

EnergySolutions, LLC

### ***The Department of Environmental Quality & its Regulatory Role***

The Utah Department of Environmental Quality (UDEQ) regulates radioactive and hazardous waste in the state of Utah. UDEQ has the authority to regulate radioactive materials generated and disposed within Utah under agreement with the [U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission](#) (NRC). It regulates hazardous waste treated, generated, and disposed in Utah as authorized by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The Division of Waste Management and Radiation Control (the Division) is tasked with administering these programs.

EnergySolutions, LLC (formerly Envirocare of Utah, Inc.) operates a commercial treatment, storage and disposal facility for radioactively contaminated waste in Tooele County, Utah.

EnergySolutions receives two distinct waste streams, one with only radioactive materials, and Mixed Waste with hazardous waste and radioactive contaminants. Due to the unique nature of these waste streams, each is regulated by the Division according to applicable rules.

#### **Mixed Waste**

A portion of the waste received at EnergySolutions, is comprised of both low-level radioactive and hazardous wastes. Mixed Waste disposal must meet the standards for both radioactive and hazardous wastes. Should the standards conflict between the two programs, the most restrictive requirement is applied.

The Mixed Waste portion of the EnergySolutions facility consists of a disposal cell, treatment, storage and operations buildings along with waste storage pads. Inspectors are in regular communication with EnergySolutions regarding permitting and compliance issues with the facility.

The Division inspects the facility during the year. During these inspections, the Division reviews waste acceptance; monitors groundwater; inspects the condition of storage containers, looks for leaks, proper container labeling, and proper aisle clearance in storage areas. The Division also inspects treatment processes, including stabilization and thermal treatment, as well as annual systems testing, facility processes, construction of new disposal cells and cell cover, and general compliance with the state-issued Part B permit.

#### **Radioactive Waste**

The majority of the waste received for disposed at EnergySolutions contains only low-level radioactive contaminants. Through the radioactive decay process and the passage of time, all radioactive elements change into stable (non-radioactive) elements.

The Division is focused on regulating EnergySolutions in order to protect the health and safety of the public, the occupational worker, and the environment. The Division issues the facility a Radioactive Material License, an 11e.(2) license, a Groundwater Discharge

Permit and a state-issued Part B permit. Between the Licenses and Permits, EnergySolutions is required to have an appropriate and proper training program, environmental monitoring program, an adequate radiation safety program, and waste acceptance criteria.

The Division conducts multiple radiological, engineering, and groundwater inspections on a yearly basis. In addition, incoming waste shipments are inspected on an almost daily basis.