

# Overview of NRCs Uranium Recovery Inspection Program

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# Outline

- **Organization**
- **Inspection planning**
- **Types of inspections**
- **Focus of inspections**



# REGION IV DNMS ORGANIZATION



# Inspection Planning Process

## Inspection frequency:

- Once per year at all operating facilities.
- Every two years at facilities in reclamation and standby, unless operating conditions or performance indicates otherwise.
- Every three years at inactive facilities.



# Focus of Inspections

Focus on risk significant activities such as:

- **Yellowcake Dryer Operations**
- **Decommissioning & Reclamation**
  - Facility demolition & dismantlement
  - Tailings & Pond Construction & Maintenance
- **Routine Operations**
- **11e.(2) Disposal**
- **Environmental & Effluent Monitoring**



# Types of Inspections

- Pre-operational - None planned in FY 2006 (unless COGEMA elects to restart)
- Operational (including facilities in standby and reclamation)
  - 6 inspections planned in FY 2006 (in order):
    - » PRI
    - » Rio Algom Mining/Quivira
    - » Homestake
    - » Crow Butte
    - » Pathfinder-SB
    - » COGEMA
- Final/Closeout, reclamation activities complete - None planned in FY 2006



# NRC Inspection Manual Chapters

- MC 2641, In-Situ Leach Facilities Inspection Program (PRI, Crow Butte, COGEMA?)
- MC 2801, Uranium Mill 11e.(2) Byproduct Material Disposal Site and Facility Inspection Program (Rio Algom, Homestake, Pathfinder-SB)
- MC 2602, Decommissioning Oversight and Inspection Program for Fuel Cycle Facilities and Materials Licensees (SFC)



# Inspection Process

- At beginning of FY, RIV develops a UR MIP
- For each inspection – prepare an inspection planner & inspection plan, notify PM & licensee
- Conduct inspection IAW Inspection Plan
- Conduct onsite, preliminary exit briefing
- Inspectors defend findings in weekly debriefing
- If there are any changes to findings, re-exit with licensee
- NRC issues inspection report, an agency decision
- Negative findings are handled IAW NRC's enforcement process





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# Overall

- We encourage communication between licensees and the region on inspection related technical and compliance issues. We've traditionally received good communications and cooperation from licensees.
- Problems identified have been few and effectively corrected.
- Inspections are typically announced however, unannounced inspections remain an option.

