

- Filled reservoirs are shipped from SRS to Pantex Plant for installation in weapon systems.

Tritium reservoirs are transported intersite by air or by highway, in SSTs. Tritium reservoirs are shipped in H1616 containers, which are DOT-approved Type B packages. The H1616 container has an outer drum of stainless steel that is 41.65 centimeters (16.4 inches) in diameter and an inner containment vessel made of stainless steel that is 31 centimeters (12.11 inches) in diameter and 36 centimeters (14.3 inches) in height. Tritium reservoirs within these containers do not pose an external radiation hazard.

When a shipment of depleted reservoirs is made from Pantex Plant by air, the H1616 container is loaded and sealed with a tamper-indicating device at the Tritium Staging Facility. The H1616 container is taken to a loading dock within Zone 12 and loaded and secured within a hardened trailer. The vehicle is driven from Pantex Plant to a “secure” terminal at the Amarillo International Airport where the container is removed from the vehicle, loaded aboard the aircraft, and secured; loading operations are performed under controlled conditions in secured areas at the Amarillo airport. The aircraft is flown to Bush Field in Augusta, Georgia where the H1616 containers are removed from the aircraft and loaded and secured within an SST or similar vehicle. This

vehicle is driven to the H-area at SRS, where the package is unloaded. Table 4.16.1.1–2 summarizes air shipments of tritium reservoirs. Further operations with tritium reservoirs at SRS are discussed in the *Environmental Assessment, Tritium Loading Facility* (DOE 1986). Newly filled tritium reservoir transfers from SRS follow a reverse procedure.

The H-area is located approximately 16 kilometers (10 miles) within the northwestern site boundary of SRS. Bush Field is located outside of Augusta, Georgia and is approximately 32 kilometers (20 miles) northwest of the SRS boundary. Vehicular access to SRS from Bush Field is via either South Carolina Highway 125 or U.S. Highway 278. The closest Interstate highway access to SRS is Interstate 20, approximately 32 kilometers (20 miles) northwest of the site boundary.

Radioisotopic Thermoelectric Generator

Radioisotopic thermoelectric generators (RTGs) removed from dismantled weapons are shipped to LANL for prestorage processing and interim storage of nuclear material. RTGs are transported intersite by SSTs in DOT Type 6M containers. The Type 6M container is a DOT-criteria Type B package. The Type 6M container is a standard 37.85-liter (10-gallon), DOT-specification metal package. This package is constructed of 20-gauge carbon steel

TABLE 4.16.1.1–2.—Pantex Tritium Reservoir Air Shipments, 1992–1994

YEAR	ROUTE	NUMBER OF FLIGHTS	TOTAL RESERVOIRS PER YEAR
1992	SRS to Pantex	5	52
	Pantex to SRS	12	1,215
1993	SRS to Pantex	6	82
	Pantex to SRS	27	1,055
1994	SRS to Pantex	6	37
	Pantex to SRS	22	2,254

Source: PC 1994b:1