

APPENDIX A  
IMMEDIATE ACTION DIRECTIVE 0511-21

Form AEC-333  
(7-61)

Published in advance of incorporation in  
AEC Manual 0511  
File and retain in Manual until superseded.

UNITED STATES ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION  
AEC MANUAL

IMMEDIATE ACTION DIRECTIVE

IAD NO. 0511-21

DATE: March 20, 1970

SUBJECT: POLICY STATEMENT REGARDING SOLID WASTE BURIAL

This Immediate Action Directive (IAD) implements the recommendations of the Task Force on AEC Operational Radioactive Waste Management on costing, segregation, and retrievability of waste. (Reference AECM December 2, 1969, memorandum to Managers of AL, ID, OR, RL, and SR.) This IAD applies to burials of all solid waste after April 30, 1970, and reflects the field comments, which are summarized below, on the Task Force report:

1. There are no objections to the apparent intent of the policies; and at present they are being followed, or could be followed.
2. Clear definitions and clarifications as to intent are required for a number of the terms used.
3. More time is needed to put the policies into effect fully.
4. In some cases the costs may be considerable.

It is recognized that specific definitions would be helpful in these areas, and they will be forthcoming after additional review and evaluation are completed by the Task Force and particularly its Working Group on Sorting.

Heads of Headquarters Divisions and Offices and Managers of Field Offices are responsible for assuring that:

1. For AEC operational situations, intersite burial charges include full cost, exclusive of land, depreciation, added factor, and perpetual care costs. For purposes

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of comparative cost evaluations of solid waste burial (or interim storage) versus additional processing for volume reductions etc., all costs are included; e.g., depreciation of facilities, cost of land, and present worth of perpetual care costs.

2. Wastes with known or detectable contamination of transuranium nuclides are segregated from other types of wastes by the waste generator and kept segregated in the solid waste burial ground. The most sensitive and reliable methods available for detection are used for segregation.

NOTE: Detection limits of equipment now being used for routine checking of plutonium-containing waste packages is approximately 500 milligrams per cubic foot for a 5-cubic foot package. New instrumentation now being tested is expected to reduce this detection limit by at least one order of magnitude. The application of this policy will be refined by the Working Group on Sorting as more information is obtained.

3. Wastes with known or detectable contamination of transuranium nuclides are packaged and buried in such a fashion that they can be readily retrievable as contamination-free packages within an interim period of 20 years; beyond that period retrievability should continue to be possible. Wastes received by a burial ground operator, which are not suitably packaged for retrievability, will be so packaged by that operator with such packaging and handling costs charged to the shipper.

Those offices which cannot comply with the above policies shall request an exception, in writing, which states the reasons for noncompliance and indicating the date on which compliance can be effected. Requests for exceptions shall be directed to the AGMO.

  
General Manager