United States v. Energy Solutions, Inc., et al.

Plaintiff's Opening Statement April 24, 2017



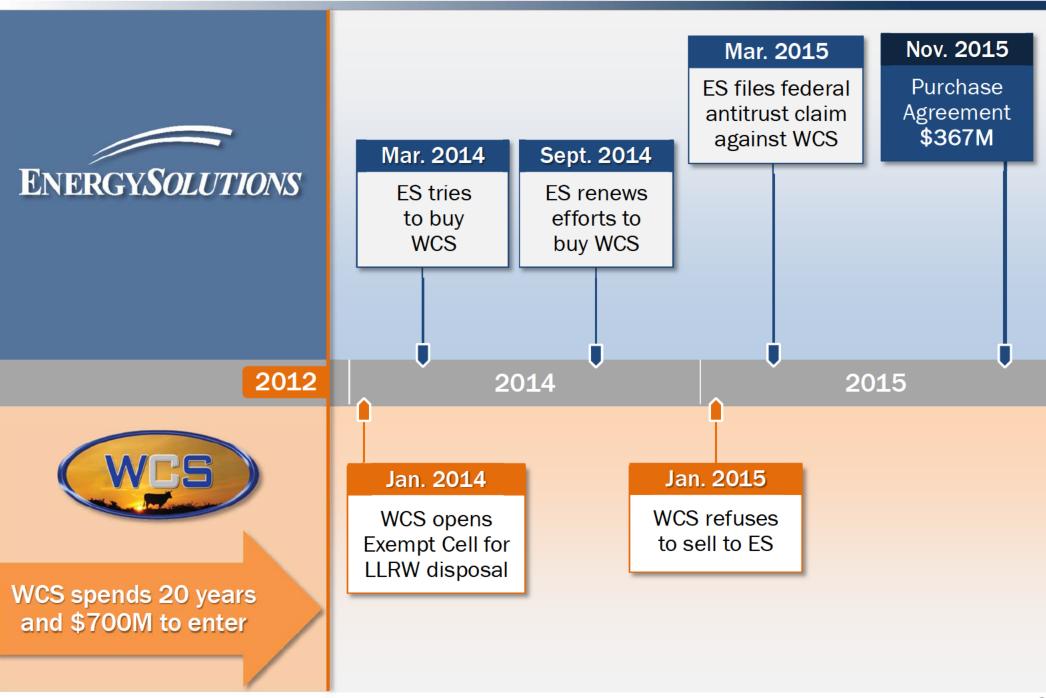
THE UNITED STATES

DEPARTMENT of JUSTICE

Defendants Compete for Waste Generated in the Relevant States



EnergySolutions Perceives WCS as a Threat



March 2014

Developments in Competition WCS Impact to Date





"Resin Class B/C market price erosion of \$25M/yr; price was initially over \$5,500/ft3

Previously believed WCS could not compete with disposal prices of Large Components, but they are charging less than their in compact rates for out of compact Large Components"

Source: PTX091 at ESI-0668257

March 2015

Review of 2015 Business Plan - Revenue



"ES is attacking on every front, Texas legislation, Commission, South Carolina, and market place. . . . It is believed that ES is rolling the prices back to 2008 levels."

August 29, 2014

From: jlwilliams@energysolutions.com

Sent: Friday, August 29, 2014 10:35 PM **To:** kwrobuck@energysolutions.com

Cc: aazadeh@energysolutions.com; brogers@energysolutions.com; wwhite@energysolutions.com

Subject: Strategy/Options



"The team met this week in SLC to review our strategy and options in competing with WCS. The purpose of the meeting was to spell out our options to level the playing field with WCS from the sales team perspective and the behind the scenes approach with the NRC, TCEQ, Texas regulators, etc."

Source: PTX006 at ESI-0668293

March 13, 2015

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WASTE CONTROL SPECIALISTS, LLC

Plaintiff,

v.

Civil Action No. 7:15-cv-00034

ENERGYSOLUTIONS, LLC,

Defendant.

)
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EnergySolutions' downblending "serves as WCS's only competition in the market for disposal of Class B and C waste."

Source: PTX344 at ESI-0486122

June 24, 2015

From: AAZADEH@energysolutions.com

Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2015 7:05 PM

To: jlwilliams@energysolutions.com; mrping@energysolutions.com

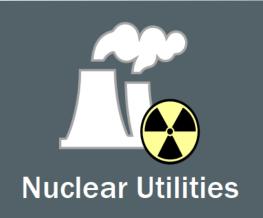
Subject: ERS UPDATE



"We needed to change pricing approach in order to compete with WCS continued price spiral downward."

Source: PTX019 at ESI-0303754

Customers See ES and WCS as Their Main Options















Different Actions Create Different Waste

Low-Level Radioactive Waste

Operational:

Generated by the day-to-day operations of a nuclear power plant









Decommissioning:

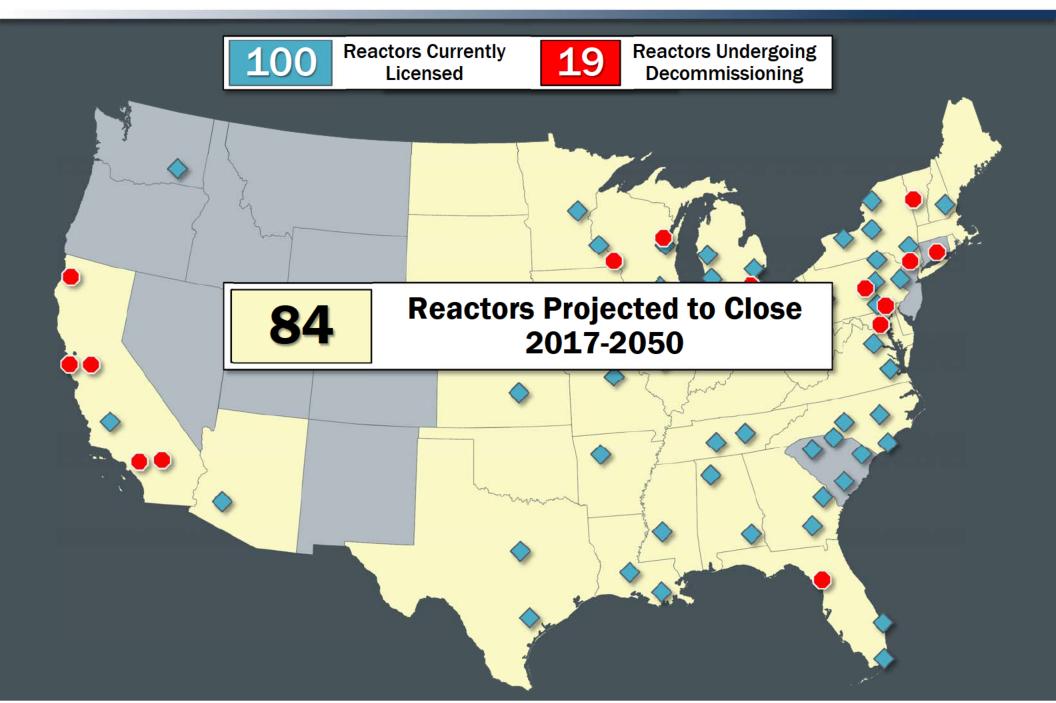
Generated when a nuclear reactor is shut down and the site returned to normal use



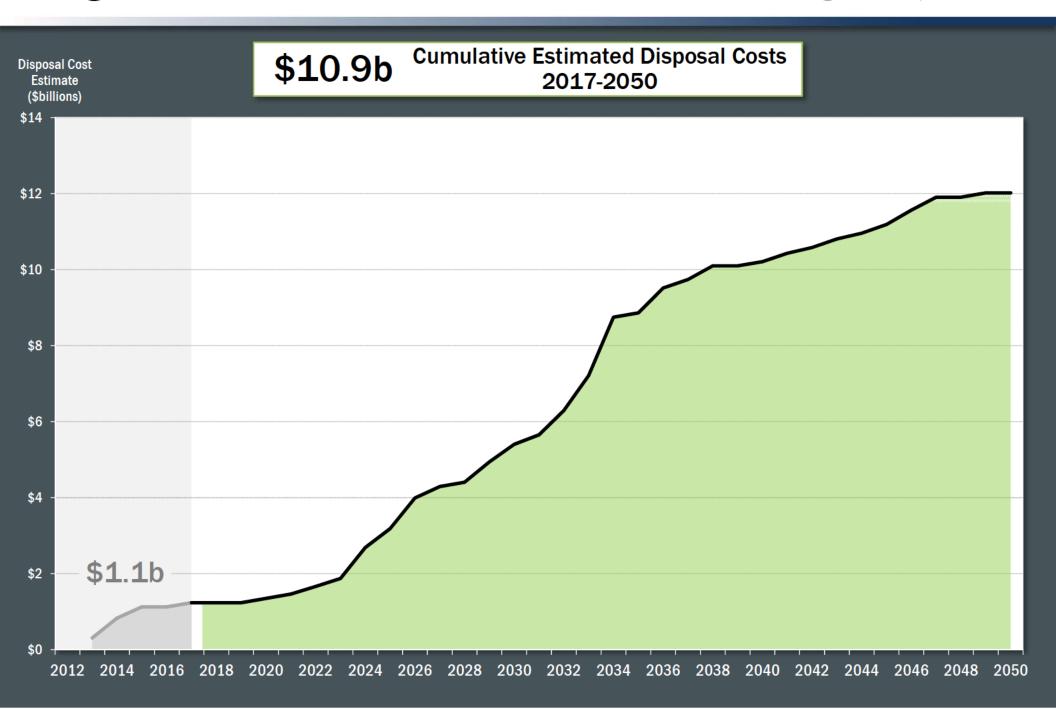




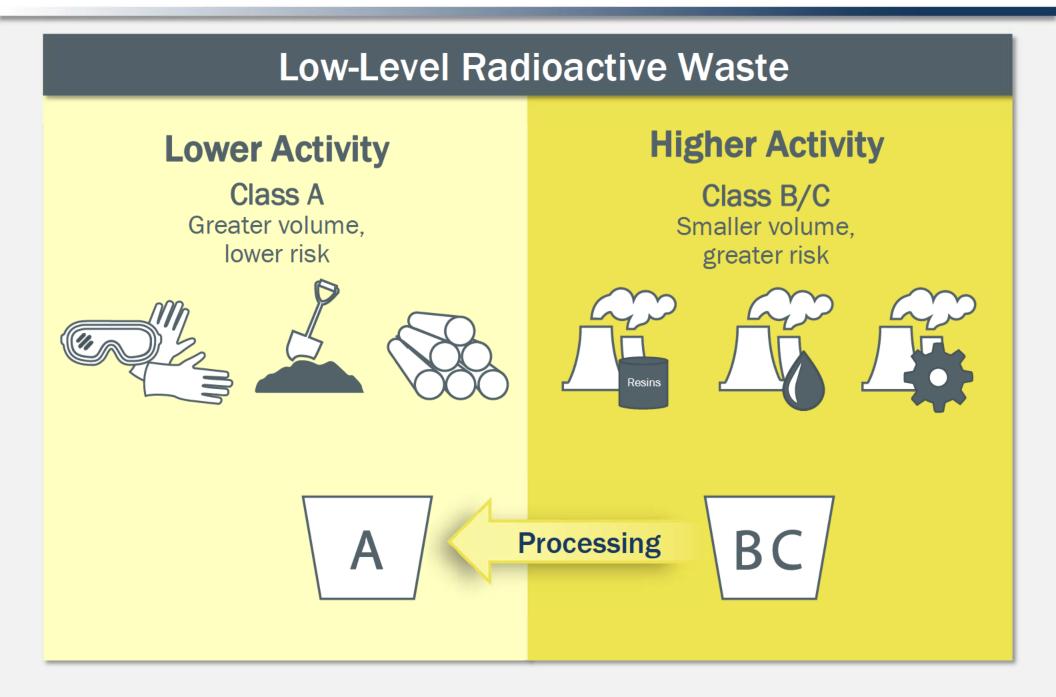
Significant Growth in Decommissioning Projects



Significant Growth in Decommissioning Projects



Waste Is Classified by Radioactivity Level



Four Relevant Product Markets

Low-Level Radioactive Waste

Lower Activity Operational

Dry active waste (protective gear and rags)

Some filters and resins



Lower Activity Decommissioning

Soil and construction debris



Higher Activity Operational

Nuclear power plant machine parts and equipment
Water purification filters and resins







Higher Activity Decommissioning

Nuclear power plant machine parts and equipment



Four Relevant Product Markets

Low-Level Radioactive Waste

Lower Activity Operational





Higher Activity Operational





Lower Activity Decommissioning





Higher Activity Decommissioning





Fringe Players

U.S. Ecology

- Hazardous waste landfill, not a licensed LLRW disposal facility
- Not a player in 3 out of 4 Relevant Markets
- Fringe player in Lower Activity Decommissioning market



Tennessee Bulk Survey for Release Program (BSFR)

- Participating solid waste landfills in Tennessee
- Not a player in 2 out of 4 Relevant Markets
- Not cost effective in Lower Activity Decommissioning market
- Fringe player in Lower Activity Operational market

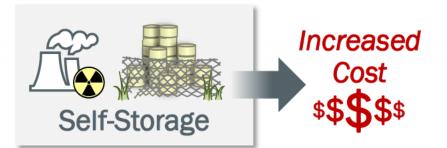


Customer Storage Is Not a Reasonable Alternative

Storage merely delays disposal . . .

Customers still must dispose later

Disposal costs likely to increase



Facilities are costly to build and maintain
Increases risks and liabilities
Regulations may change
Accidents and natural disasters
Worker exposure
Community opposition



... so customers effectively pay for disposal twice

New Entry Will Not Replace WCS

January 20, 2014

The New York Times

Texas Company, Alone in U.S., Cashes In on Nuclear Waste



"Standing at the lip of what might be America's most valuable hole in the ground, Rodney A. Baltzer cataloged the features that he said would isolate the radioactive waste to be buried here for thousands of years.

* * *

Mr. Baltzer said 10 attempts had been made, with a total expenditure of \$1 billion.

'There's an incredibly high barrier to entry,' he said."

Source: PTX613

Defendants Cannot Rebut the Government's Case

Defendants' efficiencies claims are unsupported . . .

NOT quantified

NOT verified

NOT merger-specific

NOT within the challenged markets

NOT likely to be passed on to consumers

NOT SUFFICIENT

... and contradicted by Defendants' own statements

Defendants Cannot Rebut the Government's Case

"Failing firm" is an affirmative defense . . .

"a 'lesser of two evils' approach"

United States v. General Dynamics Corp., 415 U.S. 486, 507 (1974)

"probably the weakest ground of all for justifying a merger"

Kaiser Alum. & Chem. Corp. v. FTC, 652 F.2d 1324, 1339 (7th Cir. 1981)

"the Hail-Mary pass of presumptively doomed mergers"

ProMedica Health System, Inc. v. FTC, 749 F.3d 559, 572 (6th Cir. 2014)

... and Defendants cannot meet their burden of proof

Defendants Cannot Rebut the Government's Case

WCS's "failing firm" defense is a litigation strategy . . .

NOT LIKELY TO EXIT ABSENT THE MERGER

NOT in imminent danger of failing

NOT unable to meet its financial obligations

NOT engaged in good-faith efforts to find an alternate buyer

NOT behaving like a failing firm in the ordinary course

... not a business reality

Preserve the Competition We Have

"If anticompetitive effects of a merger are probable in 'any' significant market, the merger is proscribed."

Brown Shoe Co. v. United States, 370 U.S. 294, 337 (1962)