Utah Division of Radiation Control,

Utah is a wonderful place to live and we need to do everything to keep it as safe as possible, especially from nuclear waste being sent which is not within a few hundred miles or another country’s. There needs to be a limit on waste as to what Energy Solutions or any company wants to bring to Utah. Yes, Energy Solutions is in business to make money but allowing them to take waste from remote areas is greedy on their part. They only want to line their pockets with money at the expense of polluting Utah more. E. S. doesn’t care about the quality or safety of Utah’s land or its people. They care about their monetary gain.

E. S. and other nuclear companies need to establish storage sites (close in proximity) in their areas of the U. S. or in foreign countries (eg. Italy, UK, Germany, etc.) to take care of their nuclear waste. (eg. Sending waste from the government cleanup of the Savannah River atomic-bomb site in South Carolina to Utah is not a good idea.) Utah or any other state doesn’t need to take on the world’s problems by disposing their waste here.

Stop these ideas of bringing nuclear waste across the oceans or many hundreds or thousands of miles across the U.S. to any one place in the America . It is unsafe and not practical. (See enclosed article—“Company cited for duct-tape incident””) There are probably more of these kinds of things happening that is covered up. E.S.’s philosophy on this is who cares what we store in the ground here or if we pollute with our shipments on the way to Utah!!! Well, I care and a lot of other people care.

E.S. is unprofessional, deceitful (trying to circumvent the law by blending waste—blending should be reclassified to a hotter waste if there is one speck of Classes B and C waste in it) and they’re money mongers. That’s their one concern—$$$$$!

Please keep a rein on E.S. and other pollutant companies who want to take advantage of Utah. This is our state not the world’s nuclear dumping ground.

Oh, by the way Energy Solutions should be taxed more for Utah putting up with all this underhandedness that they continue to dish out.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Potter
10743 Bay Meadows Drive
Sandy, Utah 84092
Company cited for duct-tape incident

EnergySolutions » A March 31 safety lapse involved highly toxic waste and a leaky hose.

By JUDY FAHYS
The Salt Lake Tribune

State radiation regulators have cited EnergySolutions Inc. for its role in shipping a tanker that leaked radiation-tainted solvent from a duct-taped hose.

Dane Finerfrock, director of the Utah Division of Radiation Control, signed the “Notice of Violation” on Thursday. It proposes a $2,500 fine and “corrective action” to make sure what he called a “mid-level violation” does not happen again.

“Transportation regulations require the shipment to remain intact during shipping,” Finerfrock said Friday, “and it didn’t.” The case involved a leaky hose that forced the Carbon County hazardous materials team to respond March 31.

The tanker originally came to Utah from Tennessee with a sludge of “mixed waste,” which contains both hazardous and radioactive materials. The EnergySolutions process extracts most of the radioactive components and disposes the solids at the company’s Tooele County landfill.

About 3,000 gallons of the remaining flammable and highly toxic liquid was on its way back to an Energy Department mixed waste incinerator in Oak Ridge, Tenn., when the leak was discovered at the Price weigh station.

An incident report from the Carbon County Sheriff’s Department said a hazmat crew arrived just before 3 p.m. on March 31. The report says the truck’s manifest papers described the contents as low-level radioactive waste and hazardous chemicals that included phenol, PCBs and benzene.

The four-man team donned protective chemical suits as they scattered an absorbent material where they saw leaked solvent, took pictures and monitored the area for radiation. The company said radiation could not be detected, but the hazmat team treated the area as dangerous because the solvent was listed as “flammable, hazardous waste and toxic upon inhalation for up to 300 feet distance from the exposure site.”

Just after 9 p.m., the site was turned over to EnergySolutions for cleanup. While the tanker leaked less than a half-gallon, the county sheriff’s office billed the truck company’s insurer $15,400 for the hazmat response.

The Energy Department incinerator in Oak Ridge, Tenn., was to take its last shipment Friday, about a month after a tanker with a leaky hose was headed there from Utah. The facility is unique, a $26 million incinerator for “mixed waste” that contains radioactive and hazardous materials. It has burned 33 million pounds since 1991 and will incinerate the final 1.7 million pounds between now and September. The plant is set for demolition in 2014.

Tennessee Incinerator not taking any more ‘mixed waste’

The Energy Department incinerator in Oak Ridge, Tenn., was to take its last shipment Friday, about a month after a tanker with a leaky hose was headed there from Utah. The facility is unique, a $26 million incinerator for “mixed waste” that contains radioactive and hazardous materials. It has burned 33 million pounds since 1991 and will incinerate the final 1.7 million pounds between now and September. The plant is set for demolition in 2014.

the solvent to leak, he said in an e-mail: “DOE never received any indication that the hose was deficient. However, we expect contractors who package and/or transport waste for treatment to do so without incident.”

EnergySolutions spokesman Mark Walker explained the duct tape this way: “The tanker arrived at Clive with the duct tape on the tanker. We have no further information than that.”

According to Bechtel Jacobs spokesman Dennis Hill, the purpose of the hose was to measure the pressure in the tanker during loading:

He said there was no duct tape on the tanker when it left Oak Ridge:

“And EnergySolutions was responsible for loading the tanker and sending it back to us.”

“I’m not saying EnergySolutions did anything wrong,” Hill added. “We don’t know what happened. That’s being investigated.”

Finerfrock said leaky hoses should be replaced, not repaired with temporary fixes:

“Everybody in the transportation process,” he said, “has the responsibility to be sure the shipments are handled properly, managed properly.”

But the state won’t be citing the trucking company or the tanker owner. “We don’t have any authority over either of them,” Finerfrock said.

EnergySolutions has 9 days to respond to the violation notice.

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