

# DEPLETED URANIUM (DU) PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT (PA) REVIEW

## Performance Assessment

- A performance assessment (PA) is required in Utah for “any facility that proposes to land dispose of significant quantities of concentrated depleted uranium (more than one metric ton in total accumulation) after June 1, 2010.”<sup>1</sup>
- DRC requires that the “performance assessment” demonstrate “that the performance standards specified in” Federal and State rules “will be met for the total quantities of concentrated depleted uranium and other wastes, including wastes already disposed of and the quantities of concentrated depleted uranium the facility now proposes to dispose. . . . the compliance period shall be a minimum of 10,000 years. Additional simulations shall be performed for the period where peak dose occurs and the results shall be analyzed qualitatively.”<sup>1</sup>
- The PA evaluates (i) potential radioactive exposures to the general public or inadvertent intruders, and (ii) site stability. This is done through a site-specific model and an analysis that employs science and engineering approaches. The model and analysis are based on guidance from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).
- A 960-page PA was submitted by the Licensee, *EnergySolutions* (ES), for disposal of depleted uranium (DU) waste at the *EnergySolutions*’ Clive LLW Disposal Facility. It was developed with the assistance of the Licensee’s consultants.

## Completeness Review and Open House

- The DEQ/DRC completed a PA completeness review (CR) with the assistance of subject matter experts.
- An open house, informational meeting was held shortly afterwards.

## Interrogatories

- In responding to the CR, the Licensee supplied missing or incomplete information to the DEQ/DRC.
- The DEQ/DRC reviewed the revised PA for technical accuracy and regulatory compliance. Three rounds of interrogatories with concerns were exchanged.
- Based on a few unresolved issues, the Licensee submitted an extended deep time analysis, and a dunes study to answer questions about potential radon fluxes from recurring pluvial lakes, and to answer stability questions dealing with the evapotranspiration cover.

## DEQ/DRC Preliminary Decisions

- A Safety and Evaluation Report (SER) was issued, which is the basis of this information meeting. The DEQ/DRC posted the SER on the Internet and shared it with the public.

## Public Participation Process and Final DEQ/DRC Determination

- A 45-day public comment period will start once outstanding technical issues are resolved. During this public comment period, a public hearing will be held to solicit public input.
- The DEQ/DRC will review all public comments, seek to resolve issues, and create a public participation summary (PPS).
- The DRC Director will determine whether to deny, approve, or approve with license/permit conditions the ES proposal for DU disposal.

Footnote: <sup>1</sup>Utah Administrative Code R313-25-9-5(a)