

## ELECTRON TUBES METHOD OF DISPOSAL

### 1. GENERAL

**1.01** This section covers the recommended procedure for the disposal of electron tubes in central offices.

**1.02** This section is reissued to add Paragraph 2.06.

**1.03** This section applies to all electron tubes for which there is no credit allowance and are being junked due to: (1) their being defective or not meeting requirements, and (2) their being considered surplus and a canvas indicates no further requirement for any such new or reusable tubes.

### 2. DISPOSAL

**2.01** Protective safety glasses and gloves should be worn whenever electron tubes are broken for disposal purposes. (See 2.03 for disposal of 416C electron tubes.)

**2.02** Break several of the base pins on the electron tubes being destroyed. Where this is not feasible, destroy the envelope of the tube by smashing it in a suitable closed waste container using a plunger.

**2.03** The 416C electron tube contains Beryllium Oxide ( $\text{BeO}$ ) which is potentially hazardous. Tubes to be disposed of shall be marked defective and returned to the Western Electric Company, Kansas City Works, Reclamation Department,\* for disposal. The defective tube should be packed carefully, preferably in the box in which replacement tubes are received, so there is no danger of breakage in transit. The package should be marked similar to the carton or box containing new tubes; ie,

\*Western Electric Co.  
Reclamation Dept.  
777 North Blue Parkway  
Lee's Summit, Missouri 64063

"Caution Beryllium Product" so that anyone handling it will immediately recognize the hazard.

**2.04** In the event of breakage of the 416C tube in the field, all visible pieces of the tube should be immediately collected and placed in an impervious container; for example, a plastic bag, and then sealed and disposed of through the channels described above. Loose pieces of  $\text{BeO}$  ceramic must not be allowed to remain on the floor where they may be ground into small particles underfoot. Puncture wounds caused by  $\text{BeO}$  ceramic should be attended promptly.

**2.05** Cathode-ray, cold cathode, mercury relays, and fluorescent tubes should be disposed of in accordance with the instructions listed as follows:

SECTION	TUBE
010-110-002	Cathode Ray
010-110-003	Fluorescent
024-700-801	Cold Cathode
024-709-801	Cold Cathode

**2.06** A suitable closed waste container, covered in Paragraph 2.02, can be obtained commercially. Orders should be worded:

(Quantity) Electron Tube Crusher #1

Order from: Wall Manufacturing Company  
Mountain Lake, Minn. 56159  
Telephone: 507-427-2505