

HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL IN SALT CAVERNS

BY

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INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that current production of classified hazardous waste exceeds 285 million tons annually in the United States. This ongoing production of waste plus an estimated 22,000-plus abandoned chemical waste sites in the U.S. has prompted Congress to enact and reauthorize comprehensive legislative programs to manage hazardous waste and to clean up and remove old abandoned sites. These programs will extend well into the 21st century.