

4.3 PLANT FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

4.3.1 Affected Environment

This section addresses the current status of Pantex Plant facilities and supporting infrastructure. Included are discussions of the plant's buildings, operations, services, roads, railroads, and utilities. These discussions help the reader understand the current status of operations at the plant to allow for better comparison of the effects of implementing the Proposed Action or the Alternatives.

4.3.1.1 Facilities

Pantex Plant Facilities/Buildings

Major operations performed at Pantex Plant include: assembly and disassembly of nuclear weapons, repair and modification of weapons, production of high explosive(s) (HE) components, evaluation and testing of weapon components, research and development, staging (temporary storage) of nuclear weapons, packaging and shipping of weapons and components, and interim storage of pits. These operations are housed in 476 buildings, containing 230,674 square meters (2,483,020 square feet) of work space. The principal building classifications are administrative, storage, production, service, and research and development. An additional 144 structures, containing 39,928 square meters (429,780 square feet), support the principal operations (DOE 1994j:3-3). These structures include temporary buildings, leased trailers and buildings used for additional office space, and temporary storage containers. Zone 4 magazines (95 buildings) are used for staging of nuclear weapons, storage of explosives, and interim storage of pits (Pantex 1991:3).

Table 4.3.1.1–1 provides a summary of the buildings and their gross areas, by selected

construction periods. Approximately 48 percent of the buildings at Pantex Plant were constructed prior to 1966. These buildings are being considered for shutdown after consolidation of functions into newer buildings (DOE 1995j:3, 7). Table 4.3.1.1–2 provides the number of buildings occupied by principal missions at the plant.

**TABLE 4.3.1.1–1.—Buildings at Pantex
Plant, by Construction Period**

YEAR BUILT	NUMBER OF BUILDINGS	SQUARE METERS	SQUARE FOOTAGE
Pre-1945	126	60,568	651,956
1946–1955	43	13,930	149,948
1956–1965	61	16,283	175,274
1966–1975	60	30,881	332,412
1976–1985	56	36,098	388,571
1986–1990	66	40,519	436,155
1991–1994	50	30,382	327,036
Not Reported	14	2,013	21,668
Total	476	230,674	2,483,020

Source: DOE 1994j

Pantex Plant Operations/Services

The operating contractor for Pantex Plant is Mason & Hanger Corporation. Under the office of the General Manager, the plant is organized into 13 divisions including: Capital Projects; Information Management; Quality; Safeguards, Security, and Fire Protection; Human Resources; Administrative Services; Operations Support; Applied Technology; Facility Operations; Manufacturing; Engineering and Design; Environment Safety and Health; and Waste Management and Environmental Restoration (Pantex 1996:2.1). Extensive descriptions of key operations and services are provided in the *Pantex Plant Safety Information Document*. Additionally, appendix D of the *Pantex Plant Safety Information Document* provides brief descriptions of each current and planned facility and its operations and services (Pantex 1996a:App D; Pantex 1996b:App C).