

Attachment A—Working Definitions

Types of National Assessment Reports

The Redesign Policy Statement, adopted by the National Assessment Governing Board on August 2, 1996, provides for three types of National Assessment reports:

- Standard Reports
- Comprehensive Reports
- Focused or Special Reports.

The content of these reports is described below. To provide the data needed for each report, the design of each assessment should be of high technical quality and cost-effective while not going beyond reporting requirements.

Standard Report Card

This shall be the primary vehicle for reporting the National Assessment of Educational Progress and shall present the principal results for grades 4, 8, and 12. Whenever state NAEP is conducted, the standard report card will include both national and state results. Data shall be reported in terms of both achievement levels and a scale score or percent-correct metric.

The standard report card will be prepared for a general public audience and written in understandable, jargon-free style with attractive charts, tables, and graphics. The report will be relatively modest in length—about 50 to 100 pages. In addition to key results, it will include a substantial sample of test questions and student responses—with item-level data—to illustrate performance standards and actual student work for each grade tested.

For each subject the standard report card will be based on the assessment framework and specifications approved by the Governing Board. However, the size of student samples may be more limited than in comprehensive assessments, described below. Also, special studies carried out in comprehensive assessments may be omitted.

The report card will be publicly released within six months after the end of student testing. This normally would be by the end of September of the assessment year.

Data shall be reported on a representative-sample basis for the nation, states, and demographic subgroups. Overall scores and achievement-level results must be strictly comparable to previous assessments based on the same NAEP framework so that trends in achievement may accurately be reported. However, the content-area subscales reported in previous comprehensive assessments may or may not be included, depending on the subject assessed.

Data in the standard report card shall be reported by the following categories, as required by law: sex, race/ethnicity, public and private schools, and factors bearing on socio-economic status. Such factors may include the education level of parents, type of community, and participation in Title I and subsidized lunch programs.

Any report with state-by-state results shall include information on demographic characteristics and resource inputs that may provide context for understanding results. In addition to data collected by NAEP, the contextual information may include data from other sources, such as per capita income, the poverty rate for school-aged children, current expenditures per pupil, pupil/teacher ratio, and average teacher salary.

States will appear in tables listed alphabetically. However, an overall rank order shall be prepared using average scores and indicating where differences are not statistically significant.

The report shall include information on a limited number of student background characteristics directly related to academic achievement, which may be obtained from student questionnaires or from data needed to draw samples of schools and students, such as census and Title I data. It will also include information on the proportion of students tested with disabilities and limited English proficiency. However, the standard report card will not include surveys of instructional practices or school policies, though these shall be included in comprehensive NAEP assessments.

Comprehensive Reports

These reports shall be based on large-scale assessments which implement fully the test frameworks and specifications adopted by the Governing Board. Normally, a comprehensive assessment shall be the first one done for a new test framework. Its results shall be issued in a series of reports, designed for general and specialized audiences, including national and state policymakers, educators, and researchers.

The first report—with key results for a general audience—shall be comparable to the standard report described above, though it may be somewhat more extensive and may be issued within nine months after testing rather than six months. Included in this series, though not necessarily in each report, shall be content area subscales and data on a wide range of school policies, instructional practices, and student work-habits and behavior, gathered from background questionnaires for students, teachers, and schools.

Comprehensive assessments and reporting shall be done for national samples in grades 4, 8, and 12 and for state-level samples in some subjects and grades.

Focused Reports

These reports shall be more limited and focused than the standard NAEP report. They may be targeted to a particular grade or group of students rather than being based on representative samples of the population. Generally, the cost would be less than that of a standard assessment, although focused

reports may also be used to assess in a particular subject, such as the performing arts, where testing costs are high.

The focused reports may extend the range of the National Assessment and permit the testing of new populations, e.g., out-of-school youth. They will also provide NAEP with the opportunity to develop new methods of assessment and reporting without the constraints of the standard report. Some may be financed by a particular organization, e.g., the Department of Labor for a test of work readiness skills, rather than from the regular NAEP appropriation.

In most cases the special reports will involve only national samples, although states that wish to participate may do so at their own expense.

Dated: November 25, 1996.

Roy Truby,

Executive Director, National Assessment Governing Board.

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BILLING CODE 4000-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Disposal Phase, Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement; Notice of Availability and Public Hearings

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of availability and public hearings.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE or Department) announces the availability for public review and comment of the draft supplemental environmental impact statement (SEIS-II) for the proposed disposal of transuranic (TRU) radioactive waste at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) near Carlsbad, NM, and the schedule for public hearings on that document.

DATES: DOE invites all interested parties to submit comments on the draft SEIS-II during a comment period ending on January 28, 1997. Written comments must be postmarked by January 28, 1997 to ensure consideration. Comments postmarked after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.

DOE will also hold several public hearings to receive public comments and suggestions on the draft SEIS-II. Public hearings will be held on the dates and at the locations given below.

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| Albuquerque, NM | January 6, 1997 | Albuquerque Convention Center, 401 2nd Street N.W., Albuquerque, NM 87103, (505) 768-4575. |
| Santa Fe, NM | January 7, 1997. January 8, 1997 | Sweeney Convention Center, 201 West Marcy, Santa Fe, NM 87501, (505) 986-6901. |
| Richland, WA | January 9, 1997. January 10, 1997. January 15, 1997 | Red Lion Inn Richland, 802 George Washington Way, Richland, WA 99352, (509) 946-7611. |
| Carlsbad, NM | January 13, 1997 | Pecos River Village, 711 N. Muscatel, Carlsbad, NM 88220, (505) 887-6516. |
| Denver, CO | January, 13 1997 | Arvada Center for Arts and Humanities, 6901 Wadsworth Boulevard, Denver, CO 80003, (303) 431-3080. |
| Boise, ID | January 15, 1997 | Red Lion Inn Riverside, 2900 Chinden Boulevard, Boise, ID 83714, (208) 946-7611. |
| Oak Ridge, TN | January 21, 1997 | American Museum of Science and Energy, 300 South Tulane Avenue, Oak Ridge, TN 37830, (423) 576-3200. |
| N. Augusta, SC | January 23, 1997 | North Augusta Community Center, 495 Brookside Drive, North Augusta, SC 29841, (803) 441-4290. |

Public hearings are planned for morning (only in Albuquerque and on January 9th and 10th in Santa Fe), afternoon, and evening sessions. The length of sessions held at each location may be adjusted as preregistration demand warrants. The planned hours for hearings are: 9:00 AM to 12 noon for the morning sessions, 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM for the afternoon sessions, and 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM for the evening sessions. Call the WIPP Information line at 1-800-336-9477 at least a week before the hearing to register in advance to speak at a particular public hearing. Persons who have not registered in advance may register to comment when they arrive at the hearing to the extent time is available. For additional information about the format for the hearings and speaker registration see the Public Hearing subheading under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on the draft SEIS II should be directed to: Harold Johnson, NEPA Compliance Officer, Attn: SEIS Comments, P.O. Box 9800, Albuquerque, NM 87119.

Comments submitted by electronic mail should be sent to WIPPSEIS@battelle.org. Faxed comments should be directed to Harold Johnson at 1-505-224-8030. Oral comments will be accepted only at the public hearings.

Copies of the draft SEIS II are also available for reference at the public reading rooms set forth below. The reading rooms also contain reference documents.

New Mexico State Library 325 Don Gaspar Santa Fe, NM 87503

Carlsbad Public Library 101 S. Halagueno St. Carlsbad, NM 88220
Zimmerman Library Government Publications Department University of New Mexico Albuquerque, NM 87131
Pannell Library New Mexico Junior College 5317 Lovington Highway Hobbs, NM 88240
WIPP Public Reading Room National Atomic Museum U.S. Department of Energy Albuquerque Operations Office P.O. Box 5400 Albuquerque, NM 87115
Martin Speare Memorial Library New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology Campus Station Socorro, NM 87801
Raton Public Library Public Reading Room 244 Cook Ave. Raton, NM 87740
New Mexico State University Library P.O. Box 30001 Las Cruces, NM 88003
Los Alamos National Laboratory Community Reading Room P.O. Box 1663, MS A-117 Los Alamos, NM 87545
DOE Public Reading Room—Oakland 1301 Clay St., Room 700N Oakland, CA 94612
DOE Public Reading Room—Nevada 2621 Losee Rd. North Las Vegas, NV 89030
Flagstaff—Coconino County Public Library 300 West Aspen Flagstaff, AZ 86001
The Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency c/o Levon Benally Jr. P.O. Box 339 Window Rock, AZ
DOE Public Reading Room—Richland Washington State University Tri-Cities 100 Sprout Rd., Room 130 West Richland, WA 99352
Oregon State Library 250 Winter St. Salem, OR 97310
Idaho National Engineering Laboratory (INEL) Reading Room 1776 Science Center Dr. Idaho Falls, ID 83402
Idaho National Engineering Laboratory—Boise Office 816 West Bannock Suite 306

Boise, ID 83702
Idaho National Engineering Laboratory—Pocatello Office 1651 AT Ricken Dr. Pocatello, ID 83201
Idaho National Engineering Laboratory—Twin Falls Office 233 2nd St. North, Suite B Twin Falls, ID 83301
University of Idaho Library Government Document Department (University of Idaho Campus) Rayburn Street Moscow, ID 83843
Shoshone-Bannock Library Human Resources Center Bannock and Pima Fort Hall, ID 83203
Moscow Environmental Restoration Information Office 530 South Ashbury, Suite 2 Moscow, ID 83843
Pocatello Public Library 113 South Garfield Pocatello, ID 83201
Idaho State University Library 741 South 7th Ave., Box 8089 Pocatello, ID 83209
Twin Falls Public Library 434 2nd St. East Twin Falls, ID 83301
Wyoming State Library Supreme Court Building 2301 Capitol Ave. Cheyenne, WY 82002
DOE Rocky Flats Public Reading Room Front Range Community College Library 3645 West 112th Ave. Westminster, CO 80030
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Superfund Records Center 999 18th St., 5th Floor Denver, CO 80220
Information Center Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

4300 Cherry Creek Dr. South, Building A
Denver, CO 80222-1530
Citizens Advisory Board
9035 N. Wadsworth Pkwy., Suite 2250
Westminster, CO 80021
Standley Lake Library
8485 Kipling St.
Arvada, CO 80005
Texas State Library
Information Services Division
1201 Brazos St.
Austin, TX 78701
Oklahoma Dept. of Libraries
200 N.E. 18th St.
Oklahoma City, OK 73105
Arkansas State Library
One Capitol Mall
Little Rock, AR 72201
Kansas State Library
State Capitol Building
Topeka, KS 66612
Missouri State Library
600 West Main
Jefferson City, MO 65102
Indiana State Library
140 North Senate Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
DOE Public Reading Room—Chicago
9800 South Cass Ave.
Building 201
Argonne, IL 60439
DOE CERCLA Public Reading Room
Miamisburg Senior Adult Center
305 Central Ave.
Miamisburg, OH 45342
Office of Scientific and Technical
Information
Technical Information Center
P.O. Box 62
Oak Ridge, TN 37831
DOE Public Reading Room—Oak Ridge
55 Jefferson Cir.
Oak Ridge, TN 37830
DOE Public Reading Room—Savannah River
USC—Aiken Library
171 University Pkwy.
Aiken, SC 29801
Mobile Public Library
701 Government St.
Mobile, AL 36602
Atlanta—Fulton Public Library
One Margaret Mitchell Square N.W.
Atlanta, GA 30303
Mississippi State Law Library
450 High St.
Jackson, MS 39215
Louisiana State Library
760 North Third St.
Baton Rouge, LA 70802
DOE/Forrestal Building
Freedom of Information Reading Room
1000 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20585
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board
625 Indiana Ave., N.W., Suite 700
Washington, DC 20004

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information, to register to speak at the public hearings, or to obtain a copy of the environmental impact statement, call the WIPP Information line at 1-800-336-9477 (staffed 7:30

AM to 4:30 PM mountain time; answering machine at other times).

For further information on the DOE NEPA process, contact: Carol M. Borgstrom, Director, Office of NEPA Policy and Assistance (EH-42), U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20585, Telephone: 202-586-4600 or leave a message at 1-800-472-2756.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background, Purpose and Need for Agency Action

TRU waste is waste that contains alpha particle-emitting radionuclides with an atomic number greater than that of uranium (92), and half lives greater than 20 years, in concentrations greater than 100 nanocuries per gram of waste. Since the mid 1940s, DOE and its predecessor agencies have conducted research and development, nuclear weapons production and fuel reprocessing activities that have produced TRU waste. Continued operation of Departmental facilities, decontamination and decommissioning of defense production facilities, and environmental restoration activities are expected to generate additional TRU waste in the future.

The Department needs to safely dispose of the accumulated TRU waste and provide for disposal of the additional TRU waste to be generated. Since TRU waste emits alpha radiation for a long period of time and some TRU waste contains hazardous constituents that could be harmful if taken into the body, the waste must be isolated from means of environmental transport (primarily air and water) for a long time period for safe disposal. To this end, the Department has constructed the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant near Carlsbad, New Mexico.

The draft SEIS II examines the environmental impacts of the proposed action: disposal at WIPP of the volume of defense TRU waste allowed by the WIPP Land Withdrawal Act (i.e., by burying it 2,100 feet deep in a salt deposit), after treatment to meet planning basis WIPP waste acceptance criteria. Three action alternatives examine the impacts of disposal of DOE TRU waste at WIPP, with three alternative treatments (planning basis WIPP waste acceptance criteria, shred and grout treatment to reduce gas generation, and thermal treatment to meet Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Land Disposal Restrictions). The non-thermal treatment alternatives do not include disposal of TRU waste commingled with

polychlorinated biphenyls. If the Department were to decide that shred and grout or thermal treatment would be the minimal treatment required for disposal at WIPP, the planning basis waste acceptance criteria would be revised appropriately. Two no-action alternatives examine the impacts of leaving the waste at generator sites. One no-action alternative assumes continued management of TRU waste in existing and planned storage facilities, while the other assumes construction of new monitored retrievable storage facilities for TRU waste that has been thermally treated to meet Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Land Disposal Restrictions. The proposed action is identified as the Department's preferred alternative.

Public Hearing and Procedures

The public hearings will be conducted in an informal "round table" setting. Comments will be recorded and a transcript of the comments will be prepared. A sound system at the comment table will enable other participants to hear commenters. For participants who want to ask questions about the content, methodology, and results of the draft SEIS II analysis before commenting, DOE will provide that information in a separate room. Clarifying questions regarding the content of the draft SEIS II may be asked as part of comments at the public hearing, but the time needed to answer the questions will be counted as part of the questioner's allotted speaking time. A quiet area will be set aside where commenters can handwrite their comments or record their comments on audiotape.

The hearing will not be an adjudicatory or evidentiary hearing and speakers will not be cross-examined, although DOE's hearing panel members may ask clarifying questions or respond to questions raised by the commenter. The hearing transcripts will be available in the public reading rooms as soon as possible after the hearings have concluded.

Participants can register in advance to present oral comments at a particular hearing location by calling 1-800-336-9477 at least a week before the hearing. To ensure that as many persons as possible have the opportunity to present comments, Government representatives and representatives of organizations (one per organization) will be allowed 10 minutes to comment and individuals will be allowed 5 minutes. Reservations for commenting times will be accepted from any representative of a Government or organization. Individual commenters must make reservations on

their own behalf. An individual may register a group of commenters, but such groups will be scheduled to speak last, and only to the extent time is available after individuals have commented. Persons who have not registered in advance may register to comment when they arrive at the hearing to the extent time is available.

Speakers should confirm their scheduled time at the registration desk the day of the hearing. Persons presenting oral comments at the hearing are requested to provide DOE with written copies of their comments at the hearing, if possible.

More details are available in the public involvement plan. To obtain a copy of that plan call 1-800-336-9477.

Issued in Washington, D.C., this 25th day of November, 1996.

Alvin L. Alm,
Assistant Secretary, Environmental
Management.

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Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement on the Disposal of the S1C Prototype Reactor Plant

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Naval Reactors (Naval Reactors) has completed and filed with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency the Final Environmental Impact Statement on the Disposal of the S1C Prototype Reactor Plant. The Final Environmental Impact Statement was prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969; Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508); and DOE NEPA Implementing Procedures (10 CFR Part 1021). The Final Environmental Impact Statement and its supporting references will be available to the public at the Windsor, Connecticut Public Library. The Final Environmental Impact Statement is also available by mail upon request.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The S1C Prototype reactor plant is located on the 10.8 acre Windsor Site in Windsor, Connecticut, approximately 5 miles north of Hartford. The S1C Prototype reactor plant first started operation in 1959 and served for more than 30 years as both a facility for testing reactor plant components and

equipment and for training Naval personnel. As a result of the end of the Cold War and the downsizing of the Navy, the S1C Prototype reactor plant was shut down in 1993. Since then, the S1C Prototype reactor plant has been defueled, drained, and placed in a stable protective storage condition.

Alternatives Considered

1. Prompt Dismantlement—Preferred Alternative

This alternative would involve the prompt dismantlement of the reactor plant. All structures would be removed from the Windsor Site, and the Windsor Site would be released for unrestricted use. To the extent practicable, the resulting low-level radioactive metals would be recycled at existing commercial facilities that recycle radioactive metals. The remaining low-level radioactive waste would be disposed of at the DOE Savannah River Site in South Carolina. The Savannah River Site currently receives low-level radioactive waste from Naval Reactors sites in the eastern United States. Both the volume and radioactive content of the S1C Prototype reactor plant low-level waste fall within the projections of Naval Reactor waste provided to the Savannah River Site, which are included in the Savannah River Site Waste Management Final Environmental Impact Statement dated July 1995.

2. Deferred Dismantlement

This alternative would involve keeping the defueled S1C Prototype reactor plant in protective storage for 30 years before dismantling it. Deferring dismantlement for 30 years would allow nearly all of the cobalt-60 radioactivity to decay away. Nearly all of the gamma radiation within the reactor plant comes from cobalt-60.

3. No Action

This alternative would involve keeping the defueled S1C Prototype reactor plant in protective storage indefinitely. Since there is some residual radioactivity with very long half lives such as nickel-59 in the defueled reactor plant, this alternative would leave this radioactivity at the Windsor Site indefinitely.

4. Other Alternatives Considered

These alternatives include permanent on-site disposal. Such on-site disposal could involve building an entombment structure over the S1C Prototype reactor plant or developing a below ground disposal area at the Windsor Site. Another alternative would be to remove the S1C Prototype reactor plant as a

single large reactor compartment package for offsite disposal. Each of these alternatives was considered but eliminated from detailed analysis.

Public Comments on Draft Environmental Impact Statement

Naval Reactors held a public hearing on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement in Windsor, Connecticut. Comments from 28 individuals and agencies were received in either oral or written statements at the hearing or in comment letters. Nearly all of the commenters expressed a preference for the prompt dismantlement alternative. Most comments resulted in either no changes or minor clarifications in the final environmental impact statement. The comments which resulted in the more significant changes are discussed briefly below. All of the comments and the Naval Reactors responses are included in an appendix to the Final Environmental Impact Statement.

Some comments requested additional detail on the process, surveys, and criteria identified in the draft environmental impact statement for unrestricted release of the site under either the prompt dismantlement or deferred dismantlement alternatives. In response to these comments, appendices are included in the final environmental impact statement which provide additional details on these matters.

Several comments questioned whether the cost and volume of radioactive waste generated for each alternative included site remediation as well as reactor dismantlement. The draft environmental impact statement discussed the overall site remediation impacts; however the quantitative cost and waste volume discussions focused on the dismantlement of the reactor plant, which is where essentially all of the radioactivity is located. The final environmental impact statement includes impacts from all efforts anticipated from the time of the record of decision until completion of each alternative (in the cases of prompt and deferred dismantlement, this is through transfer of the property to another owner). The most significant changes reflected in the final environmental impact statement are cost, volume (but not number of shipments) of radioactive waste, and the volume and number of shipments of non-radioactive, non-hazardous solid waste. These changes did not change significantly the estimated impact of the alternatives on the environment or the health and safety of the workers or the public.