

Comm-007



**SALT LAKE
COUNTY**

PETER M. CORROON
Salt Lake County Mayor

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February 1, 2010

Mr. Dane Finerfrock
Utah Department of Environmental Quality
Division of Radiation Control
Room 212, Airport East Business Building (Bldg #2)
168 North 1950 West
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-4850

Dear Mr. Finerfrock:

Salt Lake County is pleased to submit comments in support of the Utah Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Radiation Control's proposed changes to rule R313-25-8.

I believe more research and data must be collected to determine the safest methods of the disposal of depleted uranium (DU) in Utah. This data must include possible consequences of disruptive future events such as earthquakes, flooding, and changes in climate. All potential public health consequences must be analyzed before current shipments of DU are buried and the state of Utah considers importing more DU. We are especially concerned that high-level radioactive waste will be transported through Salt Lake County.

Despite repeated public concerns to the Governor's office about this issue it is incredibly unfortunate that over 5,000 drums of DU have recently been shipped to Utah before necessary studies have been completed.

It is clear that DU presents possible hazards to the safety of Utahns today and into the future. We must create high standards for the disposal of DU and the proposed new rule is a step in that direction. Future generations should not be forced to accept the potentially harmful consequences of our lack of due diligence and research on this important issue.

Thank you for your consideration and for your efforts to ensure the safety our citizens deserve.

Sincerely,

Peter M. Corroon
Mayor, Salt Lake County