



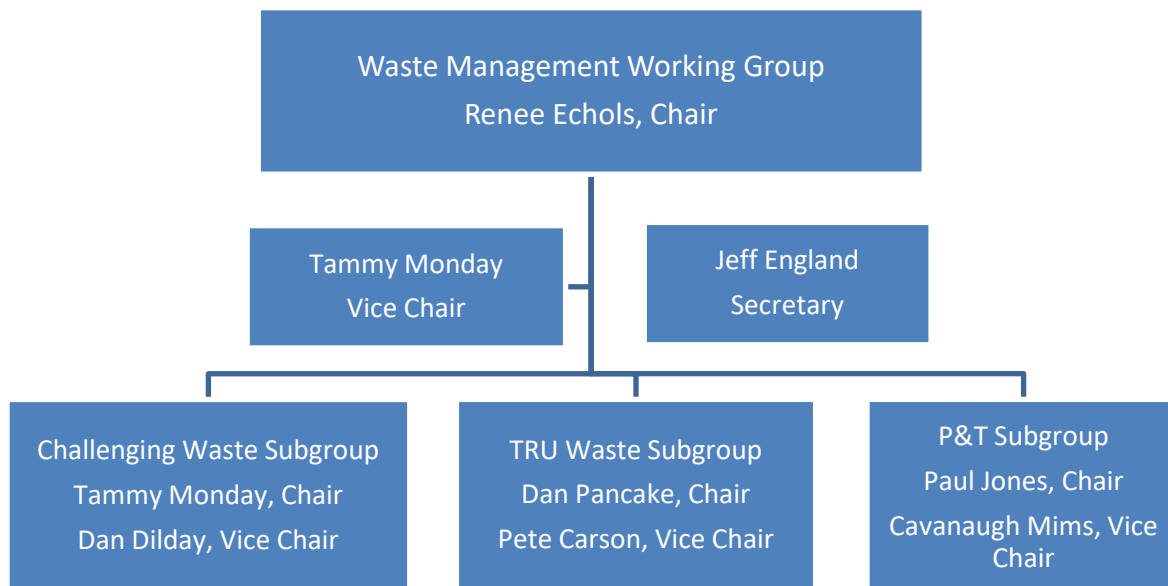
Waste Management Working Group FY2025 Annual Work Plan

Working Group Mission and Scope

The Waste Management Working Group (WMWG) is chartered to leverage the expertise and experience of contractors for the benefit of the Department of Energy (DOE). The purpose of the WMWG is to seek out and promote the best management and operating practices, cost effective technologies and disposal options for all radioactive waste streams generated at DOE facilities whether destined for DOE owned or commercial disposal facilities. The WMWG is focused on complex wide integration and technology information sharing that supports cost effective and efficient waste disposition options. This enhances complex wide communication and maintains a priority on safety, environmental stewardship, and security. The scope of the working group includes cradle-to-grave waste management that begins at waste generation and goes through final disposition.

The WMWG focuses on DOE complex waste management program support through work performed under three technical Subgroups:

1. Challenging Waste Subgroup
2. Packaging & Transportation (P&T) Subgroup
3. Transuranic (TRU) Waste Subgroup



The WMWG has developed our Tasks and Deliverables for FY25 to align with EFCOG's Four Strategic Objectives , which are:

1.0 Strategic Workforce Management

- 1. Make DOE and its contractors the employer of choice.
- 2. Tailoring benefits at each site but having a common minimum threshold
- 3. Aiding recruitment/training/retention, including managing the use of remote work
- 4. Improving training and leadership development across the complex
- 5. Utilizing Industry/Government exchange programs to improve governance.
- **2.0 Lifecycle Infrastructure Management**
 - 1. Ensuring predictable construction project performance, including subcontractor safety and strong cost/schedule performance
 - 2. Using commercial best practices (including digital tools) and standards for construction
 - 3. Developing and sharing best practices in supply chain assurance to maintain and expand the supply base for critical and conventional equipment and spares
- **3.0 Ensuring Safe, Secure, and Efficient Operations**
 - 1. Enhancing safety/security culture
 - 2. Utilizing graded approaches and commercial practices, when appropriate
 - 3. Use of data analytics to detect trends, avoid ops problems
 - 4. Reinvigorating emergency preparedness capabilities
- **4.0 Deploying Technology for Future Mission and Operation Execution**
 - 1. Improving cybersecurity risk management
 - 2. Ensuring effective implementation of digital tools
 - 3. Achieving sustainability/reuse/clean energy goal

The WMWG specific tasks aligning to 3.0 Ensuring Safe, Secure, and Efficient Operations include;

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	SUBELEMENT	WMWG TASK	DELIVERABLE/DATE
3.0 - Ensuring Safe, Secure, and Efficient Operations	3.2 - Utilizing graded approaches and commercial practices, when appropriate	Apply our group expertise input to DOE maintaining current complex wide Challenging Waste streams regulatory requirements, and providing information on commercially available technologies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Submit a final PFAS White Paper by 9/30/2024 and provide follow-up collaboration to DOE for FY25. 2. Provide an updated list of Challenging Waste streams to EM4.2. Date – second quarter FY25. 3. Provide Support on upgrades to BLDD (waste tracking database) Date – second quarter FY25.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	SUBELEMENT	WMWG TASK	DELIVERABLE/DATE
3.0 - Ensuring Safe, Secure, and Efficient Operations	3.3 – Use of data analytics to detect trends, avoid Ops problems	Provide technical forum and information sharing platform for TRU waste generator community.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete establishment of a lessons learned repository. Date – initial version in Kiteworks complete with enhancements due early FY25 2. Provide technical support for resumption of RH TRU disposition specific to deployment of shielded container assemblies. Date – ongoing through FY. 3. Identify and share point-of-generation issues for challenging TRU wastes and ideas for solutions. Date – ongoing through FY.
3.0 - Ensuring Safe, Secure, and Efficient Operations	3.3 Use of data analytics to detect trends, avoid Ops problems	Provide technical forum and information sharing platform for DOE, Contractor, and Transporter community related to radioactive waste transportation and packaging/containers.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide packaging lessons learned from Portsmouth campaign. Date – 12/1/2024. 2. Provide summary information related to FY24 transportation incidents as lessons learned. Date – Q2FY25.

WMWG FY25 Tasks and Deliverables for Continuous Improvement:

- a. Provide a platform for discussion and information sharing related to WIPP certification of waste streams that may encounter non-conforming items (e.g., nitic acid rags, batteries, etc.). Expand Point-of-Generation Characterization Support that will include working with generator sites and the Central Characterization Project (CCP) to identify areas of common challenges in packaging (e.g., liquid waste streams and small quantity site wastes that require treatment and Basis of Knowledge [BoK] evaluations).
- b. Support efforts by CBFO and the WIPP prime contractor to resume the emplacement of RH TRU waste using horizontal borehole emplacement and SCAs, as identified in the RH TRU Disposition Alternatives Analysis.
- c. For Challenging waste streams, continue Information sharing so that DOE sites are aware of commercial treatment and disposal options. This helps minimize cost and schedule by utilizing already established disposition pathways.
- d. The Challenging Waste Subgroup will focus on the identification and resolution of challenging LLW, MLLW, TRU and HLW (i.e., tank waste) streams. Support DOE EM 4.2 organization by assistance with the identification and resolution of challenging waste streams. Continue to provide subject matter expertise to DOE related to EPA's list of emerging contaminants (e.g., PFAS, 1-4 Dioxane, etc.).
- e. Provide continued support to DOE technical groups including the Low-Level Waste Disposal Facility Federal Review Group (LFRG) and the National TRU Program (NTP).
- f. Provide technical support for the completion, response to comments, implementation and training associated with DOE Order 435.1 and future revisions (Radioactive Waste Management) with a focus on LLW disposal technical standards, etc.
- g. Provide continued technical consultation and support to DOE Packaging and Transportation (P&T) organizations. Efforts will include providing technical comments on issues pertaining to waste packages, radiation clearance surveys on commercial transport equipment and vehicles, and support to the Contractors Transportation Management Association (CTMA). A Packaging and Transportation Subgroup Lessons Learned Program will be established to provide expertise and best practices on Issues such as the inconsistency of procedures and risk associated with blocking and bracing, and new vehicle auto braking that can result in load shifts during transport.
- h. Provide technical support to DOE Nuclear Energy (NE) and EM for spent nuclear fuel and High Level Waste missions, as needed.
- i. Continue to support DOE EM, NNSA, and RWAP on NNS waste disposition issues as needed.

WMWG Activities:

- Newsletters and Topical Papers:
 - WMWG White Paper "Options for Management of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substance (PFAS) Contamination at United States Department of Energy (DOE) Facilities", Dated September 26, 2024

- The EFCOG Annual Report will contain a final year-end report from the WMWG describing the accomplishments and changes that have occurred due to emerging issues.

- Planned meetings

The WMWG provides a forum for collaboration between DOE, site prime contractors, and commercial treatment and disposal companies (TSDFs) through WMWG group meetings, workshops, etc. to facilitate sharing of information that is useful. Improved communication is important and allows site waste managers to be informed what capabilities are commercially available. The WMWG also participates in waste management related user groups to stay abreast of current issues (e.g., NNSA's Community of Practice/Challenging Waste User Group meetings). The WMWG holds two to three annual working meetings as well as conducts monthly conference calls that provide opportunities for communication, consultation, and direction with DOE Liaisons/Sponsors and our EFCOG membership. The face-to-face meetings will be conducted in concert with other planned conferences/meetings to minimize travel and other costs. The overall management of the WMWG has, and is expected to continue, to take a considerable amount of time primarily performed by the Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Subgroup Chairs. It is critical to the successful performance of the WMWG for the planning and coordination to be done in an effective and efficient manner. The resulting reports and best practices will be of benefit to DOE, its contractors, and the EFCOG organization, and thus provide tangible value to the waste management community.

- WMWG Planned In person Meetings for FY25:
 - WM25 - Phoenix AZ – Thursday March 13
 - Radwaste Summit – Savannah GA – Monday June 9
- WMWG Monthly Teams Meetings
 - First Wednesday of each month without an in person meeting
- Subgroup Meetings
 - The TRU Subgroup hosts virtual and in-person meetings at TRU Generator Sites that use (or plan to use) Shielded Container Assemblies (SCAs), while completing alternatives analyses and updating lifecycle estimates for the restart of RH TRU emplacement at WIPP.