

Remediation of the Moab Uranium Mill Tailings, Grand and San Juan Counties, Utah, Final Environmental Impact Statement

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- San Juan County
- City of Blanding
- Bureau of Land Management
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- State of Utah
- Ute Mountain Ute Tribe
- Grand County
- Community of Bluff

Title: Remediation of the Moab Uranium Mill Tailings, Grand and San Juan Counties, Utah, Final Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0355).

Contact:

For further information about this Environmental Impact Statement, contact:

Don Metzler
Moab Federal Project Director
U.S. Department of Energy
2597 B ¾ Road
Grand Junction, CO 81503
(800) 637-4575, or fax to (970) 248-7636

For general information on the Department of Energy's process for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act, contact:

Carol Borgstrom
Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance (EH-42)
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585
(202) 586-4600, or leave message at (800) 472-2756

Abstract:

The *Remediation of the Moab Uranium Mill Tailings, Grand and San Juan Counties, Utah, Final Environmental Impact Statement* provides information on the environmental impacts of the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) proposal to (1) remediate approximately 11.9 million tons of contaminated materials located on the Moab site and approximately 39,700 tons located on nearby vicinity properties and (2) develop and implement a ground water compliance strategy for the Moab site using the framework of the *Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action Ground Water Project* (DOE/EIS-0198, October 1996). The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) informs the public of the information used by DOE in decision-making for the remediation of the Moab site. The surface remediation alternatives analyzed in the EIS include on-site disposal of the contaminated materials and off-site disposal at one of three alternative locations in Utah using one or more transportation options: truck, rail, or slurry pipeline. This EIS evaluates the environmental consequences that may result from implementing the reasonable alternatives, including health impacts to the public, impacts to ground water and surface water, traffic impacts, and impacts to other resources. The EIS also analyzes a No Action alternative, under which DOE would not implement any surface or ground water remedial actions. DOE's preferred alternatives are off-site disposal of the mill tailings at Crescent Junction, Utah, using rail transportation, and implementation of active ground water remediation at the Moab site.

Public Comments:

In preparing this final EIS, DOE considered comments received from the public and from agencies during scoping meetings, during public hearings on the draft EIS, and during a 90-day public comment period on the draft EIS that began November 12, 2004, and ended February 18, 2005. Public hearings on the draft EIS were held at four locations in Utah in January 2005.

* Substantive changes made to the text of the EIS between draft and final have been marked with sidebars in the margins.

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Appendices

Appendix A Biological Assessment/Screening Level Risk Assessment/Biological Opinion

Appendix A1 Biological Assessment

Appendix A2 Screening of Contaminants to Aquatic and Terrestrial Resources

Appendix A3 Biological Opinion

Appendix B Assumed Disposal Cell Cover Conceptual Design and Construction

Appendix C Slurry Pipeline Route Maps

Appendix D Human Health

Appendix E Evaluation of Disposal of Moab Tailings in Salt Caverns Within the Paradox Formation

Appendix F Floodplain and Wetlands Assessment and Floodplain Statement of Findings for Remedial Action at the Moab Site

Appendix G White Mesa Mill Operations

Appendix H Transportation Impact Analysis