



Statement No.

000562

MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT;  
LABOUR RELATIONS

STATEMENT TO AMEND CONDITIONS APPLYING TO PROPOSALS  
(PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 46 OF THE  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT 1986)

INTRACTABLE WASTE DISPOSAL FACILITY  
MT WALTON EAST, SHIRE OF COOLGARDIE

- Proposals:** (1) Integrated Waste Disposal Facility, Eastern Goldfields, (Assessment No. 168); and
- (2) Disposal by Shaft Entombment or Trench Burial of a Range of Intractable Wastes at the Intractable Waste Disposal Facility, Mt Walton East, Shire of Coolgardie (Assessment No. 823).
- Proponent:** Waste Management (WA)
- Proponent Address:** Level 8, 141 St George's Terrace, PERTH WA 6000
- Assessment Number:** 1286
- Previous Assessment Numbers:** 168, 168-1, 823, 1127
- Previous Statement Numbers:** Statement No. 044 published on 26 October 1988  
Statement No. 205 published on 8 January 1992  
Statement No. 353 published on 28 April 1994  
Statement No. 533 published on 19 January 2000

**Report of the Environmental Protection Authority:** Bulletin 1005

**Previous Reports of the Environmental Protection Authority:** Bulletins 353, 572, 726 and 954

The implementation of the proposals to which the above reports of the Environmental Protection Authority relate is now subject to the following consolidated environmental conditions and procedures which replace all previous conditions and procedures:

**1 Implementation**

- 1-1 Subject to these conditions and procedures, the proponent shall implement the proposals as documented in schedule 1 of this statement.

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- 1-2 Where the proponent seeks to change any aspect of the proposals as documented in schedule 1 of this statement in any way that the Minister for the Environment determines, on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority, is substantial, the proponent shall refer the matter to the Environmental Protection Authority.
- 1-3 Where the proponent seeks to change any aspect of the proposals as documented in schedule 1 of this statement in any way that the Minister for the Environment determines, on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority, is not substantial, those changes may be effected.

## **2 Proponent Commitments**

- 2-1 The proponent shall implement the environmental management commitments of 25 October 2000 as documented in schedule 2 of this statement.
- 2-2 The proponent shall implement subsequent environmental management commitments which the proponent makes as part of the fulfillment of conditions and procedures in this statement.

## **3 Proponent**

- 3-1 The proponent for the time being nominated by the Minister for the Environment under section 38(6) or (7) of the Environmental Protection Act 1986 is responsible for the implementation of the proposals until such time as the Minister for the Environment has exercised the Minister's power under section 38(7) of the Act to revoke the nomination of that proponent and nominate another person in respect of the proposals.
- 3-2 Any request for the exercise of that power of the Minister referred to in condition 3-1 shall be accompanied by a copy of this statement endorsed with an undertaking by the proposed replacement proponent to carry out the proposals in accordance with the conditions and procedures set out in the statement.
- 3-3 The proponent shall notify the Environmental Protection Authority of any change of proponent contact name and address within 30 days of such change.

## **4 Commencement**

- 4-1 The proponent shall provide evidence to the Minister for the Environment within five years of the date of this statement that the proposals have been substantially commenced.
- 4-2 Where the proposals have not been substantially commenced within five years of the date of this statement, the approvals to implement the proposals as granted in this statement shall lapse and be void. The Minister for the Environment will determine any question as to whether the proposals have been substantially commenced.

- 4-3 The proponent shall make application to the Minister for the Environment for any extension of approval for the substantial commencement of the proposals beyond five years from the date of this statement at least six months prior to the expiration of the five year period referred to in conditions 4-1 and 4-2.
- 4-4 Where the proponent demonstrates to the requirements of the Minister for the Environment on advice of the Environmental Protection Authority that the environmental parameters of the proposals have not changed significantly, then the Minister may grant an extension not exceeding five years for the substantial commencement of the proposals.

## 5 Compliance Auditing

- 5-1 The proponent shall submit periodic Compliance Reports, in accordance with an audit program prepared in consultation between the proponent and the Environmental Protection Authority.
- 5-2 Unless otherwise specified, the Environmental Protection Authority is responsible for assessing compliance with the conditions, procedures and commitments contained in this statement and for issuing formal written advice that the requirements have been met.
- 5-3 Where compliance with any condition, procedure or commitment is in dispute, the matter will be determined by the Minister for the Environment.

  
CHERYL EDWARDES (Mrs) MLA  
MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

01 FEB 2001

## Schedule 1

### Summary of key proposal characteristics (1286) .

Element	Description
<b>Location</b>	Approximately 125 km north-west of Kalgoorlie-Boulder in the Shire of Coolgardie
<b>Area</b>	25 square kilometres
<b>Purpose</b>	For the disposal of intractable wastes for which there is no other practical method of disposal.
<b>Potential waste</b>	Restricted to those that meet the waste acceptance criteria
<b>Disposal method</b>	Burial by shaft entombment or trench, capped with water-shedding dome.
<b>Environmental Management</b>	<p>Environmental Management Plans as listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• flora and fauna;</li> <li>• water;</li> <li>• air quality;</li> <li>• decommissioning and rehabilitation;</li> <li>• health and safety;</li> <li>• emergency response;</li> <li>• radiation;</li> <li>• transport.</li> </ul> <p>Procedures for each disposal operation developed consistent with Operational Guidelines as listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• environmental;</li> <li>• health and safety and emergency response;</li> <li>• radiation;</li> <li>• transport.</li> </ul>
<b>Reporting</b>	Long term monitoring and operational monitoring to be addressed in Environmental Management Plans.

Note: The incinerator component of the original proposal (assessment no. 168) will not proceed and has been removed from the description of the proposal.

#### Figure

Figure 1: Site Location (attached)

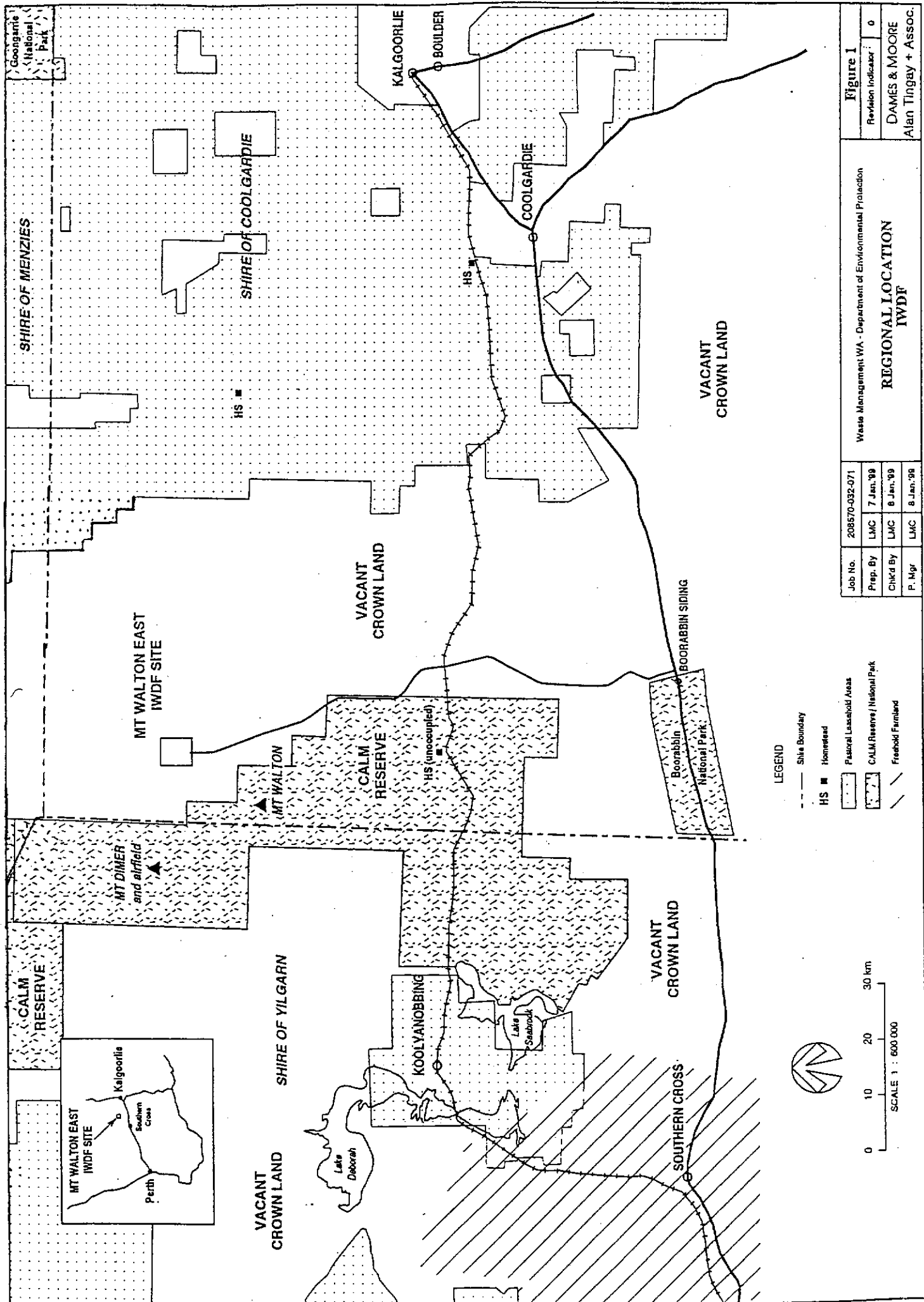


Figure 1. Site location.

**Proponent's Consolidated Environmental Management  
Commitments**

**25 October 2000**

**INTRACTABLE WASTE DISPOSAL FACILITY  
MT WALTON EAST, SHIRE OF COOLGARDIE (Two proposals)  
(Assessment No. 1286)**

**Waste Management (WA)**

**(The Health Department of Western Australia was formerly the proponent.)**

Schedule 2 - Proponent's Consolidated Environmental Management Commitments of 25 October 2000  
(Assessment No. 1286)

No.	TOPIC	ACTION	OBJECTIVES	TIMING	TO REQUIREMENTS OF	ADVICE	MEASUREMENT / COMPLIANCE CRITERIA
1	Environmental Management System	<p>(1.1) Demonstrate that there is in place an Environmental Management System that includes the following elements:</p> <p>(a) an environmental, health and safety policy and corporate commitment to it;</p> <p>(b) mechanisms and processes to ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning to meet environmental, health and safety requirements;</li> <li>• Implementation and operation of actions to meet environmental, health and safety requirements;</li> <li>• Measurement and evaluation of environmental, health and safety performance; and</li> </ul> <p>(c) review and improvements of environmental, health and safety outcomes.</p> <p>(1.2) Implement the Environmental Management System required by commitment 1.1.</p>	<p>To effectively and comprehensively manage all matters relating to environmental protection and to fulfil the requirements of the conditions, procedures and commitments for the proposal.</p>	<p>Prior to the next disposal operation.</p>	<p>Environmental Protection Authority</p>		<p>Completed Environmental Management System</p>
			<p>To effectively and comprehensively manage all matters relating to environmental protection and to fulfil the requirements of the conditions, procedures and commitments for the proposal.</p>	<p>Prior to the next disposal operation</p>	<p>Environmental Protection Authority</p>		<p>Performance and Compliance Report</p>

No.	TOPIC	ACTION	OBJECTIVE/S	TIMING	TO REQUIREMENTS OF	ADVICE	MEASUREMENT/ COMPLIANCE CRITERIA
2	Environmental Management Program	(2.1) Prepare an Environmental Management Program.	To include but not be limited to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• environmental management plans (see commitment 3); and</li> <li>• operational guidelines (see commitment 4).</li> </ul>	Prior to the next disposal operation.	Environmental Protection Authority		Approved Environmental Management Program
		(2.2) Advertise and make the approved Environmental Management Program required by commitment 2.1 publicly available.	To inform the community.	Prior to the next disposal operation.	Environmental Protection Authority		Performance and Compliance Report
		(2.3) Implement the Environmental Management Program required by commitment 2.1.	To ensure that requirements specified in the approved Environmental Management Program are adhered to.	During all disposal operations.	Environmental Protection Authority		Performance and Compliance Report
3	Environmental Management Plans Flora and Fauna	(3.1) Prepare a Flora and Fauna Management Plan.	To ensure that the abundance, species diversity, geographic distribution and productivity of vegetation communities and terrestrial fauna are maintained by monitoring against existing baseline survey data.	Prior to the next disposal operation.	Environmental Protection Authority		Approved Environmental Management Plan



No.	TOPIC	ACTION	OBJECTIVES/S	TIMING	TO REQUIREMENTS OF	ADVICE	MEASUREMENT / COMPLIANCE CRITERIA
	<b>Transport Management Plan</b>	(3.2) Prepare a Transport Management Plan that describes the general principles of managing the transportation of wastes to the Intractable Waste Disposal Facility. The plan will include but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• emergency preparedness;</li> <li>• contractor responsibilities;</li> <li>• procedures;</li> <li>• communications; and</li> <li>• emergency response recovery.</li> </ul>	To ensure that risk to the community, waste owners, contractors, employees, personnel and members of the emergency response services, property and the environment is minimised.	Prior to the next disposal operation.	Environmental Protection Authority		Approved Environmental Management Plan
	<b>Water Management Plan</b>	(3.3) Prepare a Water Management Plan.	To detail procedures and strategies to monitor: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• for the presence of groundwater and if groundwater is present, groundwater will be analysed to determine whether it has been contaminated by leachate from disposed waste; and</li> <li>• surface water to ensure that if surface water is likely to run off the site it will be analysed to determine whether it has been contaminated if there has been a spillage of waste.</li> <li>• If contamination has occurred, a contingency plan that forms part of the Water Management Plan will be implemented.</li> </ul>	Prior to the next disposal operation.	Environmental Protection Authority		Approved Environmental Management Plan

No.	TOPIC	ACTION	OBJECTIVES	TIMING	TO REQUIREMENTS OF	ADVICE	MEASUREMENT / COMPLIANCE CRITERIA
	<b>Emergency Response Plan</b>	(3.4) Prepare an Emergency Response Management Plan.	<p>To ensure that in the case of an incident at the Intractable Waste Disposal Facility:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• all practicable measures are taken to ensure the welfare and amenity of the community; and</li> <li>• the environment is not adversely affected.</li> </ul>	Prior to the next disposal operation.	Environmental Protection Authority		Approved Environmental Management Plan
	<b>Health and Safety Management Plan</b>	(3.5) Prepare a Health and Safety Management Plan. The Plan will include but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• procedures for training; and</li> <li>• procedures for monitoring.</li> </ul>	To ensure that all practicable measures are taken to safeguard the welfare and amenity of personnel and the community at the Intractable Waste Disposal Facility.	Prior to the next disposal operation.	Environmental Protection Authority		Approved Environmental Management Plan
	<b>Air Quality Management Plan</b>	(3.6) Prepare an Air Quality Management Plan.	To detail monitoring procedures and strategies to suppress dust and odour adequately to ensure that dust and odour emissions do not adversely affect the environment, or health, welfare and amenity of personnel at the Intractable Waste Disposal Facility.	Prior to the next disposal operation.	Environmental Protection Authority		Approved Environmental Management Plan
	<b>Radiation Management Plan</b>	(3.7) Prepare a Radiation Management Plan which will include but not be limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• environmental radiation monitoring;</li> <li>• periodic reporting to the Environmental Protection Authority and Radiological Council (Western Australia);</li> <li>• procedures for compliance with the Code of Practice for the Near-surface Disposal of Radioactive Waste in Australia (1992);</li> <li>• personnel radiation monitoring; and</li> <li>• reporting of the monitoring results to the Community Liaison Committee.</li> </ul>	To detail procedures and strategies to ensure that risk of exposure to radiation is kept within public health standards and as low as reasonably achievable for the community, waste owners, contractors, employees, personnel and members of emergency response services, and the environment.	Prior to the next disposal operation.	Environmental Protection Authority	Radiological Council (WA)	Approved Environmental Management Plan

No.	TOPIC	ACTION	OBJECTIVE/S	TIMING	TO REQUIREMENTS OF	ADVICE	MEASURE-MENT / COMPLIANCE CRITERIA
	Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Management Plan	<p>(3.8) Prepare a Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Management Plan to include but not be limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• removal or, if appropriate, retention of infrastructure;</li> <li>• rehabilitation of all disturbed areas to a standard suitable for agreed future land use/s; and</li> <li>• identification of disposal areas, including provision of evidence of notification to relevant statutory authorities.</li> </ul>	To ensure that the proposal is decommissioned and rehabilitated to a standard suitable for the future landuse/s.	At least six months before decommissioning.	Environmental Protection Authority	Radio-logical Council (WA)	Approved Environmental Management Plan
		<p>(3.9) Make the draft Environmental Management Plans required by commitment 3.1 to 3.8 available for a four week limited stakeholder review to the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IWDF Community Liaison Committee;</li> <li>• The Chamber of Minerals and Energy of Western Australia; and</li> <li>• Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Western Australia;</li> </ul> <p>prior to the Environmental Protection Authority finalising its consideration of the Plans.</p>	To obtain stakeholder input to the Environmental Management Plans.	Prior to the next disposal operation. (Note: commitment 3.8 requires stakeholder review at least 6 months prior to decommissioning.)	Environmental Protection Authority		Approved Environmental Management Plan
		<p>(3.10) Advertise and make the approved Environmental Management Plans required by commitments 3.1 to 3.8 publicly available.</p>	To inform the community.	Prior to the next disposal operation. (Note: commitment 3.8 requires advertising and making publicly available at least 6 months prior to decommissioning.)	Environmental Protection Authority		Performance and Compliance Report

No.	TOPIC	ACTION	OBJECTIVES	TIMING	TO REQUIREMENTS OF	ADVICE	MEASUREMENT / COMPLIANCE CRITERIA
		(3.1) Implement the Environmental Management Plans required by commitments 3.1 to 3.8.	To ensure that requirements specified in the approved Environmental Management Plans are adhered to.	During each disposal operation. (Note: commitment 3.8 requires implementation at least 6 months prior to decommissioning.)	Environmental Protection Authority		Performance and Compliance Report
4	<u>Operational Guidelines</u> Waste Acceptance Environmental Safety / Emergency Response Transport Radiation	(4.1) Prepare the Waste Acceptance Operational Guidelines. (4.2) Prepare the Environmental Operational Guidelines. (4.3) Prepare the Safety/Emergency Response Operational Guidelines. (4.4) Prepare the Transport Operational Guidelines. (4.5) Prepare the Radiation Operational Guidelines.	All relevant Operational Guidelines are to be used as a guide to the proponent for the preparation of the Operational Procedures for each particular disposal operation (see commitments 5.1 and 5.2).  The Operational Guidelines give guidance to the proponent on the means for achieving environmental outcomes required by a particular waste disposal operation.	Prior to the next disposal operation.	Environmental Protection Authority		Approved Operational Guidelines

No.	TOPIC	ACTION	OBJECTIVE/S	TIMING	TO REQUIREMENTS OF	ADVICE	MEASUREMENT / COMPLIANCE CRITERIA
		(4.6) Make the draft Operational Guidelines required by commitments 4.1 to 4.5 available for a four week limited stakeholder review to the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IWDF Community Liaison Committee;</li> <li>The Chamber of Minerals and Energy of Western Australia; and</li> <li>Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Western Australia;</li> </ul> prior to the Environmental Protection Authority finalising its consideration of the Plan.	To obtain stakeholder input to the Operational Guidelines.	Prior to the next disposal operation.	Environmental Protection Authority	Radio-logical Council (WA)	Approved Operational Guidelines
		(4.7) Advertise and make the approved Operational Guidelines required by commitments 4.1 to 4.5 publicly available.	To inform the community.	Prior to the next disposal operation.	Environmental Protection Authority		Performance and Compliance Report
		(4.8) Implement the Operational Guidelines required by commitments 4.1 to 4.5.	To ensure that requirements specified in the approved Operational Guidelines are adhered to.	Prior to the next disposal operation.	Environmental Protection Authority		Performance and Compliance Report
5	<u>Operational Procedures</u> Environmental, Radiation, Health and Safety	(5.1) Prepare the Environmental, Radiation, Health and Safety Operational Procedures in accordance with the Operational Guidelines.	To ensure that risk to the community, waste owners, contractors, employees, personnel and members of the emergency response services, and the environment is minimised.	Prior to each disposal operation.	Environmental Protection Authority	Radio-logical Council (WA)	Approved Operational Procedures

No.	TOPIC	ACTION	OBJECTIVES/S	TIMING	TO REQUIREMENTS OF	ADVICE	MEASUREMENT / COMPLIANCE CRITERIA
	Transport	<p>(5.2) Prepare the Transport Operational Procedures in accordance with the Operational Guidelines to include but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• details of waste loading and transport activities, and emergency response training for personnel;</li> <li>• identification of responsibility for the various aspects of transport, loading and unloading operations;</li> <li>• contingency plans for dealing with fire safety, accidents, spillages, vehicle breakdowns and other incidents should they occur; and</li> <li>• the procedure for liaison with the local community and emergency services.</li> </ul> <p>(The Operational Procedures documents referred to in commitments 5.1 and 5.2 will be the detailed working documents specific to each waste disposal operation).</p>	<p>To achieve environmental outcomes required by the Environmental Management Program in the conduct of a particular waste disposal operation (see commitment 2).</p>	<p>Prior to each disposal operation</p>	<p>Environmental Protection Authority</p>		<p>Performance and Compliance Report</p>
		<p>(5.3) Advertise and make the approved Operational Procedures required by commitments 5.1 and 5.2 publicly available.</p>	<p>To inform the community.</p>	<p>Prior to each disposal operation.</p>	<p>Environmental Protection Authority</p>		<p>Performance and Compliance Report</p>

No.	TOPIC	ACTION	OBJECTIVE/S	TIMING	TO REQUIREMENTS OF	ADVICE	MEASUREMENT/ COMPLIANCE CRITERIA
		(5.4) Implement the Operational Procedures required by commitments 5.1 and 5.2.	To minimise the possibility of a waste disposal operation adversely affecting the environment.	During each particular waste disposal operation.	Environmental Protection Authority (Should any incident occur during each particular waste disposal operation it is to be reported immediately to the EPA)		Performance and Compliance Report
6	<u>Performance and Compliance Report</u>	(6.1) Prepare the Performance and Compliance Report at the conclusion of each waste disposal operation.	To outline the project outcomes and the environmental monitoring, and discuss adverse environmental impacts, if any and how these environmental impacts have been or will be managed. The process will provide feedback for continuous improvement to the Environmental Management Program.	Within three months following completion of each specific waste disposal operation.	Environmental Protection Authority	Radio-logical Council (WA) in relation to radiation issues	Approved Performance and Compliance Report
		(6.2) Advertise and make the approved Performance and Compliance Report required by commitment 6.1 publicly available.	To inform the public.	Within 4 weeks of obtaining approval for the Performance and Compliance Report.	Environmental Protection Authority		Approved Performance and Compliance Report
7	<u>Waste</u>	(7.1) Limit disposal of waste at the Intractable Waste Disposal Facility to waste generated in Western Australia (see commitment 4.1).	To comply with State Government requirements.	Prior to each disposal operation.	Environmental Protection Authority		Environmental, Radiation, Health and Safety Operational Procedures

No.	TOPIC	ACTION	OBJECTIVE/S	TIMING	TO REQUIREMENTS OF	ADVICE	MEASUREMENT/ COMPLIANCE CRITERIA
		(7.2) Ensure that approval to dispose of any specific waste is conditional on a review of currently practicably available waste treatment, disposal or management alternatives in Australia (see commitment 4.1).	To ensure that only wastes for which there is no currently practicably available destruction, disposal or management technologies in Australia are disposed of at the site and to maintain the site as a facility of last resort.	Prior to each disposal operation.	Environmental Protection Authority		Environmental, Radiation, Health and Safety Operational Procedures
		(7.3) Prepare a waste register data base to be maintained, updated and made publicly available at the office of the proponent or on the World Wide Web.	To show the method of disposal, source, type, quantity and location of all waste disposed of at the Intractable Waste Disposal Facility to enable future land users to take account of the deposited wastes and protect future users from adverse impacts on health and amenity.	Prepare the waste register data base within six months of the issuing of the Minister's Statement that the proposal may be implemented and update the register within three months of completion of each disposal operation.	Environmental Protection Authority		Performance and Compliance Report
8	Community Liaison	Convening a minimum of four meetings a year of the Community Liaison Committee.	To ensure that the community remains informed of activities at the Intractable Waste Disposal Facility.	Following the Minister's Statement that the proposal may be implemented.	Environmental Protection Authority		Performance and Compliance Report
9	Fencing and Signposting	Fence and signpost each discrete disposal cell.	To discourage access by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fauna;</li> <li>• unauthorised personnel; and</li> <li>• the public.</li> </ul>	Prior to demobilisation of each waste disposal operation following the Minister's Statement that the proposal may be implemented.	Environmental Protection Authority		Performance and Compliance Report



No.	TOPIC	ACTION	OBJECTIVES	TIMING	TO REQUIREMENTS OF	ADVICE	MEASUREMENT / COMPLIANCE CRITERIA
10	Water	Demonstrate that there are at least 5 metres of clay between the base of any disposal cell and bedrock.	To allow for the possible establishment of a groundwater table in the future without impinging upon the disposal cells.	Prior to each disposal operation.	Environmental Protection Authority		Performance and Compliance Report
11	Transport and Packaging	Where transport and packaging is to be undertaken by a party other than the proponent, the proponent will ensure that the packaging and transport requirements specified in the Operational Transport Guidelines and Waste Acceptance Guidelines are adhered to through the use of contracts and other controls as necessary (see commitments 4.1 and 4.4).	To ensure that risk to the community, waste owners, contractors, employees, personnel and members of the emergency response services, property and the environment is minimised.	Prior to the commencement of transportation activities during each disposal operation.	Environmental Protection Authority		Approved operational Transport Procedures
12	Decommissioning and Rehabilitation	Implement the requirements of the Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Management Plan until the Minister for the Environment determines that decommissioning and/or rehabilitation is/are complete.	To ensure that the proposal is decommissioned and rehabilitated according to the requirements specified in the approved Decommissioning and Rehabilitation Management Plan (refer commitment 3).	During decommissioning and/or rehabilitation.	Minister for the Environment		Determination by the Minister for the Environment that decommissioning and/or rehabilitation is/are complete.