Waste Generation and Pollution Prevention Progress Fact Sheet

Sandia National Laboratories/New Mexico

Sandia National Laboratories/New Mexico – 1994

Location: Albuquerque,
New Mexico
Site Size: 2,820 Acres
Operations Office: Albuquerque
Lead Program Office: Defense Programs
DOE Employees: 40
Prime Contractor Employees: 7,440

Facility Mission *DOE/EM--97001359*

The primary mission of the Sandia National Laboratories/New Mexico is to conduct research and development in the interest of national security, with emphasis on nuclear weapons development and engineering. While performing this mission, the Sandia National Laboratories/New Mexico has evolved into a multi-program laboratory, with expertise in a broad range of scientific and technical fields, including fundamental energy research, energy conservation and renewable energy, nuclear reactor safety and reliability, nuclear waste management, and magnetic-confinement fusion. Recent mission changes have resulted in a decline in weapons research and development, and an increase in nuclear safeguards and security, environmental sciences, and the transfer of technologies to private industry.

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Routine Waste Generation and Projected Reduction by Waste Type

* 1999 reflects the application of DOE goals to the 1993 baseline.

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1994 Pollution Prevention and Recycling Accomplishments

- Ethylene glycol antifreeze was replaced by a less toxic coolant.
- The Motor Pool Services Department instituted refrigerant recycling during vehicle maintenance.
- The Motor Pool Services Department began a program to filter used oil and then blend it with diesel fuel to burn for energy in the vehicle engine.
- Hazardous solder (tin/lead) was replaced by nonhazardous solders (tin/antimony and bismuth/tin).
- Copper Sulfate Solution was filtered and reused.
- Old computer printers were replaced by laser printers, eliminating liquid toner and dispersant.
- Shop Metal Cutting Operations substituted DROMEX B with noncarcinogenic, biodegradable BoeLube 70105.
- General Machining Shop Operations replaced WD-40 lubricant with LPS-1 greaseless lubricant, reducing oily wastes.
- Lucite insulator stack rings were cleaned with Simple Green and a non-chlorofluorocarbon product called AMTEX CCR, eliminating Freon-contaminated waste.
- Lucite switch rings were cleaned with bulk methanol, eliminating the use of 200 percent ethyl alcohol.
- Materials recycled include waste oil, lead-acid batteries, machined metals (aluminum, brass, copper, titanium, magnesium), precious metals, lead, fluorescent light tubes, paper, cardboard, and styrofoam packing material.

Materials Recycled by the Sandia National Laboratories/New Mexico in 1994

Recycled Material	Sandia National Laboratories/NM (in Metric Tons)	DOE Complex (in Metric Tons)
Automotive	79	1,420
Metals	530	21,797
Paper	36	14,486
Other Materials*	68	18,574
GRAND TOTAL	713	56,277

* Other materials may include toner cartridges, food/garden waste, plastic, styrofoam, glass, concrete, wood, fluorescent light tubes, coolant, filters, solvents, photographic materials, ground circuit boards, chemicals, small animal exposure tubes, paint, adhesives, brick, non-process wastewater, furniture/office equipment, fly ash, and high explosives.

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The Waste Generation and Pollution Prevention Progress Fact Sheet is published by the Office of Pollution Prevention, Office of Environmental Management, EM-77. Additional information on the Pollution Prevention Program at the Sandia National Laboratories/New Mexico may be obtained by contacting:

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