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## PRESS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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### **Long-Awaited Texas Compact Disposal Facility Opens Today**

*State-of-the-Art Facility Changes Way Nation Manages Low-Level Radioactive Waste*

ANDREWS, Texas (November 10, 2011) – Waste Control Specialists (WCS) CEO William J. Lindquist said today's opening of the Texas Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Compact Facility begins a new era in the safe, permanent, cost-effective disposal of low-level radioactive waste in the United States.

“In terms of how this nation disposes of low-level radioactive waste, the opening of the Texas Compact Disposal Facility is a game changer. For the first time in decades, generators have the opportunity to send their waste to a site specifically designed to permanently sequester the waste in a facility that will protect human health and the environment,” Mr. Lindquist said.

The Texas Compact Disposal Facility is owned by the state of Texas, operated by Waste Control Specialists and hosted and supported by Andrews County, Texas.

“Waste Control Specialists is proud to be a partner in providing the Texas Solution to a challenge that has gone unresolved for too long. With the Compact Facility now open, waste can be removed from temporary storage at locations throughout the state, mostly in our major urban areas, and permanently disposed of in a specially designed facility. As the operator of the facility, we are ready to begin accepting waste on behalf of the Compact and the state of Texas and we look forward to the day in the very near future when that first shipment rolls through our gates,” Mr. Lindquist said.

In addition to the environmental benefits of the facility, the project is diversifying the Permian Basin economy. When the disposal facilities are accepting waste, they will create 200 good-paying jobs with full benefits and produce new, non-tax revenue for Andrews County and the state of Texas.

“As soon as disposal operations begin, Andrews County will receive 5 percent of the revenue and an additional \$32 million in direct payments are projected to be made to the state of Texas in the 2012-2013 biennium,” Mr. Lindquist said.

(more)

WCS is licensed by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to dispose of Class A, B and C low-level radioactive waste.

### About the WCS Facility

The WCS facility in western Andrews County is the only commercial facility in the United States licensed to dispose of Class A, B and C low-level radioactive waste. It is also licensed for the treatment and storage of low-level radioactive waste and has safely and successfully served as a temporary storage facility for past U.S. Department of Energy projects.

Situated in a semi-arid and isolated location, the WCS facility sits atop a formation of 500 feet of impermeable red-bed clay which makes it an ideal setting for the storage and disposal of low-level radioactive waste. The state of Texas has determined the WCS facility does not sit above or adjacent to any underground drinking water formations.

The WCS facility is the site of the disposal facility for the Texas Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Compact, and mostly recently was the site of the successful storage and disposal of byproduct material from the DOE Fernald, Ohio, cleanup site.

WCS has been processing and storing low-level radioactive waste at its facility since 1998.

WCS is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Valhi, which is engaged in the titanium dioxide products, component products (security products, furniture components and performance marine components) and waste management industries.

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