

This is Dorothy Graves at 429 Mesquite Avenue in Amarillo, Texas and I was unable to go to the meeting that they had here in Amarillo at the Radisson Inn and we were making, we were voting either for or against having this, having this program, at the, at the Pantex Plant. And just wanted to say that I am in favor of it, of it coming to Amarillo. I worked at Pantex for fourteen years. I'm retired now, but I worked there fourteen years and I do know that they were very good, very careful and we certainly were not afraid of working there. And I just wanted to say I do hope that you come to Amarillo. We would love to have you. Thank you and bye-bye.

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PD024

PD024-1

Alternatives

DOE acknowledges the commentator's support for new missions at Pantex. Decisions on the surplus plutonium disposition program at Pantex will be based on environmental analyses, technical and cost reports, national policy and nonproliferation considerations, and public input.

GREEN, CHARLES E.
PAGE 1 OF 1

7616 Tarrytown Avenue
Amarillo, TX 79121

August 7, 1998

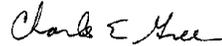
U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Fissile Materials Disposition c/o SPDEIS
P. O. Box 23786
Washington, DC 20026-3786

Gentlemen:

The following factors and thoughts are offered in favor of Pantex as the selected site for the Pit Disassembly and Conversion Facility:

1. The plutonium is at Pantex. Processing this material at Pantex avoids the cost of packaging, transporting, and unpackaging the plutonium. Potential safety concerns associated with personnel radiation exposure due to handling the material or due to shipping accidents are avoided. The inevitable public outcry opposing the movement of plutonium on public highways will be avoided. Public outcry could easily be elevated into court challenges involving legal delays and expense for the Department of Energy.
2. Pantex is closer to the National Laboratories than Savannah River. Travel expense for supporting technical personnel will be reduced if Pantex is the selected site.
3. Pantex enjoys commendable public and community support at all levels of the political, economic, social and academic institutions.
4. The DOE should consider the cost of not selecting Pantex for this work as well as the direct cost of constructing the facility. Pantex has a large fixed cost with the infrastructure to support 3000-4000 workers. It is much more efficient to operate Pantex in a fully busy state than to maintain it at a half utilized state of approximately 2000 workers. In addition locating new work at Pantex will improve employee morale and provide a young workforce incentive to work at Pantex. Continuing the present trend of downsizing Pantex is going to result in a hollow facility that will be increasingly expensive to operate and maintain and that is staffed by an aging workforce.

Very truly yours,



Charles E. Green

MD014

MD014-1

Alternatives

DOE acknowledges the commentor's support for siting the pit conversion facility at Pantex. Because cost issues are beyond the scope of this SPD EIS, this comment has been forwarded to the cost analysis team for consideration. For a better understanding of the cost and schedule estimates for each alternative, consult *Cost Analysis in Support of Site Selection for Surplus Weapons-Usable Plutonium Disposition* (DOE/MD-0009, July 1998) report and the *Plutonium Disposition Life-Cycle Costs and Cost-Related Comment Resolution Document* (DOE/MD-0013, November 1999), which covers recent life-cycle cost analyses associated with the preferred alternative. These documents are available on the MD Web site at <http://www.doe-md.com> and in the public reading rooms at the following locations: Hanford, INEEL, Pantex, SRS and Washington, D.C.

Worker exposures from repackaging pits to shipping containers as required by the decision to use the AL-R8 sealed insert container were revised in Section 2.18 and Appendix L.5.1. These results will be factored into the siting decision for the pit conversion facility. Decisions on the surplus plutonium disposition program at Pantex will be based on environmental analyses technical and cost reports, national policy and nonproliferation considerations, and public input. DOE will announce its decisions regarding facility siting and approach to surplus plutonium disposition in the SPD EIS ROD.

August 11, 1998

U. S. Department of Energy
Office of Fissile Materials Disposition
MD-4 Forrestal Building
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D. C. 20585

As a citizen of Amarillo, I wish to express my feelings about the location of the disassembly and conversion of nuclear weapons plutonium components ("pits") at the Amarillo Pantex plant. I feel very comfortable with the expansion of Pantex's responsibilities. This comfort is based on the long history of responsible action that has been conducted through the DOE (its predecessor organizations) and through the excellent day-to-day management by the plant's primary contractor, Mason & Hanger Company.

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Given the past history of the Pantex plant, the environmental assurances given by the DOE and the proven history of the plant operator, I support the expansion of the Pantex facility for either or both of the pending opportunities.

Sincerely,



David H. Hemphill
7041 Chelsea
Amarillo, TX 79109

TXD09

TXD09-1

Alternatives

DOE acknowledges the commentor's support for siting the proposed surplus plutonium disposition facilities at Pantex. Decisions on the surplus plutonium disposition program will be based on environmental analyses, technical and cost reports, national policy and nonproliferation considerations, and public input. DOE will announce its decisions regarding facility siting and approach to surplus plutonium disposition in the SPD EIS ROD.



United States
Department
of Energy

Comment Form

NAME: (Optional) Donald HERNON
ADDRESS: 107 Sunset Terrace, Amarillo TX 79106
TELEPHONE: (806) 379-4784
E-MAIL:
Welcome to the Amarillo Area.

I want to call your attention to the excellent worker
safety record of the Pantex Plant
and health

From FY 95 to FY 98 (through June), Pantex
employees have achieved a reduction in OSHA
recordable cases of about 45%, and a reduction
in First Aid cases of about 75%.

This significant achievement is, in my opinion, a
result of Pantex employees and management
working together, while embracing the principles
of the Voluntary Protection Program (which is an
OSHA Program adopted by the DOE).

Pantex employees have demonstrated their ability
to accomplish now tasks both safely and efficiently.
and health

I believe the safety record of the Pantex employees
should be seriously considered when the DOE
selects a site for the pit disassembly and
conversion facility.

Thank you for your consideration.

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TXD26-1

Alternatives

DOE acknowledges the commentator's support for siting the pit conversion facility at Pantex. Decisions on the surplus plutonium disposition program at Pantex will be based on environmental analyses, technical and cost reports, national policy and nonproliferation considerations, and public input. DOE will announce its decisions regarding facility siting and approach to surplus plutonium disposition in the SPD EIS ROD.

TXD26



United States
Department
of Energy

Comment Form

NAME: (Optional) Joyce Hickman

ADDRESS: 3400 Milam - Ama, Tx, 79109

TELEPHONE: () _____

E-MAIL: Shipping cross country is too dangerous, let's keep our highly trained and experienced people in Amarillo doing what they are trained to do in Amarillo.

I am personally acquainted with Jerome Martin of Amarillo, you could not find a more knowledgeable coworker. We need him in Amarillo.

Be sure the storage is lead-covered vitreous can in container storage in pits. Pits should be lined with at least 2" liners. Think what a problem we now have at Hanford with that thin (proposed to last 20 years) lining so close to the Columbia River. Sometimes we are too shortsighted. Savanna River also is on a river, and that precludes it as a site. It is a no-no. (Politics aside), Savanna site has a bit of subsoil moisture. Water can, over time, adversely affect the containers. You have a mess when it blends into the river, as could happen at Hanford. But Pantex needs to own more land for future needs, now! ~~There~~ are no homes nearby.

TXD11

TXD11-1

Transportation

DOE acknowledges the commentor's concerns about the dangers of shipping plutonium cross-country and losing talented personnel to plutonium-related missions at other sites. Transportation would be required for both the immobilization and MOX approaches to surplus plutonium disposition. Transportation of special nuclear materials, including fresh MOX fuel, would use DOE's SST/SGT system. Since the establishment of the DOE Transportation Safeguards Division in 1975, the SST/SGT system has transported DOE-owned cargo over more than 151 million km (94 million mi) with no accidents causing a fatality or release of radioactive material. The transportation requirements for the surplus plutonium disposition program are also evaluated in this SPD EIS. Decisions on the surplus plutonium disposition program will be based on environmental analyses, technical and cost reports, national policy and nonproliferation considerations, and public input.

TXD11-2

DOE Policy

Plutonium pits are stored in AL-R8 containers, which were developed by DOW Chemical in the late 1960s. The AL-R8 container was certified as a Type B package in 1974 and was used mainly for the movement of pits between RFETS and Pantex. The container is no longer used for shipment; it is now the primary container used for pit storage at Pantex. The containers have a uniform, nominal outside diameter of 51 cm (20 in). All AL-R8 containers are constructed of 18-gauge carbon steel. Within the AL-R8 container, a pit is secured on a metal frame and surrounded by Celotex (a high-density, cane-fiber pressboard) insulation.

TXD11-3

Water Resources

A description of water resources at the candidate sites is provided in Chapter 3 of Volume I. Section 4.26 analyzes the impacts of the immobilization and MOX approaches at the candidate sites. This analysis includes both surface water and groundwater resources. No impacts are expected on water resources at either Hanford or SRS. Chapter 4 of Volume I also includes an analysis of human health risk and the results of this analysis demonstrate that the activities would likely have minor impacts at any of the candidate sites.

TXD11-4

DOE Policy

There are no land acquisitions planned as part of the surplus plutonium disposition program.



United States
Department
of Energy

Comment Form

NAME: (Optional) Harvey B. Hopps, Ph.D.
ADDRESS: 3236 Tuleam St, Comanche, TX 79109
TELEPHONE: (817) 371-3334
E-MAIL: HB.HOPPS@ACTX.EDU

I strongly support the Pantex plant as the site for surplus disposition of plutonium pits. I have had over 36 years of industrial experience as an organic chemist during which time I have worked with many various hazardous chemicals. Safety begins with full knowledge, respect & training to product & proper attitude. I have every respect for the staff at Pantex & urge the DOE to select this site for the Surplus Plutonium Disposition site.

Harvey B. Hopps Ph.D.
Instructor, Comanche College

TXD42-1

Alternatives

DOE acknowledges the commentor's support for siting the pit conversion facility at Pantex. Decisions on the surplus plutonium disposition program at Pantex will be based on environmental analyses, technical and cost reports, national policy and nonproliferation considerations, and public input. DOE will announce its decisions regarding facility siting and approach to surplus plutonium disposition in the SPD EIS ROD.

TXD42

Director,
 Ms. Carol Borgstrom, My dad and I were talking Saturday about these bad air plane crashes they have had lately. He is seventy nine years old, and a World War II veteran. He stated: that it had probably been discussed by scientists before, but he thought it might be safer if they put a "big" parachute on top of the plane in case it might have trouble, one that is big enough to hold the plane up in case the motors quit running. I later thought that maybe if they had a big "helium" balloon that would inflate during trouble.

I saw on "television" the other day that Latraid Ultra is good for a person, in which this young "brunette", says "come to Mama".

MD323

MD323-1

DOE acknowledges the commentors' observations.

Other

Sincerely,
Tommy Hughes and Dad.

MD323

INTERNATIONAL GUARDS UNION OF AMERICA, LOCAL 38
RANDALL SKINNER
PAGE 1 OF 1

Pantex Guards Union
Local Number 38
International Guards Union of America

3820 Holiday Drive
 Amarillo, Texas 79109
 Phone / Fax (806) 467-9089

The International Guards Union of America (I.G.U.A.) Local # 38, supports Pantex in its pursuit to be awarded the Plutonium Pit Disassembly and Conversion Facility contract with the Department of Energy (D.O.E.).

Currently Mason & Hanger Corporation is one of the largest employers in the area employing around 3000 people in Amarillo and the surrounding area. With the M.O.X. fuel contract being awarded to Savannah River and production being at an all time low it is imperative that we strive to acquire new work in this field.

The future of Pantex will be uncertain without new work. Pantex may lose the ability to retain essential personnel, which would erode our Commitment to Excellence Program currently maintained at Pantex. The economic hardship of Panexans losing their jobs, would affect all areas of Amarillo's economy.

Currently the storage process is already in place at Pantex Plant and we are the only facility able to accommodate the storage of these materials without spending millions of dollars converting existing structures at other plant sites and the added expense of transportation to accomplish this task.

The work that is presently being performed at Pantex has been done for more than 45 years with the best safety record in the D.O.E. complex, the personnel that perform these duties are highly and constantly trained and genuinely concerned about industrial safety, nuclear explosive safety and the future impacts on the environment.

One of the details concerned with the final disposition of our nations nuclear weapons, is security, the security force at Pantex consists of more than 320 armed Security Police Officers and more than 50 Supervisors and support personnel.

The security force members are continually trained in all aspects of the protection and safeguarding of nuclear materials. The Pantex Security Forces continued their tradition of being the best in not only the D.O.E. complex but the entire nation this year by winning the National Security Police Officer of The Year Competition in Savannah River and bringing home the National Championship and the Secretary's Trophy.

So please consider the alternatives and then add up the dollars saved, the safety records of Pantex and the comfort afforded by a world class security force and commit your support to Mason & Hanger Corporation in this endeavor to secure the futures of our jobs and families.

Randall Skinner
 Business Agent
 I.G.U.A. Local # 38

TXD35

TXD35-1

Alternatives

DOE acknowledges the commentor's support for siting the pit conversion facility at Pantex. Although cost will be a factor in the decisionmaking process, this SPD EIS contains environmental impact data and does not address the costs associated with the various alternatives. A separate cost report, *Cost Analysis in Support of Site Selection for Surplus Weapons-Usable Plutonium Disposition* (DOE/MD-0009, July 1998), which analyzes the site-specific cost estimates for each alternative, was made available around the same time as the SPD Draft EIS. This report and the *Plutonium Disposition Life-Cycle Costs and Cost-Related Comment Resolution Document* (DOE/MD-0013, November 1999), which covers recent life-cycle cost analyses associated with the preferred alternative, are available on the MD Web site at <http://www.doe-md.com> and in the public reading rooms at the following locations: Hanford, INEEL, Pantex, SRS and Washington, D.C. Decisions on the surplus plutonium disposition program at Pantex will be based on environmental analyses, technical and cost reports, national policy and nonproliferation considerations, and public input. DOE will announce its decisions regarding facility siting and approach to surplus plutonium disposition in the SPD EIS ROD.



Jefferson Street Family Practice, P.A.

16 August 1998

U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Fissile Materials Disposition
P.O. Box 23786
Washington, D.C. 20026

1603 W. 33th Street
Suite 216
Austin, Texas 78751
(512) 459-1147
Fax: (512) 459-9134

Dear Fellow Citizens:

I would like to take this opportunity to voice my opposition to the use of the Pantex site for plutonium processing. Although Pantex is not in a heavily populated area, the fact that it is above the Ogallala aquifer is quite important to the region. Any contamination of the water supply would have far reaching effects.

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Also, the need to transport the plutonium would be a major risk as well. Any accident in its transportation could have devastating results. Since this would be the case in any scenario where plutonium would need to be sent from one place to another, probably the best option would be for a ceramification can-in-canister approach to its disposition with more local storage of the containers.

2

There are already doubts about the safety of storage of plutonium currently occurring at Pantex. Plutonium is now being kept in containers that are not corrosion free and they are being temporarily stored in bunkers that are inadequate for any long term storage, and probably are dangerous even in the short run.

3

I admit that I am not an expert on nuclear technology or waste, but the processing and storage of plutonium at Pantex seems an unwise plan.

Sincerely,

Elliot J. Trestler, M.D.

Pamela Garcia, M.D.
Alyx Gupta, M.D.
Mark J. Levy, M.D.
Ann H. Messer, M.D.
Elliot J. Trestler, M.D.
Maurice Gooden, RN, FNP
Gay L. Zehn, Manager

MD040

MD040-1

Water Resources

DOE acknowledges the commentor's opposition to locating the pit conversion and MOX facilities at Pantex. Section 4.26.3.2 indicates that there would be no discernible impacts to water quality from construction and normal operation of the proposed facilities.

MD040-2

Transportation

DOE does not agree that the transportation of nuclear materials required to disposition surplus plutonium is a major risk. Section 2.18 describes the transportation risk for each of the alternatives analyzed in this SPD EIS. DOE does, however, recognize the public concern about this issue and will work with State, tribal and local officials on transportation plans related to the shipment of nuclear materials in accordance with DOT, DOC, and DOE agreements. As indicated in Section 2.18, no traffic fatalities from nonradiological accidents or LCFs from radiological exposures (accidental or not) or vehicle emissions are expected. DOE acknowledges the commentor's support for the use of the ceramic can-in-canister approach.

MD040-3

DOE Policy

DOE acknowledges the commentor's concern regarding the storage of plutonium pits at Pantex. DOE is committed to the safe, secure storage of pits and is evaluating options for upgrades to Pantex Zone 4 facilities to address plutonium storage requirements. In addition, DOE has addressed some of the commentor's concerns in an environmental review concerning the repackaging of Pantex pits into a more robust container. This evaluation is documented in the *Supplement Analysis for: Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Continued Operation of the Pantex Plant and Associated Storage of Nuclear Weapon Components—AL-R8 Sealed Insert Container* (August 1998). This document is on the MD Web site at <http://www.doe-md.com>. Based on this supplement analysis, the decision was made to repackage pits at Pantex into the AL-R8 sealed insert container and to discontinue plans to repackage pits into the AT-400A container.



United States
Department
of Energy

Comment Form

NAME: (Optional) JP Johnson
ADDRESS: _____
TELEPHONE: (____) _____
E-MAIL: _____

I am a quality assurance technician at Pantex
I am also the union steward for my area.
On behalf of those in my area that couldn't
make it here tonight I would like to express
their feelings brought to me.

We are proud of the work that is done at
Pantex. Our area does exactly what our title
states. We ensure the quality of work at the
Pantex plant. Let me assure you, the quality
of the work that is performed at the Pantex
plant is top notch ^{bar none} again, our commitment
is to the pursuit of excellence in the work
place.

We strive to give you, DOE the best product
possible. ~~We strive to give the public the~~
~~safest dose.~~

Remember, Safety First!

We strive to give you the public, our families,
the environment the safest work place possible.

TXD21-1

Alternatives

DOE acknowledges the commentor's views on the high quality of work at Pantex and appreciates the assurance of continuing efforts to that end. Decisions on the surplus plutonium disposition program at Pantex will be based on environmental analyses, technical and cost reports, national policy and nonproliferation considerations, and public input.



United States
Department
of Energy

Comment Form

NAME: (Optional) Mina Fields Johnson
ADDRESS: Box 114, Adrian, TX 79001
TELEPHONE: (806) 538-6214
E-MAIL: minarell@am.net

I moved back to the panhandle
to restore my family farm so
there would be a legacy for
my grandsons.
I don't want my lovely state
ruined by the mistakes of
bureaucrats. Don't increase the
plutonium situation in West
Texas. Let's decrease it.

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Mina Johnson

TXD08

TXD08-1

Alternatives

DOE acknowledges the commentor's opposition to the surplus plutonium disposition program at Pantex. Decisions on the surplus plutonium disposition program will be based on environmental analyses, technical and cost reports, national policy and nonproliferation considerations, and public input.

Aug. 11, 1998

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a 22-year resident of Randall County and the city of Amarillo and I fully support the proposed expansion of the Pantex mission. Pantex is an honorable member of this community and has been operated in a safe and efficient fashion. There is no reason to forecast that this will change if the added plutonium disposition project is assigned to Pantex. I believe that the plant has operated in an environmentally sound fashion and has caused no irreparable harm to the surrounding area, thanks to careful attention paid to developing scientific research and resultant commercial applications. I do not think it is wise to hold the Pantex facilities hostage to past misdeeds which occurred at the Rocky Flats or Hanford sites. Likewise, I feel the Pantex security

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TXD03

TXD03-1

Alternatives

DOE acknowledges the commentor's support for siting the proposed surplus plutonium disposition facilities at Pantex. Decisions on the surplus plutonium disposition program at Pantex will be based on environmental analyses, technical and cost reports, national policy and nonproliferation considerations, and public input. DOE will announce its decisions regarding facility siting and approach to surplus plutonium disposition in the SPD EIS ROD.

forces are superior and fully capable of protecting the plant from terrorist activities which present an ever-growing problem. It seems only logical to locate the expanded plutonium mission in this area which is 300-400 miles from any major metropolitan area and thus far more easily circumscribed and protected. The potential for terrorist activity would be greater, harder to detect, and could result in greater harm in the Savannah River corridor which includes Miami, Atlanta, Washington, D.C., and New York City. This argument alone should be sufficient to tip the scales in favor of Pantex as the preferred location for the expanded operations.

Therefore I encourage the Texas Congressional delegation and DOE representatives to speak forcefully and favorably concerning the assignment of plutonium disposition duties to the Pantex plant.

Sincerely,
Doris K. Kaczmarek

DORIS K. KACZMAREK
3501 EDGEMOOD; AMARILLO, TX 79109
806 359-5338; FAX 806 359-5836

TXD03

This is Robert Karrh. My address: Route 8, Box 40-10, Amarillo, Texas 79118. I would like to voice a comment on why doesn't it make sense that we put the station in Amarillo instead of taking it, you know, somewhere else. The pits are already here and it looks to me like it would be, logical to place the pit disassembly and conversion facility in Amarillo instead of having to cart these pits X number of hundred miles to Savannah River or somewhere else. There, in the possibility of them, you know getting damaged or whatever. So I want to voice my comments for Amarillo, Texas and the Pantex Plant for the preferred pit disassembly and conversion facility. The community here really supports Pantex. They got a great safety record. They got qualified people, engineers and technicians and I think it makes more sense to place it here.

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PD012

PD012-1**Alternatives**

DOE acknowledges the commentor's support for siting the pit conversion facility at Pantex. Potential impacts of transportation of pits would likely be minor if Pantex were chosen as the site for pit disassembly and conversion because pits are currently stored there, while transportation would be minimized if SRS were chosen because SRS is the preferred location for the MOX facility. Transportation impacts are summarized in Chapter 4 of Volume I and Appendix L. As indicated in Section 2.18, no traffic fatalities from nonradiological accidents or LCFs from radiological exposures (accidental or not) or vehicle emissions are expected. Decisions on the surplus plutonium disposition program at Pantex will be based on environmental analyses (including analysis of transportation risks), technical and cost reports, national policy and nonproliferation considerations, and public input. DOE will announce its decisions regarding facility siting and approach to surplus plutonium disposition in the SPD EIS ROD.

KEEN, MARILYN
PAGE 1 OF 1

Yes, this is Marilyn Keen at 4018 Tulane, Amarillo, Texas, 79109. (806) 355-6271. I'm in favor of the Pantex expansion and the disposition of the nuclear, plutonium pits at the Pantex Plant. Thank you.

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PD015

PD015-1

Alternatives

DOE acknowledges the commentor's support for siting the pit conversion facility at Pantex. Decisions on the surplus plutonium disposition program at Pantex will be based on environmental analyses, technical and cost reports, national policy and nonproliferation considerations, and public input. DOE will announce its decisions regarding facility siting and approach to surplus plutonium disposition in the SPD EIS ROD.