



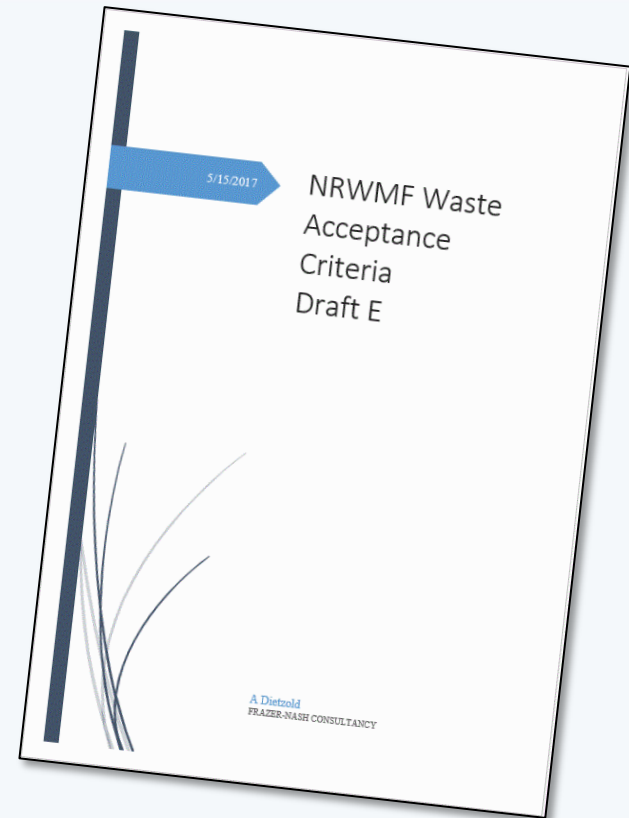
Australian Government
Department of Industry,
Innovation and Science

National
Radioactive Waste
Management Facility

Waste Acceptance Criteria (WAC)

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What we will cover

- Refresher – What is the WAC?
- Latest WAC Developments
- How will a WAC address community expectations?
- Next steps

The 5 W's of a Waste Acceptance Criteria

1. Where is it?

2. What's in it?

- Radioactivity, nuclide content, chemical make-up etc.

3. What do we need to do with it to make it safe?

- Concrete, compact, shield, dry etc.

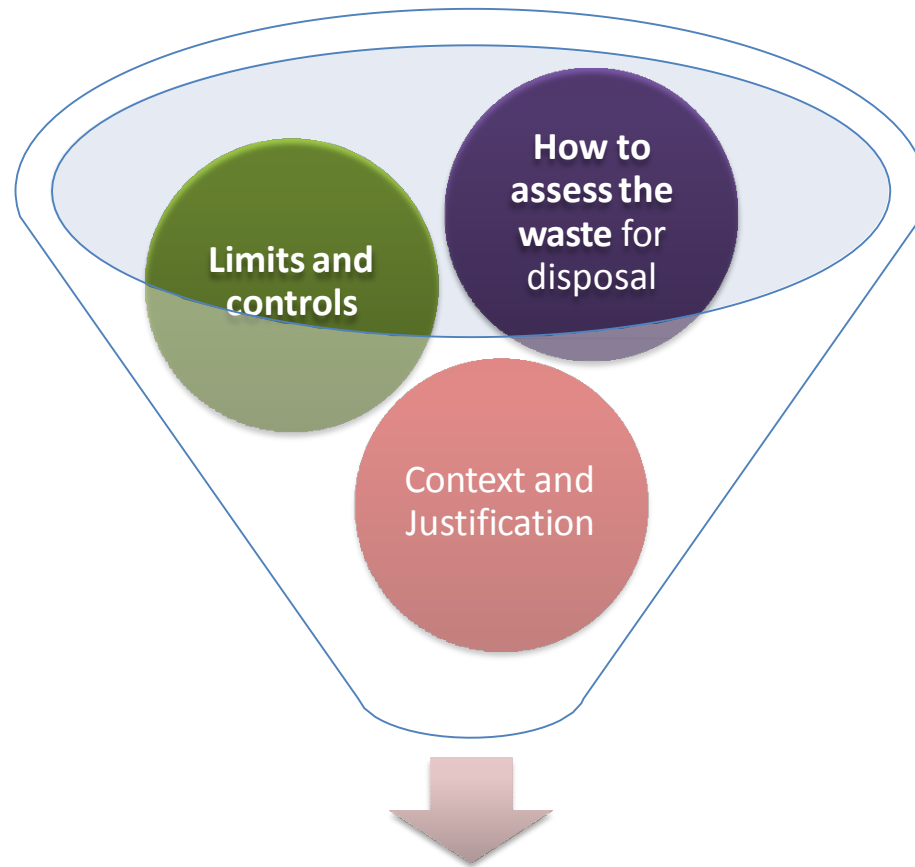
4. Where should we put it?

- Store or dispose

5. Why will it always be safe?

- Operational, institutional control period and post closure Safety Cases
- WAC approved by regulator

What is needed in a Waste Acceptance Criteria



Waste Acceptance Criteria

The WAC and Waste Packaging

- Waste packages provide a physical barrier and enable the waste to be handled safely for transport and disposal of the waste they contain.
- Packages are designed to meet certain standards for safety and security according to the nature of the waste.

Type of Packaging



Drums



Encased in Concrete



Drums

How will a WAC address community expectations?

- The WAC highlights our commitment to ensure the following materials are **not accepted** at the facility:
 - × **High-level radioactive waste**
 - × **Foreign radioactive waste**
 - × **Free liquids**
 - × **Explosives, corrosives or toxic material**

How do we ensure compliance?

- Waste packages are subject to inspections and tests at the facility once they arrive.
- Types of inspections include:
 - Quality checks e.g. visual inspections
 - Radiological checks e.g. waste package inspections

WAC Contents

- If waste does not meet the WAC, there are two main responses:
 1. Refuse the waste
 2. Accept the waste only after it has been altered to meet criteria
- Only then will such waste be accepted for storage or disposal at the facility

Current status of WAC

In May 2017 the Department has:

- Received a draft Waste Acceptance Criteria developed by an international specialist company.
- Established a technical/specialist working group to provide advice/review the draft WAC:
 - This group is made up of Commonwealth and State waste owners, regulators and the NRWMF taskforce.

Next steps

- The WAC is still being developed:
 - The draft WAC is being sought to be finalised by March 2018. This will be used for the Detailed Business Case development.
 - An updated WAC will be completed prior to construction.

IF YOU HIT THIS SIGN,
YOU WILL HIT THAT BRIDGE



Questions?