

RADIOACTIVE WASTE DISPOSAL NOTIFICATION AND COORDINATION REQUIREMENTS

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All disposals of radioactive waste made by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) require coordination with the Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Waste Center of Expertise (HTRW CX). For certain radioactive wastes, additional reporting requirements will apply. A new Department of Defense (DoD) Regulation, DoD 4715.6-R, issued January 17, 2001, prescribes policies and procedures for implementing the DoD Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Program. This regulation requires that a DoD component that generates low-level radioactive waste (LLRW) from an environmental restoration site, coordinate its disposal plans with the Executive Agent prior to taking LLRW disposal actions. The designated Executive Agent (EA) is the Department of the Army. The U.S. Army Operations Support Command (AMSOS-SF) implements the Army's Executive Agent responsibilities.

The goal of coordination is to ensure that the EA will have adequate opportunity to review disposal plans for safety and compliance. Because USACE performs a significant amount of environmental restoration work for the various DoD components, the HTRW CX has been working closely with the EA to revise the coordination process. The EA is currently preparing coordination procedures and notification forms to be used by the DoD components. The use of a standardized notification format should ensure that all required information is provided to the EA in a timely manner. Currently, computer based forms are being developed that will replace previous facsimile-based forms, such as the USACE Notification for Disposal of Radioactive Material or Waste form that was provided to the USACE Major Subordinate Commands Districts in November 1997. The EA is hoping to finalize their procedures and electronic forms by April 2001.

A benefit of the computer-based notification forms is that once the information is in an electronic format, it may be used to create additional reports or documents useful to the DoD component. To this end, the HTRW CX and the USACE Radiation Safety Support Team are developing a spreadsheet workbook that will be used for internal USACE coordination, to prepare the EA notification form, and to perform various calculations to assist in the preparation of shipping documents. This presentation will discuss the new DoD regulation and EA coordination procedures, and demonstrate the USACE electronic notification workbook.

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