

Tri-Party Agreement M-091 Milestone Series Proposed Changes

August 11, 2015

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“M-091” milestones: Schedules to treat, dispose of radioactive solid waste

- 37,000 containers were “retrievably stored” at Hanford after 1970
- 12,000 containers still in trenches in central Hanford burial grounds
- 8,000 containers now stored at Central Waste Complex (CWC)
- M-091 is the schedule to retrieve, treat and dispose of the waste
- Mixed “low-level” waste disposed at Hanford
- Transuranic (TRU) waste disposed in New Mexico (WIPP facility)



Reasons for proposed changes

- TRU waste from Hanford and other USDOE sites must be disposed in Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP), a “deep geologic repository” in New Mexico
- WIPP hasn’t accepted waste since two Feb. 2014 incidents. Restart date is still uncertain.
- Changes to M-091 dates adjust to the WIPP delays



What are the proposed changes?

Work Element	Old Date	New Date
Acquire capabilities or facilities to deal with all retrievably stored waste	2018 – Complete a definitive design, then add more milestones for construction	2018 – Complete an alternatives study, then add more milestones for design & construction
Complete Waste retrieval	2018	2028
Waste certification or treatment	2017 – Complete certification of small container, contact handled TRUM	Combined large & small, contact & remote handled 2015, 2016 – Certify or treat 280 cubic meters 2018 – Submit more annual milestones
	2018 – Submit annual milestones for certifying large container & remote handled TRUM	
All TRUM shipped to WIPP	2030	2030



What are “gives & gets”?

- Delays retrieving more waste for storage at CWC until waste currently stored there can be disposed
- Delays acquiring a facility or capability to treat the most difficult waste
- Adds a plan for more annual schedules to assure measurable progress
- Does not change 2030 deadline to ship all TRU waste off Hanford



Why is new facility or capability required?

- Hanford treats (repackages) much of its waste at the Perma-Fix facility in Richland
- Some retrieved waste containers are “oversized,” “remote-handled” or exceed radioactive materials license limits at Perma-Fix
- A facility or capability is needed to handle those difficult containers

