

Consultation On Assessment and Collection of a Fee for Providing Long-term Management and Storage of Elemental Mercury

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Note to the Public

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AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. DOE Presentation
3. Public Comment Sign-Up
4. Public Comment
5. Wrap Up

Mercury Export Ban Act, as Amended (MEBA) Overview

Among other things, MEBA:

- Requires DOE to designate a facility (or facilities) for the purpose of long-term management and storage of elemental mercury generated within the United States
- Requires DOE to assess and collect a fee at the time of delivery for providing such management and storage based on the pro rata cost of long-term management and storage of elemental mercury delivered to the facility
- Prior to assessing and collecting a fee for long-term management and storage, DOE shall consult with persons likely to deliver elemental mercury to the facility and with other interested persons
- Requires the fee to be set in an amount sufficient to cover costs described in MEBA
- Fee will be established via rulemaking

Topics Relevant and Applicable to Establishing a Fee

- Potential Alternative Locations
 - DOE-owned Facilities
 - Other Federal Government Facilities
 - Commercial Facilities
- Costs for Long-Term Management and Storage
 - Long-term management and storage (information regarding current generator costs for management and storage)
 - Transportation (mode; rate (e.g., cost per metric ton per mile))
 - Treatment and Disposal (treatment method(s); waste form; disposal environment; projected pro rata costs (e.g., per metric ton))
- Inputs/Assumptions that Affect Cost
 - Quantity of Elemental Mercury (current storage inventories; projected annual additions to inventory)
 - Storage Duration (indefinite; finite (if so, projected duration; factors influencing storage duration – time required for technology development/permitting/construction; uncertainties))
 - Discount rate

Topics Relevant and Applicable to Establishing a Fee (continued)

- Cost Elements
 - Management and Storage
 - Operations and Maintenance
 - Other Costs
 - MEBA Recoverable/Non-recoverable Costs
- Fee Determination Method (“at time of delivery” – lump sum/discount rate/present value; alternatives to lump sum)

MEBA Fee Process

DOE proposes to implement a rulemaking to prepare and issue a fee for long-term management and storage of elemental mercury



Public Comment Sign-up

- We will create our sign-up list for persons that wish to provide oral comments as we step through each topical area.
- Speakers will be given the opportunity to comment in the following order: (1) Persons that registered to speak in advance of this consultation session, and (2) persons that did not register in advance of this consultation session but would like to make a comment.
- After our list is compiled, public commenting will begin on the topic. We will take other comments on each of the 5 topics.
- We are also reserving time for an opportunity to comments on additional topics or to provide brief comments on statements made.

Comment Period Ground Rules

- When commenting begin by stating your name and organization you are representing (if applicable).
- Please limit your comments on a topic (no more than 3 minutes) to ensure everyone can provide comments. Following comments on the topics presented participants may provide brief comments on other topics or statements made during the comment period as time permits.
- Please minimize distractions by muting your phones or microphone when not speaking.
- Treat all who provide comments with respect. Thank you for your cooperation.

Potential Alternative Locations

- DOE-owned Facilities
- Other Federal Government Facilities
- Commercial Facilities

Any comments regarding potential alternative locations?

Costs for Long-Term Management and Storage

- Long-term management and storage (information regarding current generator costs for management and storage)
- Transportation (mode; rate (e.g., cost per metric ton per mile))
- Treatment and Disposal (treatment method(s); waste form; disposal environment; projected pro rata costs (e.g., per metric ton))

Any additional information about the above topics?

Any other information that DOE should consider?

Inputs/Assumptions that Affect Cost

- Quantity of Elemental Mercury (current storage inventories; projected annual additions to inventory)
- Storage Duration (indefinite; finite (if so, projected duration; factors influencing storage duration – time required for technology development/permitting/construction; uncertainties))
- Discount rate

Any additional information regarding any of the above topics?

Cost Elements

- Management and Storage
- Operations and Maintenance
- Other Costs
- MEBA Recoverable/Non-recoverable Costs

Any additional information regarding the above topics?

Fee Determination Method (“at time of delivery” – lump sum/discount rate/present value; alternatives to lump sum)

Any comments regarding this topic?

Additional Topics Not Covered

We will use the remaining time for comments on additional topics or additional comments on what you have heard.

Wrap Up

- Written comments and information on matters pertaining to the assessment and collection of a fee for providing long-term management and storage of elemental mercury will be accepted on or before December 15, 2020.
- For more information on how to provide comments please review the DOE Notice of Consultation Opportunities published in the November 18, 2020 edition of the Federal Register (Vol. 85, No. 223, p.73471-73473).