

and measures about 33 centimeters (13 inches) in diameter and 61 centimeters (24 inches) in height.

When a shipment of RTGs is made from Pantex Plant to LANL, the Type 6M packages are loaded onto a pallet and transported by electric forklift to a loading dock within Zone 12 where the containers are loaded and secured within an SST. The SST is driven to LANL where it is brought into the TA-55 area. Further operations with RTGs at LANL will be discussed in the *Los Alamos Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement*.

#### **Low-Level and Low-Level Mixed Radioactive Wastes**

Pantex Plant currently ships low-level radioactive materials and wastes by commercial carriers to the Nevada Test Site (NTS) in southern Nevada for ultimate disposition. These transfers are made in Type A packages in full compliance with all applicable DOT regulations. In the years 1992–1994, no shipments of radioactive waste from Pantex Plant have produced measurable radiation levels outside the shipment trailer. Table 4.16.1.1–3 presents the low-level waste shipments for the years 1992–1994.

Pantex Plant currently ships low-level mixed waste by commercial carriers for ultimate disposal at the Envirocare Disposal Facility approximately 129 kilometers (80 miles) west of Salt Lake City, Utah. These shipments are made in full compliance with all applicable

DOT regulations. Table 4.16.1.1–3 presents the low-level mixed waste shipments for the years 1992–1994.

Transportation impacts associated with intersite transfers of radioactive wastes and alternatives to the current shipping practices are evaluated in the *Draft Waste Management Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement* (DOE 1995) and the Environmental Impact Statement for the Nevada Test Site and Offsite locations in the State of Nevada (DOE/RIS-0243).

#### **4.16.1.2 Offsite Radioactive Material Shipments**

Nuclear explosives and nuclear explosive components are shipped by SST to and from Pantex Plant. Transportation is conducted by the DOE TSD. Since its establishment in 1975, TSD has accumulated more than 119 million kilometers (74 million miles) of over-the-road experience in transporting DOE-owned cargo without any accidents that resulted in a release of radioactive material. The Pantex Plant *Safety Information Document* provides a listing of all accidents involving SSTs that involved fatalities or resulted in damage to the vehicle (Pantex 1996a). TSD has a liaison program through which it communicates with law enforcement and public safety agencies throughout the Nation, making them aware of TSD operations. The liaison program provides law enforcement officers information to assist them in recognizing TSD vehicles should they be involved in an accident, and deciding what

**TABLE 4.16.1.1–3.—Pantex Radioactive Waste Shipments**

YEAR	WASTE TYPE	NUMBER OF SHIPMENTS	VOLUME m <sup>3</sup> (ft <sup>3</sup> )	DESTINATION
1992	LLW	5	119.70 (4,227)	NTS
1993	LLW	11	261.43 (9,232)	NTS
1994	LLW	28	609.81 (21,535)	NTS
	LLMW	1	32.6 (1,150)	Envirocare

Source: PC 1995n