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## Tank 241-TX-118 Tank Characterization Plan

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Westinghouse Hanford Company, Richland, WA 99352  
U.S. Department of Energy Contract DE-AC06-87RL10930

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Abstract: This document is a plan that identifies the information needed to address relevant issues concerning short-term and long-term storage and long-term management of single-shell tank 241-TX-118.

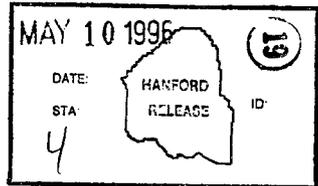
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WHC-SD-WM-TP-241  
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# Tank 241-TX-118 Tank Characterization Plan

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Westinghouse Hanford Company

Date Published  
May 1996

Prepared for the U.S. Department of Energy  
Office of Environmental Restoration and  
Waste Management



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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

This Tank Characterization Plan (TCP) identifies the information needed to address relevant issues concerning short-term and long-term safe storage and long-term management of single-shell tank 241-TX-118 (TX-118). It should be understood that the various needs and issues surrounding tank TX-118 are evolving as new information about the tank is uncovered. As a result of this progression, this TCP addresses only the issues that, to this date, have been identified. It is expected that deviations from this plan may occur as additional issues or needs arise which impact the management of tank TX-118. As necessary, this TCP will be revised to reflect those changes or deviations. This plan reflects the best information available as of May 1996.

Tank TX-118 was constructed between 1947 and 1948 and was put into service in 1952. Tank 241-TX-118 received first cycle decontamination waste, tributyl phosphate waste and evaporator bottoms from the second quarter of 1952 until the fourth quarter of 1960. Presently, the waste is classified as non-complexed (Brevick et al. 1995).

The tank is sound and was labeled inactive in 1980. Tank TX-118 is passively ventilated and was interim stabilized in April 1983 with intrusion prevention completed in August 1984 (Brevick et al. 1995).

Tank TX-118 currently contains waste with a total volume of 1,310 kL (347 kgal), which is equivalent to 340 cm (134 in) of waste as measured from the baseline of the tank (Hanlon 1996).

This tank is on the Organic and Ferrocyanide Watch Lists.

Near-term sampling and analysis activities are focused on either verifying or changing the Watch List tank status, and identifying any new safety issues. Should any safety issues be identified, additional analysis will occur consistent with the identified issue.

In addition to the resolution of the safety issues, it is intended that all tank waste will be subject to pretreatment and retrieval to prepare for final storage or disposal. Presently, these long-range plans have yet to be fully identified and are, therefore, not included in this document.

## 2.0 PROGRAM ELEMENTS REQUIRING INFORMATION FOR TANK 241-TX-118

This section identifies the various program elements, and identifies which of these programs require characterization data from tank TX-118.

### 2.1 GENERAL SAFETY ISSUES

The *Tank Safety Screening Data Quality Objective* (Dukelow et al. 1995) describes the sampling and analytical requirements that are used to screen waste tanks for unidentified safety issues. Analytical requirements for the safety screening of a tank are energetics, total alpha activity, moisture content, density and flammable gas concentration.

## 2.2 SPECIFIC SAFETY ISSUES

### 2.2.1 Ferrocyanide

This tank is on the Ferrocyanide Watch List. Sampling and analysis requirements must be performed per *Data Requirements for the Ferrocyanide Safety Issue Developed through the Data Quality Objectives Process* (Meacham et al. 1995). The primary analyses employed will determine the total fuel concentration, nickel, total cyanide, and moisture content. Further analyses will be employed to obtain secondary data such as temperature (data will be obtained from tank thermocouples), total organic carbon (TOC), <sup>137</sup>Cs and <sup>90</sup>Sr (Meacham et al. 1995).

### 2.2.2 Organic

Tank TX-118 is on the Organics Watch List. Sampling and analysis requirements must be performed per *Data Quality Objective to Support Resolution of the Organic Fuel Rich Safety Issue* (Turner et al. 1995). The analyses employed will determine the TOC, energetics, presence of a free organic liquid phase, and moisture content.

### 2.2.3 High Heat

This tank is not on the High Heat Watch List; therefore, no information needs are currently identified for this program element.

### 2.2.4 Flammable Gas

This tank is not on the Flammable Gas Watch List; therefore, no information needs are currently identified for this program element.

### 2.2.5 Vapor

All 177 underground tanks must be vapor-sampled for organic solvent screening as per *Recommendation 93-5 Implementation Plan* (DOE-RL 1996). Some tanks may require additional vapor sampling due to other program needs. These tanks may be classified into four categories: (1) those tanks which are to be rotary mode core sampled (as a consequence of the rotary sampling system exhauster permit requirements); (2) tanks on the Organic or Ferrocyanide Watch Lists; (3) tanks in C farm; and (4) tank 241-BX-104, due to vapor exposure. Information needs must satisfy *Data Quality Objectives for Tank Hazardous Vapor Safety Screening* (Osborne and Buckley 1995), and for rotary mode only, *Rotary Core Vapor Sampling Data Quality Objective* (Price 1994), and *Data Quality Objective for Regulatory Requirements for Hazardous and Radioactive Air Emissions Sampling and Analysis* (Mulkey and Markillie 1995) as amended by *Status of the Current Understanding of the Toxic Air Pollutants (TAPS) and Hanford Tank Farm Vapor Space Characterization; Recommended Path Forward and Justification for Continued RMCS Exhauster Operations* (Laws 1996).

Tank TX-118 was vapor sampled in December 1994 in support of Osborne et al. (1994).

### 2.2.6 Criticality

No information separate from that for the general safety issue of tank TX-118 are currently identified for this program element. However, if the general safety screening of tank TX-118 identifies a potential criticality concern, analyses for fissile materials and neutron sorbers and poisons will be performed as identified in the safety screening data quality objective (DQO).

## 2.3 CONTINUING OPERATIONS

### 2.3.1 Compatibility/Stabilization

This section does not apply to tank TX-118.

### 2.3.2 Evaporator

This section does not apply to tank TX-118.

## 2.4 DOUBLE-SHELL TANK WASTE ANALYSIS PLAN

This section does not apply because tank TX-118 is a single shell tank.

## 2.5 DISPOSAL

### 2.5.1 Retrieval

Current retrieval needs (Bloom and Nguyen 1995) do not call for test samples to be taken from tank TX-118.

### 2.5.2 Pretreatment/Vitrification

Tank TX-118 has been identified as a bounding tank for pretreatment/disposal process development strategy (Kupfer et al. 1995). The strategy only requires that sample material be made available via archive samples and does not require any specific analyses to be done on the samples.

## 2.6 HISTORICAL MODEL EVALUATION

Bounding tanks and data requirements for historical model evaluations are found in *Historical Model Evaluation Data Requirements* (Simpson and McCain 1995). Tank TX-118 has been identified as a primary bounding tank for the saltcake waste type. All single-shell tanks were prioritized in the *Tank Waste Characterization Basis* (Brown, et al. 1995) document using the historical DQO.

**3.0 HOW INFORMATION WILL BE OBTAINED**

The number of samples required to characterize a tank is a function of waste heterogeneity and the desired confidence to make a correct decision. As directed by the safety screening DQO, if inadequate information exists to determine an appropriate number of samples, two vertical profiles will be obtained. These vertical profiles may be obtained using core, auger (for shallow tanks), or grab samples. If analysis of these profiles reveals that additional profiles are necessary to meet data needs, more sample profiles will be requested. Prior to rotary sampling it is necessary to vapor sample the tank per the requirements of *Rotary Core Vapor Sampling Data Quality Objective* (Price 1994).

**4.0 PRIORITY OF INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS**

Vapor sampling was completed in December 1994. Rotary mode core sampling is scheduled to begin in September 1996 (Stanton 1996). Refer to Table 4-1 for the current DQO requirements and planned sampling and analytical requirements.

Table 4-1: Integrated DQO Requirements and Priorities

| Sampling Event            | Applicable Issues   | Sampling Requirements*  | Analytical Requirements*  |
|---------------------------|---|---|---|
| Vapor Sampling            | -Organic Solvent layer<br>93-5 Vapor Issue<br>-Rotary Mode Sampling DQO<br>-Hazardous Vapor DQO | Steel canisters,<br>Triple Sorbent Traps,<br>Sorbent Trap Systems   | Flammable Gas<br>Organic Vapors<br>Permanent Gases  |
| Rotary Mode Core Sampling | -Safety Screening DQO<br>-Historical Model DQO<br>-Ferrocyanide DQO<br>-Organic DQO             | Core samples from 2 risers separated radially to the maximum extent possible.<br><br>Combustible gas measurement. | Flammability,<br>Energetics, Moisture,<br>Total alpha activity,<br>Density, Cyanide, Total Organic Carbon, Nickel, Anions, Metals, Radionuclides, Separable Organics. |

\* Consult each applicable DQO in force at the time for sampling and analytical requirements.

**5.0 WHEN INFORMATION WILL BE AVAILABLE**

According to Stanton (1996), data are expected to be available from the rotary mode core sampling event in February 1997. This time may be altered if the sampling schedule changes. Data are available from the December 1994 vapor sampling.

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