

DNSC Mercury Technical Standards

Commodity-Grade Mercury Stakeholder Meeting
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Agenda

- How we arrived at where we are
- Other options considered

How we developed our standards

National Stockpile Purchase Specifications, Mercury:
Issued by Department of Commerce

Identified chemical and physical requirements
Mercury content by percentage
Bright and clean

Packaging
In flasks of "certified quality"
Deep-drawn, spun wrought iron, low-carbon steel

Marking
Metal tag, permanently metal-stamped, engraved,
or punched in English

Identification
Identifying documents with chemical analysis,
number of flasks, and lot number

How we developed our standards

Shipping:

Loaded, blocked and braced in carrier's conveyance
In compliance with applicable rules and regulations
Rail shipments, AAR Pamphlet No. 14 and `` Circular 42D

Sampling, Inspection and Testing

Each lot shall be subject to sampling, inspection and testing

Other Options Considered

No Action:

Continue to store in existing sites
Did not meet DNSC goal of reducing the number of sites.
According to current plans, DNSC will cease operations in 2014.

Treatment for Storage:

Mercury can be safely stored in its elemental form
Preferred form in most industrial processes
Additional environmental impacts and costs, without significant benefits

Treatment for Disposal:

No commercially available technologies to render large quantities of elemental mercury more stable or less toxic
Immaturity of bulk elemental treatment technologies
Lack of an EPA-approved path forward

Other Options Considered

• Sales

- At maximum allowable market rate
- To reduce mercury mining

- MMEIS concluded that most of the environmental and socioeconomic impacts of alternatives for mercury management would be small for each of the three alternatives, and differences among them would not be sufficient in themselves to support selection of one over the others.
