

Work Plan for Waste Management Committee

Fiscal Year 2005

SECTION 1. MISSION STATEMENT

The Northern New Mexico Citizens' Advisory Board (NNMCAB) Waste Management Committee reviews policies, practices and procedures, existing and proposed, so as to provide recommendations, advice, suggestions and opinions to the US Department of Energy (DOE), New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), the US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA), the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), and others regarding the waste management operations of the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). The committee also facilitates community awareness and access to LANL waste management practices and procedures.

SECTION 2. ISSUES ADDRESSED IN FY 2004

1. Transuranic (TRU) Waste Characterization

- Coordinate a video/briefing and tour of LANL's TRU waste handling facilities.
- Assessed the level of public concern regarding TRU waste storage and transportation.
- Monitored progress of the "Quick to WIPP" initiative
- Monitored remote handling of TRU waste.

2. Waste management regulatory issues

- Evaluated upgrades to the Liquid Waste Facility at LANL
- Monitored and evaluated RCRA permit modifications and changes in regulations affecting management and handling of TRU, liquid, and low-level waste.
- Assess regulatory concerns regarding liquid waste management
- Planned TA-54, Area G Public Forum

3. Risk Communication

- Monitored implementation of the LANL Public Involvement Plan.
- Monitored Risk Communication development by RAC Corporation.

SECTION 4. ROUTINE ACTION ITEMS FOR FY 2005

1. Provide input to quarterly NNMCAB newsletters.
2. Increase committee membership; Conduct on-going training for new committee members, as needed.

SECTION 5. WORK PLAN FOR FY 2005

1. WIPP Shipments of TRU Waste

- Monitor, assist as appropriate, to maintain progress on movement of TRU waste to WIPP in as high a through-put volume as possible
- Watch the schedule and compliance / characterization progress
- Monitor the following topics / issues:
 1. When TRU waste is moved
 2. Schedule – on or off track
 3. Characterization – progress with compliance
 4. Quality assurance – progress with new processes
 5. The CAB's input may assist in getting permit modes to increase capacity and to get the "Quick to WIPP" initiative back on schedule
 6. Compare with Rocky Flats and Idaho as priority sites because they have existing permit modes with the regulators

2. Area G Issues Expansion and Forum:

- Plan and execute Community Wide Area G Public Forum
- Monitor the following topics / issues:
 1. Address the public's interests (what's there and what's to be done with it)
 2. Requirements in the consent order
 3. Pit 9 – plans / remedy issues
 4. Expansion plans for Area G
 5. Closure plans for Area G
 6. TRU Waste challenges / problems
 7. RH TRU Waste challenges / problems

3. TRU Waste Disposal Program at LANL:

- Monitor and advise on policy and procedural issues; watch these:
 1. Budget shortfall (DOE Policy)
 2. Not enough TRUPACS, LANL can't get funding allocation (DOE Policy)
 3. TRU retrieval (1970 Commitment being re-visited)
 4. RH TRU Waste (Requirements still being sent, project's in its' infancy which may be an opportunity for the CAB to 'get ahead of the ball game' and help DOE; the Savannah River & Hanford sites may be studied in regards to their RH TRU waste policies

4. RACER Project (RAC Corporation – Risk Communication):

- Monitor and comment as appropriate

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- Assess how the model under development may affect WM cleanup decisions
 - Assess and monitor developments on these topics / issues:
 1. Priority list for clean up (see Compliance Order on Consent)
 2. Risk analysis process (development, use, application)
 3. Risk communication (progress, public response)
5. NMED Compliance Order on Consent:
- Suggest modifications to the Compliance Order on Consent
 - Work with DOE, NMED, and LANL to ensure public participation in oversight / review of remedy selection(s)
 - Assess and monitor developments on these topics / issues:
 1. What does it say about the MDAs?
 2. Remedy selection and public participation
 3. Corrective Measures Studies (CMS)
 4. Record(s) of Decision
6. Seek every opportunity to provide DOE with pro-active Recommendations.
7. Work Plan: Other Items to Monitor (Trip Wires):
1. Liquid waste disposal challenges
 2. TA-50 Mortandad Canyon
 3. Perchlorate in the effluents / groundwater
 4. Zero Discharge Limits (ZLD)
 5. Recycling water

Approved by the Waste Management Committee
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Submitted:



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