposition.

Richland

In December 1998, in response to Congressional direction, the DOE established the Office of River Protection (ORP) at the Hanford Site to manage all aspects of the Tank Waste Remediation System (TWRS). ORP is responsible for the privatized contract with BNFL Inc. for treating and immobilizing the stored high-level waste, as well as the nonprivatized operations, maintenance, engineering, and construction activities in the tank farms. The mission of ORP is to store, treat, immobilize, and dispose of the Hanford Site tank waste in an environmentally sound, safe, and cost-effective manner.

DOE performed a review of BNFL Inc. progress and deliverables during the first six months of the TWRS privatization contract. DOE found that the privatization contract still has a high probability of success and provided redirection to BNFL Inc. in those areas where performance improvements are still needed.

In the first six months of FY 1999, Richland advanced several major TWRS initiatives with the following accomplishments:

- Pumping of single-shell tanks S-102 and SX-106 was started, while pumping continued from three other single-shell tanks (SX-104, T-104, and T-110). Two additional tanks (S-103 and S-106) are scheduled to start later in FY 1999 to meet Interim Stabilization Consent Decree milestones.
- Retrieval of tank C-106 wastes was successfully initiated.
- DOE submitted a closure package for Recommendation 92-4 to the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.
- The first HLW cross-site transfer of 146,000 gallons was completed.

HLW Storage Record of Decision

DOE evaluated options for the storage of immobilized high-level waste pending available disposal capability in its *Final Waste Management Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement* (WM PEIS) that was issued in May 1997. The Preferred Alternative in the Final EIS recommended storing immobilized HLW at the sites of origin until shipment to the federal repository. A Record of Decision has been prepared for approval, and is expected to be approved later this fiscal year.



The Hanford site as seen from the banks of the Columbia River near Richland, Washington. The Office of River Protection was established to oversee the disposal of Hanford site tank waste while protecting the surrounding environment and ecosystem of the river.

FY 1999 Goals (continued)

- Initiate interim stabilization pumping operations in single-shell tanks S-102, S-103, S-106, and SX-106 at Hanford.
- Initiate the second retrieval campaign of waste tank C-106 at Hanford.
- Close out Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board Recommendation 92-4 at Hanford for systems engineering and 93-5 for waste characterization of the HLW tanks.
- Issue HLW Storage Record of Decision.

TRANSURANIC WASTE PROGRAM

Transuranic (TRU) waste is radioactive waste contaminated with isotopes that are heavier than uranium, have half-lives greater than 20 years, and are generated primarily during research and development, plutonium recovery, weapons manufacturing, and decontamination and decommissioning.

WIPP Facility Receives First TRU Waste Shipment

The Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) facility, near Carlsbad, New Mexico, received its first shipment of transuranic waste on March 26, 1999. This opening of the WIPP facility for waste disposal operations represents a significant achievement by the Department in its efforts to clean up the nation's nuclear waste. "This is truly a historic moment for the Department of Energy and the nation," said Secretary Richardson. "This shipment to WIPP represents the beginning of fulfilling the long-overdue promise to all Americans to safely clean up the nation's Cold War legacy of nuclear waste and protect the generations to come."

WIPP's opening was the result of a series of recent decisions by the courts that the opening should no longer be delayed. On March 22, 1999, U.S. District Court Judge John Garrett Penn ruled that there was no legal reason to further delay the shipments. He reaffirmed that conclusion on March 24, 1999, and the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals agreed, as did a Federal judge in the U.S. District Court in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Once legal obstacles were removed, the Department notified the State of New Mexico that shipments from Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) to WIPP would begin.

The first shipment left LANL at 7:49 p.m. on March 25, 1999, and arrived at the WIPP site, a 356-mile trip, at about 4:00 a.m. on March 26, 1999, to the cheers of hundreds of onlookers. This was the first of 17 initial shipments from LANL to WIPP.

FY 1999 Goals

- Begin disposal operations of nonmixed TRU waste at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP); receive Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Part B permit for receipt and disposal of mixed TRU waste at WIPP.
- Characterize, certify, load, and ship to WIPP 17 shipments of nonmixed Los Alamos National Laboratory TRU waste.



The first shipment of transuranic waste leaves Los Alamos National Laboratory in Los Alamos, New Mexico bound for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in Carlsbad, New Mexico.



Workers celebrate the historic first shipment as the truck leaves their site the evening of March 25, 1999.

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Secretary Richardson paid tribute to the program participants. "To the thousands of employees of the Department of Energy and its contractors, who helped to make this a reality, I want to say at the outset: thank you, and congratulations. This has been a top objective for a number of DOE Secretaries, and the nation. We would not be celebrating this achievement without your unswerving dedication and hard work over many years."

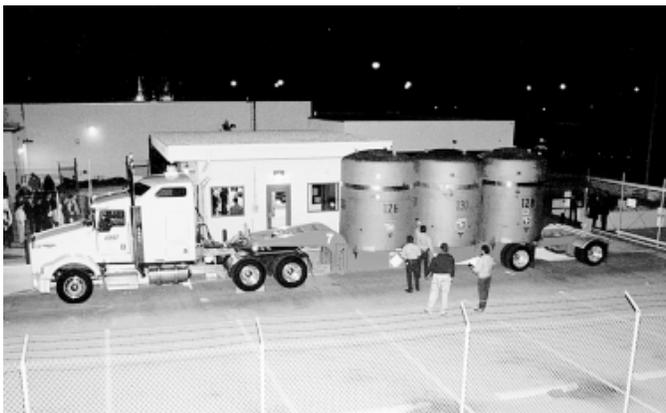
As a thank you to those who worked more than 25 years to see the nuclear waste repository open, WIPP held special opening ceremonies on Saturday, April 17, 1999. In attendance were Secretary Richardson, U.S. Senators Jeff Bingaman and Pete Domenici, U.S. Representative Joe Skeen, Carlsbad Mayor Gary Perkowski, and 1,500 employees and friends. The grand opening ceremony included guided tours of WIPP's surface facilities and speeches by several members of the State's Congressional delegation.

In the second half of the fiscal year, the Department will send additional shipments from the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory and from the Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site.

The WIPP facility has a disposal capacity of 6.2 million cubic feet (175,600 cubic meters) of transuranic waste. It will take approximately 35 years and about 40,000 waste shipments to dispose of currently stored and newly generated transuranic waste from sites across the country.



Carlsbad Area Office Acting Manager Keith Klein, at the podium, welcomes distinguished New Mexico guests to the WIPP opening ceremonies: (from left) Senator Pete Domenici, Secretary Bill Richardson, Representative Joe Skeen, Senator Jeff Bingaman, and Carlsbad Mayor Gary Perkowski.



Crowds gather in the early morning hours to watch the first shipment of transuranic waste arrive at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant.



Standard Waste Boxes holding transuranic waste are safely disposed underground at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant .

TRANSURANIC WASTE PROGRAM



(Clockwise from top left): Truck carrying first shipment of TRU waste leaves Los Alamos National Laboratory; Truck arrives at WIPP on March 26, 1999; Ribbon cutting at the WIPP grand opening ceremony on April 17, 1999; Unloading waste from a TRUPACT-II in the Waste Handling Building; Standard Waste Boxes loaded on to the surface waste hoist; Standard Waste Boxes being moved to their underground disposal location.

TRU Waste Transportation Privatization Contract

The award of this contract for contact-handled TRU waste transportation services has been deferred to implement a revised lower-risk strategy. DOE Albuquerque will initiate a new procurement for shipping containers (TRUPACTS-IIIs) in mid-1999. A second procurement using privatization funds to procure additional shipping containers and carrier services is expected to be announced in the fall of 1999. This procurement strategy will reduce the financial risk to the Department because the factors that now affect the shipping schedules will have been resolved.

WIPP Certification

The Carlsbad Area Office (CAO), in conjunction with the Environmental Protection Agency, has been conducting recertification audits to verify sites' continued compliance with CAO's quality assurance and technical requirements. Recertification audits were scheduled to be completed at Rocky Flats in April and at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory in May. The first certification audit of Hanford's TRU Waste Program for shipment of TRU waste to WIPP is scheduled for July 1999.

FY 1999 Goals (continued)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Award the contact-handled TRU waste transportation services privatization contract at WIPP.• Issue Record of Decision for the Advanced Mixed Waste Treatment Project at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory, allowing the start of construction of this major TRU waste and alpha-contaminated MLLW treatment facility.

Idaho Advanced Mixed Waste Treatment Project

A major program milestone was met in March 1999 when the Department issued the Record of Decision on the Advanced Mixed Waste Treatment Project (AMWTP) at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory. The Department has decided to implement the Preferred Alternative identified in the AMWTP Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) issued in February 1999. This Preferred Alternative is to proceed with construction and operation of the facility in accordance with DOE's contract with BNFL Inc. This is a fixed-price privatization contract to safely treat and prepare 65,000 cubic meters of transuranic and mixed low-level waste for shipment out of Idaho for final disposal at WIPP. Both the public and the State of Idaho supported this decision.

Oak Ridge TRU Waste Treatment Privatization Project

DOE is preparing a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) for the proposed Transuranic Waste Treatment Facility at Oak Ridge, Tennessee. The proposed facility would treat TRU waste currently stored at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL). These wastes result from past research and development activities and radioisotope production at ORNL, with some material dating back to the World War II Manhattan Project. The TRU Waste Treatment Project is being accomplished under a privatization contract that was awarded to Foster Wheeler Environmental Corporation in August 1998. The proposed treatment facility is a key component of the Department's strategy to meet the requirements for safe processing and disposal of the Oak Ridge legacy TRU waste that are mandated by the State of Tennessee's Commissioner's Order. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis is being conducted concurrently with the contractor's Phase I design and permitting activities. Public scoping meetings were held in Oak Ridge in February 1999. A draft EIS is expected to be available for public comment by August 1999.

MIXED LOW-LEVEL & LOW-LEVEL WASTE PROGRAMS

Low-level waste (LLW) is radioactive waste that is not high-level waste, transuranic waste, or spent nuclear fuel. Mixed low-level waste (MLLW) is low-level radioactive waste that also contains a hazardous component subject to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA).

Pending Decisions on Treatment and Disposal of Mixed Low-Level and Low-Level Waste

The Office of Waste Management has continued discussions on possible LLW and MLLW treatment and disposal locations, as the Department prepares to announce its site preferences and issue a Record of Decision (ROD) later this year. DOE evaluated programmatic LLW and MLLW treatment and disposal alternatives in its *Final Waste Management Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement* (WM PEIS) issued in May 1997. The Final WM PEIS stated the Department's preference to regionally dispose of LLW and MLLW at two or three sites from six candidate sites (Hanford, Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Nevada Test Site, Oak Ridge Reservation, and Savannah River Site), but the WM PEIS did not select preferred sites. In the fall of 1998, the DOE concluded an extensive series of workshops and meetings with the States, Tribal Nations, regulators, and stakeholders in which possible disposal options were discussed.

DOE plans to announce its preferred disposal sites before issuing final decisions. This fulfills a Department commitment in the WM PEIS that, following consultations, DOE would notify the public as to which specific sites it prefers for disposal of LLW and MLLW by publishing a notice in the *Federal Register*. The Department will not issue a final ROD for LLW and MLLW treatment and disposal until at least 30 days after the publication of its preferred disposal sites in the *Federal Register*.

Commercial Disposal Policy Analysis

DOE's Commercial Disposal Policy Analysis for Low-Level Waste and Mixed Low-Level Waste was issued by the Office of Environmental Management on March 9, 1999. The policy analysis evaluated five different options available to the Department relating to the use of commercial facilities for the disposal of LLW and MLLW. As a result, the Department has decided to maintain its current policy and practices regarding waste disposal, which is to dispose of LLW and MLLW at the DOE site where they are generated or, if onsite disposal is not practical, at another DOE site. The current policy allows DOE sites to obtain an exemption to send LLW and MLLW to commercial disposal facilities when it is in the best interest of the Department, and only if the commercial facility has a license issued by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission or an Agreement State. This policy with its exemption process is strongly supported by the public, States, and regulatory agencies, and presents the least programmatic impact on current cleanup and waste management activities.

FY 1999 Goals

- Issue Mixed Low-Level Waste (MLLW) and Low-Level Waste (LLW) Treatment and Disposal Records of Decision.
- Issue commercial disposal policy analysis.
- Dispose of 73,000 cubic meters of LLW.
- Dispose of 15,000 cubic meters of MLLW.

CROSSCUTTING HEADQUARTERS INITIATIVES

DOE Order on Radioactive Waste Management

DOE Order 435.1 and its associated Manual and Implementation Guide were sent out for final departmental concurrence in February 1999. The final DOE directive is scheduled to be issued by the end of June 1999.

Re-engineering in FY 1999

The FY 1998 report on Waste Management re-engineering pilot projects was completed and issued in January 1999. The Argonne National Laboratory-East, Ames Laboratory, the Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory, and the Brookhaven National Laboratory under the Chicago Operations Office; the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory under the Oakland Operations Office; and the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory under the Richland Operations Office are the latest sites undergoing re-engineering. EM is discussing transferring financial responsibility for newly generated waste at these sites to the Office of Science. The transfer is proposed to be executed with the Fiscal Year 2001 budget now in preparation. A decision on the transfer of responsibility for newly generated waste at the Oak Ridge Operations Office and at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory under the Oakland Operations Office is being discussed with the goal of establishing a path forward no later than the end of September 1999.

FY 1999 Goals

- Issue DOE Order 435.1 on Radioactive Waste Management.
- Re-engineering decision to transfer newly generated waste management responsibility to the waste generators at three Chicago sites: Argonne National Laboratory-East, Ames Laboratory, and Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory; and at one Oakland site: Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

Technology Development Integration

The Office of Waste Management (OWM) continues to support the deployment of innovative technologies for waste management operations. In a paper presented at the Waste Management 1999 Conference in March 1999 entitled, *Evaluating Science and Technology for Managing DOE Waste*, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary Mark Frei outlined strategic objectives for the Program:

- Use present-day technologies to clean up waste as soon as possible in support of the *Accelerated Cleanup: Paths To Closure*, such as vitrifying high-level radioactive waste at the Defense Waste Processing Facility; and support evolutionary short-term technology development to provide incremental improvements in operational performance, risk reduction, and cost savings.
- In partnership with the Office of Science and Technology (OST), provide for revolutionary long-term science and technology which targets long-term challenges and large life-cycle costs.

Waste Management continues to support participation in projects of the Accelerated Site Technology Deployment Program, including the AEA Fluidic Sampler at the Savannah River Site, the Improved Systems for Tank Sludge Retrieval, Conditioning and Transfer at Oak Ridge, and the Modular Evaporator and Ion Exchange System, also at Oak Ridge.

In support of the Under Secretary's initiative to integrate science and technology in DOE and the Office of Environmental Management (EM), the OWM has partnered with OST to expand the existing Technology Management System (TMS) to include information on waste management operations technology development and deployment. This effort will provide field users access to technology data through an online integrated data system. The Waste Management/Science and Technology Team has initiated an analysis of transuranic waste cost drivers in order to provide recommendations on EM long-term investments in science and technology. The goal of this study is to help address long-term challenges and reduce life-cycle cost.

Expectations for the Second Half of the Fiscal Year

Waste Management looks forward to continued success in achieving our goals and objectives during the second half of the fiscal year. In addition to those accomplishments already discussed in this Progress Report, Waste Management anticipates completing the following goals by the end of September 1999:

- Selecting a preferred alternative for the Salt Alternative Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement at Savannah River Site.
- Continuing shipments of nonmixed TRU waste from Los Alamos and successfully completing the first shipments from Idaho and Rocky Flats.
- Completing WIPP certification of the Hanford Transuranic Waste Program by the Carlsbad Area Office.
- Completing 30 percent design for the Hanford Tank Waste Remediation System (TWRS) Privatization Infrastructure and establishing an approved project baseline.
- Recommending closure of DNFSB 93-5, Hanford Waste Tank Characterization Studies.
- Approving the TWRS Final Safety Analysis Report.
- Resolving high-priority safety issues for organic solvents and criticality at Richland.
- Approving the Nevada Test Site (NTS) Low-Level Waste Disposal Area 3 Performance Assessment/Composite Analysis and Disposal Area 5 Performance Assessment Addendum.
- Continuing progress on environmental analyses:
 - Issuing a Record of Decision on HLW storage.
 - Issuing a Record of Decision on MLLW and LLW treatment and disposal.
 - Publishing the Savannah River Site Tank Closure Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).
 - Issuing the Idaho High-Level Waste and Facilities Disposition Draft EIS for public comment.
 - Issuing the Nevada LLW Intermodal Transportation Environmental Assessment Technical Report and Comment Response Document.
 - Issuing the Oak Ridge Transuranic Waste Treatment Project Draft EIS.
 - Developing a preferred alternative for the West Valley Site EIS with input from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority and the Citizen Task Force.
- Awarding a privatization contract at Oakland for the Molten Salt Oxidation Technology Project.
- Awarding the re-competed MLLW disposal contract at Oak Ridge for the DOE complex.

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