

FACT- SHEET
WASTE CONTROL SPECIALISTS, ANDREWS COUNTY TEXAS
PROPOSED FOR POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENYL (PCB) STORAGE AND DISPOSAL

PURPOSE OF THE APPROVAL:

The PCB Approval (permit) ensures that the facility manages polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) waste in a manner that protects human health and the environment and complies with federal requirements. This approval applies only to activities involving PCB waste. It does not authorize other hazardous waste or low-level radioactive waste (LLRW) activities. Activities regulated under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and low-level radioactive waste management are governed by a separate permit and/or license issued by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ).

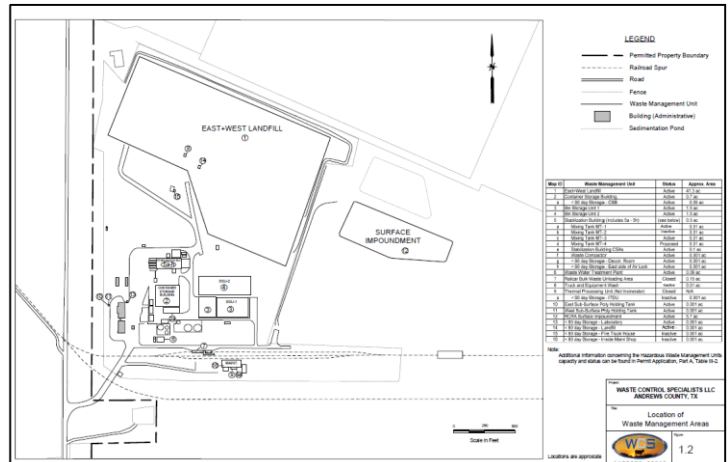
PUBLIC COMMENT:

EPA has completed its review of the Approval application and is proposing a decision by issuing this fact sheet, a public notice, a Proposed Approval, and supporting documents. Publication of this approval begins a 45-day public comment period. This is an opportunity for the public to provide input before EPA makes a final decision. All timely comments will be considered in the final Approval decision, and EPA will prepare a written response to comments.

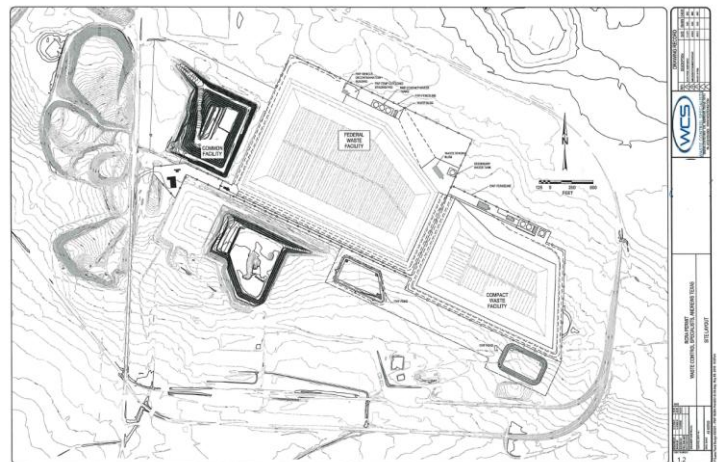
BACKGROUND:

The Waste Control Specialists LLC (WCS) Andrews County facility is on approximately 1,338 permitted acres north of State Highway 176, about 35 miles west of Andrews, Texas, just east of the New Mexico state line. WCS owns or leases nearly 15,000 acres in Texas and more than 800 acres in New Mexico. The facility owns and operates storage, treatment, processing, and landfill units that manage industrial solid and hazardous waste, TSCA-regulated waste, and LLRW and mixed LLRW. WCS TSCA PCB operations are covered under two

permits, TSDF permit and Federal Waste Disposal Facility (FWF) permit. The TSDF units (EPA ID TXD988088464) were approved in 1994, and the FWF unit (EPA ID TXR000075788) were approved in 2012 to manage PCBs.



Treatment Storage and Disposal Facility



Federal Waste Disposal Facility

PCB WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY: DESIGN, OPERATIONS, AND COMPLIANCE SUMMARY:

- The East + West Landfills and the Federal Waste Facility landfills meet proper engineering standards- including composite liners and leachate collection and management systems-

- to prevent chemical releases.
- Storage, stabilization, and processing areas: PCB storage, stabilization, and processing areas are engineered with appropriate secondary containment and controls to prevent chemical releases.
- Standard operating procedures: Acceptable SOPs for TSDF and FWF operations cover waste acceptance and treatment; laboratory testing; storage locations and labeling; disposal; leachate collection and management of decontaminated water are followed
- All waste shipments are tracked and records retained. EPA is notified of the quantities of waste in storage and any cleanups that are conducted.
- Spill prevention and cleanup: Spill prevention, control, and cleanup are conducted in accordance with TSCA requirements and facility procedures.
- Closure plan and financial assurance: WCS maintains financial assurance sufficiently to sample and decontaminate the facility at closure in accordance with approved closure plans.
- Both landfill locations meet TSCA chemical waste landfill siting requirements and provide a minimum of approximately 225 feet of separation to the groundwater table. Landfill designs include double-lined systems with leak detection and leachate collection and composite liners (compacted clay, High-density polyethylene, and geosynthetic components).

- TDSF and FWF Operations Plans
- TSDF and FWF Engineering Reports
- TSDF and FWF Ground Water Monitoring Reports
- TSDF Waste Acceptance Plan and Generator Handbook
- FWF Waste Acceptance Plan
- TSDF and FWF Waste Analysis Plan - Confidential
- TSDF and FWF Closure - Post Closure Plans, Cost Estimates - Confidential
- Training Plan - Confidential
- Spill clean ups and counter measure plan (SPCC) - Confidential
- Facility Map
- Waste Acceptance Plan for low level radioactive waste (LLRW) - Confidential
- Qualifications of Facility Key Personnel - Confidential
- Responses to EPA's Comments
- Chemical Waste Landfill Checklist

Note on Administrative records and CBI

EPA's administrative record for this action includes the permit application and supporting materials. In some instances, portions of the application were redacted because the applicant claimed them as Confidential Business Information (CBI). The EPA reviewed and evaluated the full, unredacted application, including portions unavailable to the public, in making its proposed decision. Redacted materials are not publicly available, but non-CBI documents can be accessed as described in the public notice.

WHAT ARE PCBS?

PCBs are man-made organic chemicals that were manufactured from 1929 until their manufacture was banned in 1979. Due to their unique chemical properties, PCBs were used in hundreds of industrial and commercial applications. Today, one of the largest sources of PCB waste comes from electrical equipment being taken out of service.

DOCUMENTS REVIEWED BY EPA:

EPA completed its review of the following documents submitted by WCS as part of the TSCA permit renewal application (some documents contain Confidential Business Information (CBI), as noted):



East+West Landfill



BSU-1 Storage Area

WHY WORRY ABOUT PCBs?

PCBs are a class of toxic chemicals that are carcinogenic and may cause other harmful non-cancer effects to the body.

Once released into the environment, PCBs may persist for decades, it accumulates toxic levels in fish, animals, and people as they move up the food-chain.

ESA AND NHPA EVALUATION

EPA meets its obligations under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The proposed work was determined to have no effect on federally listed species or designated critical habitat, and to result in the finding of no historic properties affected under NHPA.

PROPOSED AUTHORIZATION DECISIONS:

PCB Waste Disposal

East+West Landfill: Authorized by Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for solid hazardous waste as defined by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and proposed approval by EPA for TSCA regulated polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) waste. Estimated remaining capacity is 1.95 million cubic yards.

The Federal Facility Waste Disposal Facility (FWF):

The Federal Waste Disposal Facility (FWF) is permitted by TCEQ to accept low-level radioactive waste (LLRW) and RCRA solid waste from federal facilities. The FWF landfill has a capacity of approximately 4 million cubic yards of non-liquid PCB waste over its 35-year operational lifetime.

PCB storage and treatment system

Maximum storage authorization of 5,000, 55-gallon drums or equivalent (totaling 275,000 gallons) and 3,510 cubic yards of PCB solid waste. The proposed approval also includes other ancillary systems and equipment; Four leachate collection tanks, four mixing tanks, and a waste compactor for processing, two stabilization buildings, two decontamination waste accumulation tanks and a waste compactor.

NEXT STEPS IN THE PERMITTING PROCESS

EPA will not make a final decision on the permit until we have considered all public comments. Anyone commenting on the proposed permit will receive a copy of our response to comments.