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*Title:* Multi-Year Work Plan to De-Inventory TRU Waste  
Stored at LANL

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**Multi-Year Work Plan to De-Inventory TRU Waste Stored at LANL - 12121**

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**ABSTRACT**

The Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) continues to accelerate disposition of transuranic (TRU) waste stored at its Technical Area 54 (TA-54) Area G waste management facility. The current focus is on complete removal of all non-cemented above-grade Legacy and newly-generated TRU waste that was in storage on October 1, 2011, by no later than June 30, 2014. This inventory of above-grade TRU is defined as 3,706 m<sup>3</sup> of material. Legacy TRU waste containers were placed into storage up to 40 years ago, and most of the older containers must be remediated to address compliance issues before the waste can be characterized, certified as meeting the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) Waste Acceptance Criteria (WAC), and shipped for disposition. More than half of the remaining TRU waste volume stored above grade is contained within oversize boxes that contain waste items that must be repackaged or size reduced. Facilities and major types of equipment needed to remediate and characterize the TRU waste inventory are largely in place, but two additional oversize box processing lines are being implemented in 2012. Multiple work shifts are planned for most remediation lines in 2013. An integrated risk-based project management schedule for all disposition activities has been developed that is based on a "Solution Package" approach. Inventories of containers that have issues in common were compiled into about 15 waste categories and about 70 "Solution Packages" that identify all of the activities needed to disposition the inventory of TRU waste in storage. Scheduled activities include all precursor activities to begin remediation, remediation processing, characterization and certification to the WIPP WAC, and shipping of containers to WIPP. Processing of the 3,706 m<sup>3</sup> is projected to result in about 4,500 55-gallon (208L) drums and 1,000 standard waste boxes that will be shipped to WIPP. About 385 shipments from LANL to WIPP are projected before June 30, 2014, to ship these containers, at a rate of 5 to 6 shipments a week.

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# **Multi-Year Work Plan to De-Inventory TRU Waste Stored at LANL**

**Presented to  
WM2012 Conference  
February 29, 2012  
Phoenix, Arizona**

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Session 71**



# Background

- TRU waste stored since early 1970's
- First stored in shallow trenches, pits, & shafts (“below-grade storage” — 35% of current volume)
- Most now stored in large fabric-covered storage domes (“above-grade storage” — 65% of current volume)
- Most stored containers do not meet WIPP WAC — must be remediated or repackaged
- Newly-generated waste received today is packaged to meet WIPP WAC



TRU Waste Storage and Characterization Facilities  
LANL Technical Area 54, Area G

LANL TRU Waste Inventory (Oct. 1, 2011)

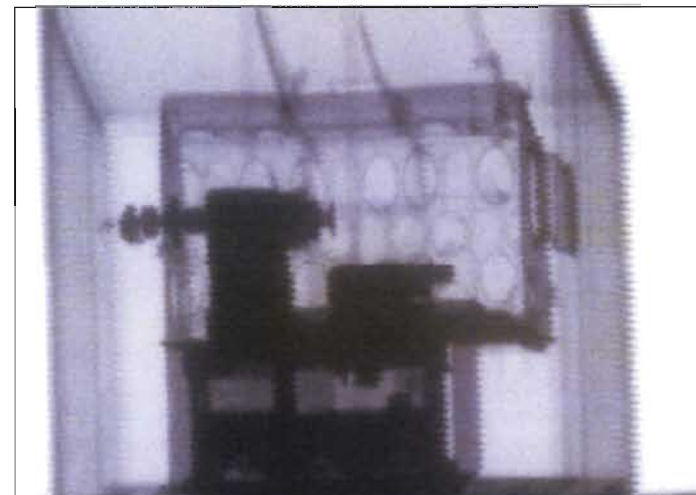
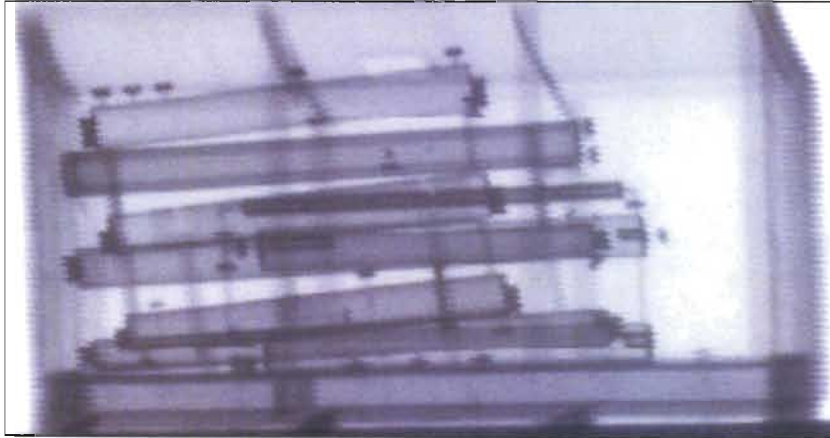
	# Containers	Volume (m <sup>3</sup> )	Activity (PE-Ci)
Above Grade	6,601	4,303	76,862
Below Grade	5,000	2,399	110,751
TOTALS	11,601	6,702	187,613



# TRU Waste Containers



# LANL's Oversize Box Inventory





# TRU Waste Facilities

## Technical Area 54, Area G

- 63 acres, includes TRU waste storage, characterization, and remediation of drums containing solids and oversize waste containers
- 1.3 miles from nearest residential community of White Rock



## WCCRF

- Constructed in late 1980's
- Drum Repacking and Prohibited Item Disposition



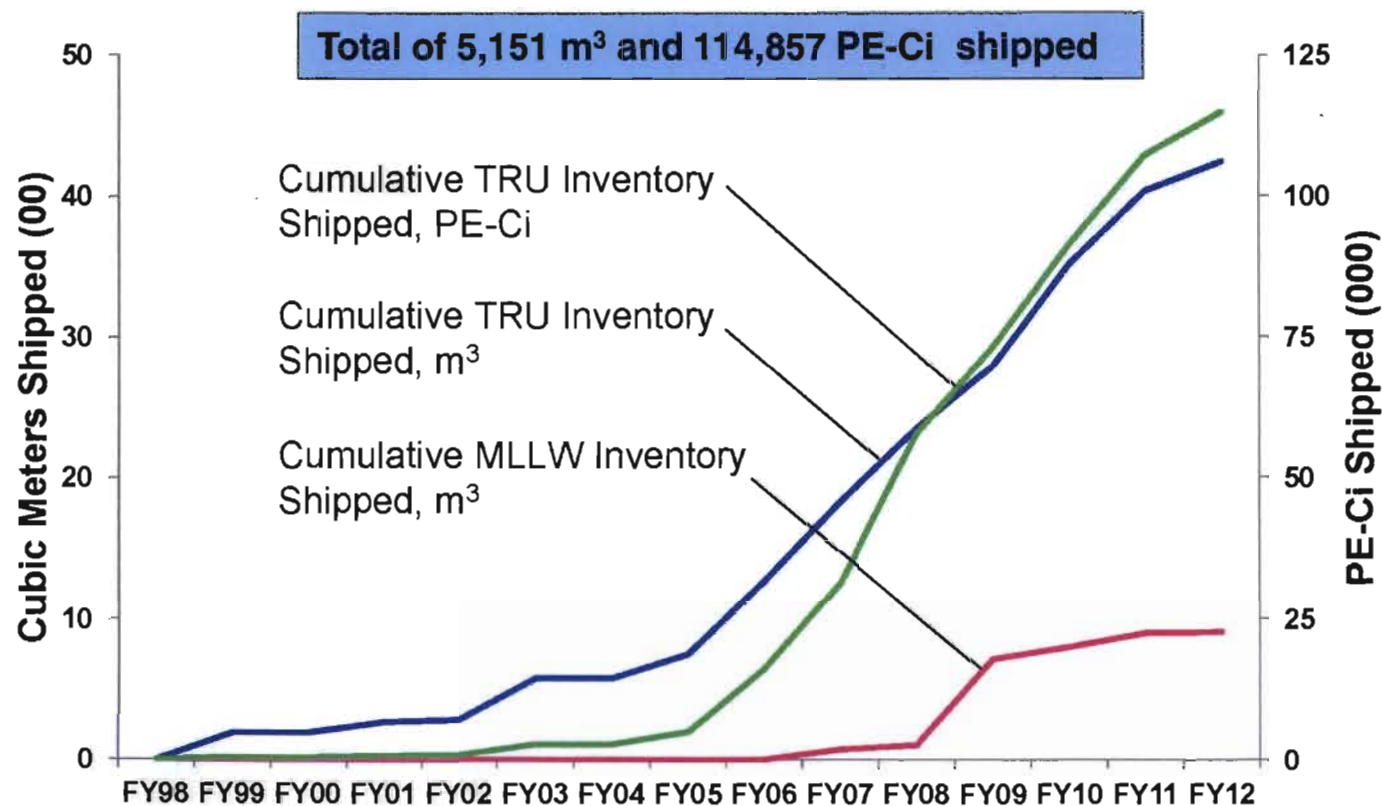
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## RANT

- Constructed in late 1980's
- WIPP Shipping facility

# TRU Waste Disposition



**TRU Waste Disposition through January 31, 2012**



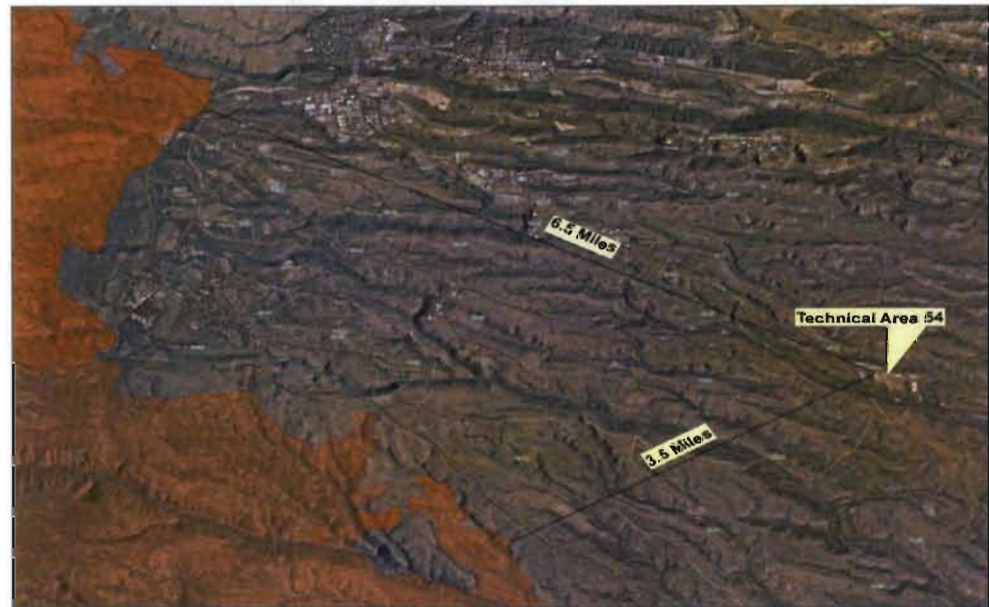
# Las Conchas Fire

- Very large wildfire near LANL during June-July 2011
- Fire heightened public concern for TRU waste stored above grade at Technical Area 54, Area G — especially waste that may be combustible



# Las Conchas Fire, Continued

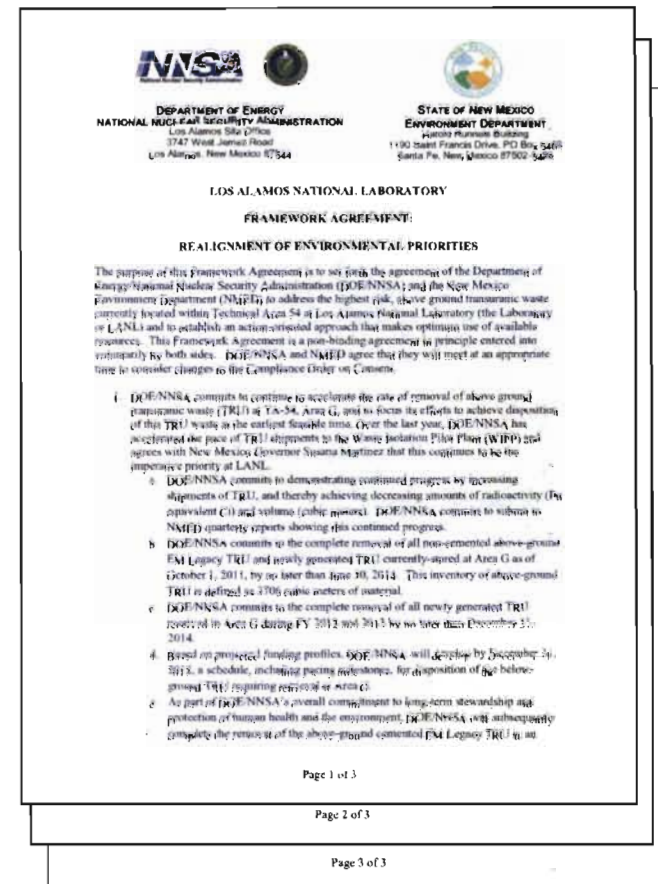
- Fire came within about 3.5 miles of TRU waste storage at Area G
- New Mexico Governor Martinez requested accelerated removal of above-grade TRU waste
- DOE/NNSA and State agree higher risk above grade TRU waste removal is LANL's highest environmental priority



# Framework Agreement with NMED

Under Agreement announced January 5, 2012, DOE/NNSA will continue to accelerate removal of TRU waste and submit quarterly reports of progress

- LANL will complete removal of all non-cemented above-grade TRU waste in storage on October 1, 2011, by no later than June 30, 2014 (defined as 3,706 m<sup>3</sup> of material)
- Complete removal of all newly-generated TRU waste received at Area G during FY 2012 and FY 2013 by no later than December 31, 2014
- Develop by December 31, 2012, a schedule that includes pacing milestones for disposition of the below-grade TRU requiring retrieval at Area G
- Complete removal of above-grade cemented Legacy TRU waste in an efficient and effective manner

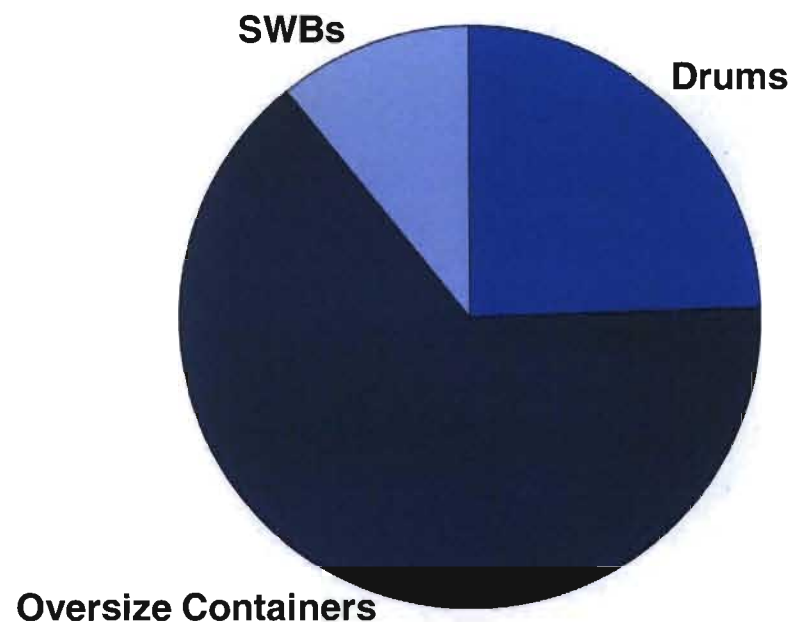




# 3,706 TRU Waste Campaign

- Current focus on disposition of higher risk 3,706 m<sup>3</sup> of non-cemented waste stored above-grade by June 30, 2014

3,706 Campaign Inventory (Oct. 1, 2011)			
	# Containers	Volume (m <sup>3</sup> )	Activity (PE-Ci)
Drums	4,035	909	35,421
Oversize Containers	249	2,397	3,092
SWBs	211	400	2,572
TOTALS	4,495	3,706	41,085



Volumes of Container Types  
in 3,706 m<sup>3</sup> Campaign

# Key Elements of Disposition Campaign

- Detailed knowledge of TRU waste inventory and issues
- Inventory organized into “Solution Packages” that include all activities necessary to disposition categories of waste with common issues
- Detailed Project Management Schedule based on solution packages for remediation, characterization, and shipping
- Upgrades to remediation and characterization capabilities to process entire inventory
- Multiple shifts for most remediation lines in FY 2013 and FY 2014
- Organized TRU Program to focus on specific types of remediation and container movement

Document Control Number

## Solution Package Scope Definition

Solution Package Identifier - Rad Boxes <3.4 cubic meters (#9)

Developed By: \_\_\_\_\_ Developer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

CCP Review: \_\_\_\_\_ CCP (Larry Portier) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_

Planning & Tech Solutions \_\_\_\_\_ David Christensen \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Disposition Project Owner \_\_\_\_\_ Mike Romero \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping and Safe Storage \_\_\_\_\_ Scottie Miller \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

FOO \_\_\_\_\_ Cliff Kirkland \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Projects / Services \_\_\_\_\_ Andy Baumer \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

LTP Program \_\_\_\_\_ K. Johns-Huntley, Jr. S. Christensen \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Container Remediation Facilities

- **WCRRF – Repackaging of drums containing debris waste — upgraded for high MAR drums (<800 PE-Ci)**
- **Dome 231 Permacon – Remediation of drums containing solids; conversion to box repackaging in February 2012 with startup planned May 2012**
- **Building 412 – Small box repackaging (start-up and radiological operation began July 2011); Upgraded to HC3 operations in December 2011**
- **Dome 375 – Large box remediation scheduled September 2012**
- **Seven oversize containers are planned for in-place processing**





# Characterization Capabilities

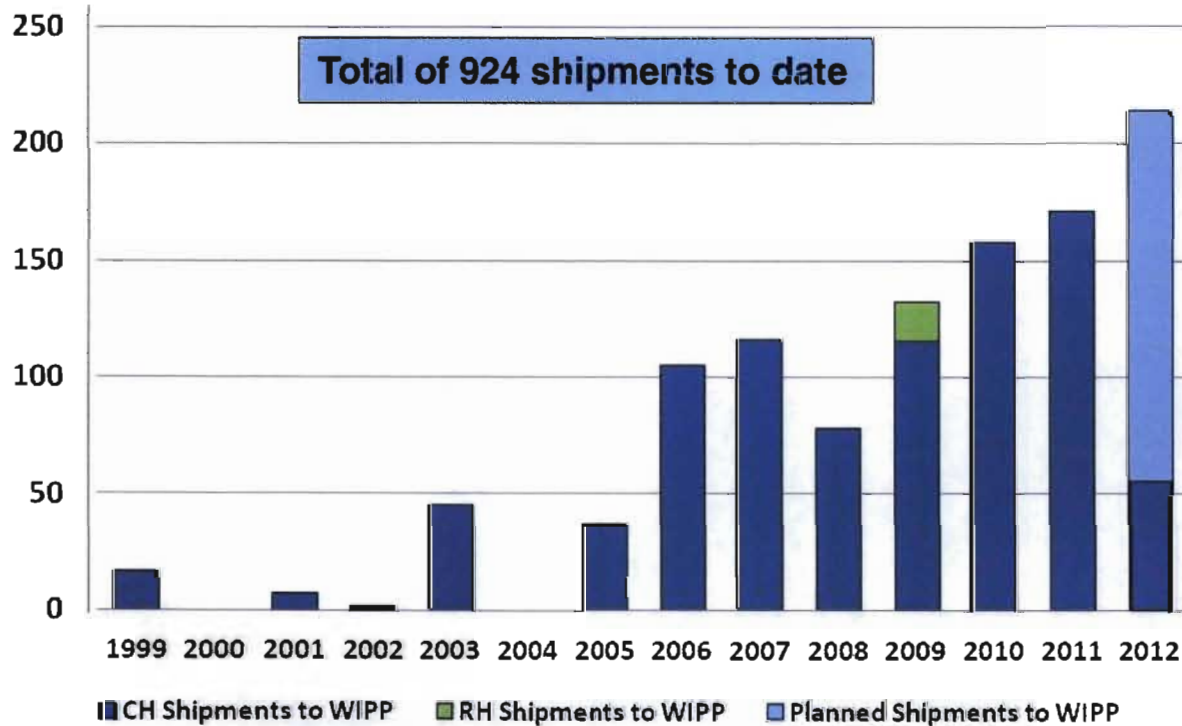
- WIPP certified characterization performed by Central Characterization Project (Washington TRU Solutions, LLC, under contract to
- CCP Performs non-destructive examination, non-destructive assay, and headspace gas sampling and analysis

<u>Non-Destructive Examination</u>	<u>Non-Destructive Assay</u>
RTR (drums)	HENC1 (drums)
HE-RTR (SWBs)	HENC2 (drums)
	SuperHENC (SWBs)



# Shipping to WIPP

- RANT is facility for loading and shipping TRU waste to WIPP



Shipments to WIPP through January 31, 2012



# “Solution Package” Approach

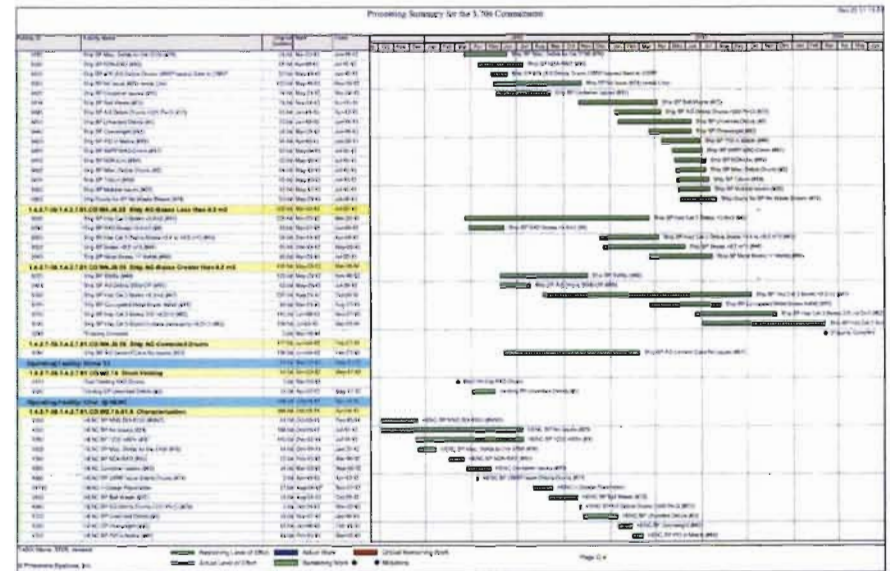
- Waste inventory divided into groups with common disposition path
- Work scope defined to disposition each group
  - Pre-characterization
  - Remediation
  - Certified characterization
  - Shipping
- Key factors in disposition planning
  - Container type
  - Physical waste matrix
  - Fissile content
  - Radionuclide activity level
  - Parent-to-daughter volume relationship
  - WIPP Waste Acceptance Criteria

Waste Category	Solution Packages
AG Any Solid Group	3,706 Goal Misc. Solids
AG Any Waste Group	FY11 NNG AG Any Waste Group No Issues
AG Cement Cans	AG Cement Cans No Issues
AG Debris Boxes	Corrugated Metal Boxes 4x4x6 Boxes < 8.2 m3 AG Boxes 412 <8.2 m3 Haz Cat 3 Boxes 412 > 3.4 to < 8.2 m3 Haz Cat 3 Boxes 412 < 3.4 m3 Haz Cat 3 Boxes 375 > 8.2 m3 Inplace Processing Large Boxes Metal Boxes > 4x4x6 Rad Boxes < 3.4 m3
AG Debris Drums	>200 mR/Hr Misc. Debris Drums Container Issues Misc Issues Multiple Issues NDA-Rad NDA-Uncertain No Issue Overweight PID in Matrix Tritium Unvented WIPP WAC – Chem Debris Drums > 300 PE-Ci OSRP Issue Drums Salt Waste
AG Debris SWB DL	SWB-DL
AG Debris SWB OP	SWB-OP Debris
AG No Waste Stream	AG No Waste Stream No Issues AG No Waste Stream Suspect TRU AG No Waste Stream Unvented



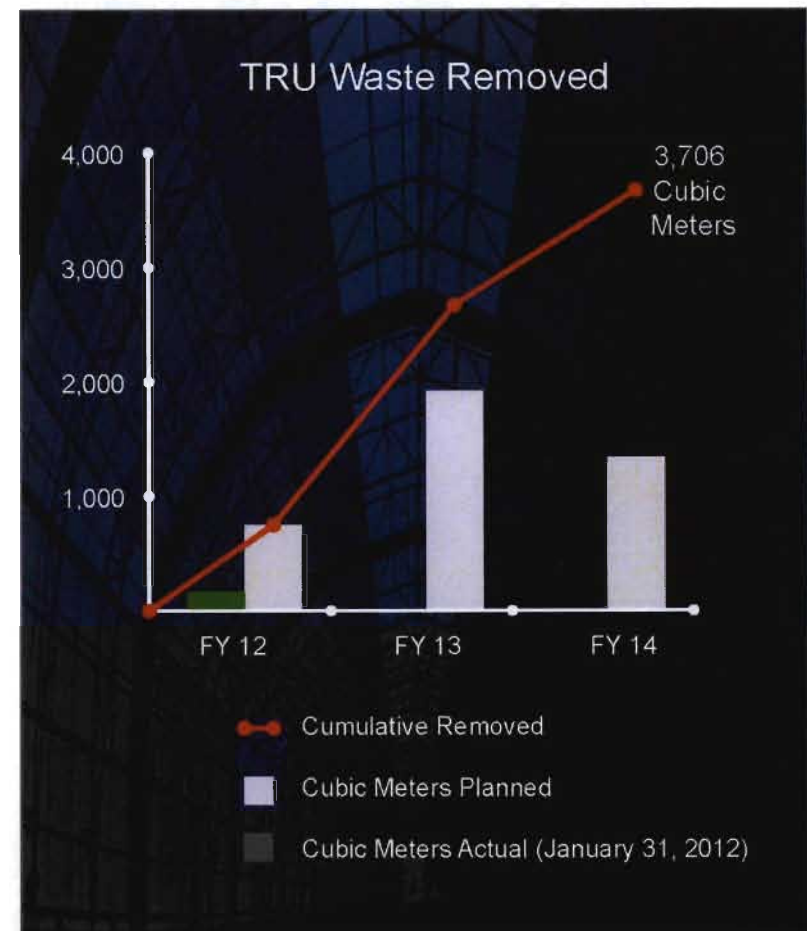
# Integrated Project Management Schedule

- Significant planning effort between LANL and WIPP
- Solution packages logically sequenced through all processing units
- Balances LANL TRU repackaging/ processing capabilities with WIPP characterization and shipping



# 3,706 Campaign Disposition Schedule

- **Scheduled disposition totals**
  - 800 m<sup>3</sup> in FY 2012
  - 1,800 m<sup>3</sup> in FY 2013
  - 1,106 m<sup>3</sup> in FY 2014
- **Processing of 3,706 m<sup>3</sup> is projected to result in about 4,500 55-gallon drums and 1,000 SWBs**
- **About 385 shipments to WIPP are projected for the 3,706 m<sup>3</sup>**
- **Newly-generated TRU received in FY 2012 and FY 2013 will be shipped as it is received**
- **Shipments projected at 5 to 6 per week throughout campaign**



# Summary

- Current focus on disposition of 3,706 m<sup>3</sup> of higher risk above-grade TRU waste before June 30, 2014
- Ship newly-generated TRU waste received in FYs 2012 and 2013 before December 31, 2014
- Develop a schedule integrated with WIPP to disposition remainder of TRU waste stored above grade and all TRU waste stored below grade before December 31, 2012

