

**Division of Water Quality  
Utah Department of Environmental Quality  
Public Notice of Intent to Issue Ground Water  
Discharge Permit No. UGW010015**

**Purpose of Public Notice**

The Utah Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is soliciting comments on the intent to issue a ground water discharge permit described below under authority of the Utah Water Quality Act, Section 19-5-108(1)(2) Utah Code Ann. 1953, as amended and Utah Administrative Code R317-6. Under Section 19-1-301.5, effective May 8, 2012, a person who wishes to challenge a Permit Order may only raise an issue or argument during an adjudicatory proceeding that was raised during the public comment period and was supported with sufficient information or documentation to enable the Director to fully consider the substance and significance of the issue. Utah Code Ann. 19-1-301.5 can be viewed at the following internet URL: [http://le.utah.gov/~code/TITLE19/htm/19\\_01\\_030105.htm](http://le.utah.gov/~code/TITLE19/htm/19_01_030105.htm).

**Permit Information**

Permittee Name:	Utah Alunite Corporation
Mailing Address:	170 South Main, Suite 500 Salt Lake City, UT 84101
Facility Location:	The mine and permitted facilities are located approximately 28 miles west-southwest of Milford, Utah.

Utah Alunite Corporation (UAC) proposes to develop an alunite mine and processing operation to produce potassium sulfate and sulfuric acid in Beaver County, Utah. Alunite ore from the mining operation will be processed in calcining and roasting units, which decompose the alunite into potassium sulfate, alumina and silica and release gases containing sulfur dioxide which are processed to produce sulfuric acid. The roasted ore will be leached with hot water and the resulting brine solution will go through a crystallization process where potassium sulfate will be precipitated and dried. Only hot water and flocculant will be used in the process. The tailings solids from the water leach will be re-pulped with water in a mix tank to allow them to be pumped in a slurry to a tailings disposal area. The tailings will be coarse-sand sized. Water drained from the tailings slurry will flow into the tailings disposal area and will then be collected in an impoundment located downstream from the tailings disposal area. Water from the impoundment will be conveyed to a settlement pond and recycled. Additional water from UAC's wells in the Wah Wah Valley will be added to the mix tank as necessary. Data submitted by UAC shows that water drained from the tailings is of similar quality to the receiving ground water. Protection of ground water will be insured under this permit by regular sampling and analysis of both the tailings water and ground water down-gradient from the tailings area and impoundments.

**Public Comments**

Public comments are invited any time prior to **Wednesday, July 16, 2014**. Written comments may be directed to the Division of Water Quality (DWQ), P.O. Box 144870, Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4870. All comments received prior to close of business to **Wednesday, July 16, 2014**, will be considered in the formulation of final conditions to be imposed on the permit.

**Additional Information**

Additional information may be obtained upon request by contacting Mark Novak at (801) 536-4358 or [mnovak@utah.gov](mailto:mnovak@utah.gov) or by writing to the aforementioned address. Related documents are available for review during normal business hours at DWQ, 195 North 1950 West in Salt Lake City or on the DWQ web page at <http://www.waterquality.utah.gov/PublicNotices/index.htm>.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with special needs (including auxiliary communicative aids and services) should contact Dana Powers, Office of Human Resources at (801) 536-4413, TDD (801) 536-4414.