No. 93-172 Tel. 301/504-2240 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Friday, November 19, 1993)

## NRC ISSUES LICENSE TO ENVIROCARE OF UTAH

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards issued a license on November 19, 1993 to Envirocare of Utah, Inc., authorizing the construction and operation of a facility near Clive, Utah, for the disposal of uranium and thorium mill tailings.

The NRC license allows the disposal of about 3.3 million cubic yards of uranium and thorium mill tailings. Envirocare will receive the high-volume low-activity material in bulk by rail and truck, place it in earthen disposal cells in lifts, and cover it with earth and rock. These operations will be conducted on a site where the company currently disposes of naturally occurring radioactive material, low-level radioactive waste and mixed waste under licenses from the State of Utah.

In addition, the facility is located adjacent to the closed Department of Energy disposal area containing about 2.5 million cubic yards of uranium mill tailings from the former Vitro South Salt Lake, Utah, facility that were cleaned up and moved to this site under the Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act of 1978.

The NRC staff reviewed all relevant health and safety aspects of the proposed uranium and thorium mill tailings disposal facility and concluded, as documented in a safety evaluation report and an environmental impact statement, that there is reasonable assurance that the Envirocare facility can be constructed and operated without endangering the health and safety of the public, without significant environmental impact and in compliance with the conditions of the license and the Commission's regulations.

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