

# Current Topics in Colorado

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NRC/NMA Uranium Recovery  
Workshop

Denver, CO

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June 27, 2006

# Colorado Program

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✦ Reorganized last year from a unit into the Radiation Management Program,

• Radioactive Materials Unit:

- Licensing
- Inspection
- Incident Response

• X-Ray and Machines Unit:

- Certification
- Uses Qualified Inspectors for most machines
- MQSA

✦ Program Manager is Joe Vranka,

✦ Just finished successful IMPEP review.

# Current Topics in Colorado

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- ✦ License Terminations
- ✦ Remediations
- ✦ UMETCO/Uravan
- ✦ Cotter/Canon City
- ✦ Clean Harbors Deer Trail
- ✦ TENORM

# License Terminations

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## ✦ Hecla-Durita:

- ✦ CRR turned in for review 2005,
- ✦ DOE submitted LTS Plan to NRC – 2005,
- ✦ NRC raised questions about gw monitoring (or lack thereof),
- ✦ Ongoing discussions and field visits.

# License Terminations (Cont.)

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## ✦ Maybell

- ✦ CRR turned in Spring 2006,
- ✦ Under review at NRC,
- ✦ Should be no issues.

# Remediations

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## ✦ HWY 141 at Uravan:

- ✦ CDOT owned property,
- ✦ Removed ~ 50,000 cy,
- ✦ Disposed at UMETCO.

# Remediations (cont.)

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## ✦ Gateway Vanadium Mill:

- ✦ Orphan site,
- ✦ AEA license never terminated,
- ✦ Residents exceeding public dose limit,
- ✦ NRC funding obtained,
- ✦ Materials also into Umetco,
- ✦ ~ 14,000 cy of material moved.



# Remediations (cont.)

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## CSMRI Creekside:

- Legacy site,
- Indigent licensee (but really CSM),
- Numerous contractors,
- CSM wants cost recovery, so is following OSWER,
- License and D&D plan in place,
- Classification and disposition of material at issue,
- Lack of trust,
- Legal actions,
- Governor's Office mediating some issues.

# Remediations (cont.)

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## ✧ CSMRI – Table Mountain:

- ✧ Outdoor areas complete,
- ✧ One building at issue,
- ✧ Under renewal.

## ✧ AMAX R&D

- ✧ Remediation complete 2005,
- ✧ License termination request pending.

# UMETCO/Uravan

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- ✦ Remediation complete this month,
- ✦ Final Surveys this summer,
- ✦ Cap placement next year,
- ✦ Closeout in 2008,
- ✦ Participatory process with DOE, NRC, Licensee and CDPHE,
  - ✦ VERY productive.



# Cotter/Canon City

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- ✦ License in timely renewal since 2000,
- ✦ Revised application 09/2003,
- ✦ License issued 12/2004,
- ✦ Over 50 conditions challenged,
- ✦ Negotiated most away,
- ✦ Went to hearing on 5 issues,
- ✦ Judge agreed with Department on major issues,
- ✦ One condition still challenged (Direct Disposal).

# Cotter/Canon City (cont.)

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- ✦ Incidents and violations led to Compliance Order,
- ✦ Cotter in standby as of March 2006,
- ✦ Order on Consent in place,
- ✦ No receipt or processing of materials while in standby,
- ✦ Bench scale testing allowed,
- ✦ Engineering evaluation in process,
- ✦ Improved gw monitoring for leak detection.

## Cotter/Canon City (cont).

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✦ Zirconium pilot plant may ramp up first,

✦ Sequoyah MAR:

- ✦ Issues surrounding characterization of material,
- ✦ Can't receive until readiness review complete,
- ✦ Not approved,

✦ Improved relationship.

# Clean Harbors Deer Trail Facility

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## ✦ Permit modification for NORM/TENORM,

- Appealed by County
- Portions of permit stayed during appeal

## ✦ License application for NORM/TENORM,

- Appealed by County
- Appeal dismissed in Denver District Court.

## ✦ Rocky Mountain Low-Level Waste Disposal Compact

- Compact designation received for radium processing wastes
- Compact claims jurisdiction over all NORM/TENORM materials

# Clean Harbors Deer Trail Facility

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✦ <http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/hm/hwy36.htm>

✦ Graded approach to application

- Full LLW process not done

✦ Ra-226 < 400 pCi/g

✦ U and Th up to 0.05%,

✦ 2 nCi/g total activity

✦ No LLW or byproduct material by definition.

# TENORM

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- ✦ Drinking water residuals main issue,
  - ✦ Some tailings sites,
  - ✦ Historic practice – case by case basis
  - ✦ New DW standards expands the universe of TENORM generators
  - ✦ Year-Long Stakeholder process to develop guidance and to institutionalize approach,
  - ✦ NRC rulemaking now underway for uranium.

<http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/wq/TENORM/TENORM.html>