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## **4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS**

This chapter evaluates the potential environmental impacts associated with the construction and operation of the proposed Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility (EREF). The chapter is divided into sections that assess the impact to each related resource described in Chapter 3, Description of the Affected Environment. These include land use (4.1), transportation (4.2), geology and soils (4.3), as well as water (4.4), ecological (4.5), air quality (4.6), noise (4.7), historic and cultural (4.8), and visual/scenic (4.9). Other topics included are socioeconomic (4.10), environmental justice (4.11), public and occupational health (4.12), and waste management (4.13).

## **4.1 LAND USE IMPACTS**

### **4.1.1 Construction Impacts**

The proposed Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility (EREF) will be built on land which is currently privately owned by a single landowner. Since the site is currently used for crops and grazing, potential land use impacts will be from site preparation and construction activities.

The proposed EREF site is approximately 1,700 ha (4,200 ac) in size. Construction activities, including permanent plant structures (including Rocky Mountain Power Facilities) will disturb about 203 ha (500 ac). The temporary construction area, including temporary construction facilities, parking areas, material storage, and excavated areas for underground utilities will disturb an additional 37 ha (92 ac). The total disturbed area will, therefore, be 240 ha (592 acres). The temporary construction area will be restored using native vegetation after completion of plant construction. The balance of the property, 1,460 ha (3,608 ac), will be left in a natural state with no designated use. The plot plan and site boundaries of the permanent facilities indicating the areas to be cleared for construction activities are shown in ER Figure 2.1-2, Site Area and Facility Layout Map, and Figure 2.1-3, Existing Conditions Site Aerial Photograph.

During the construction phase of the facility, conventional earth, and rock moving and earth grading equipment will be used. Blasting and mass rock excavation may be required. However, only about 14% of the total site area will be disturbed, affording wildlife of the site an opportunity to move to undisturbed on-site areas as well as additional areas of suitable habitat bordering the plant (see Section 4.5, Ecological Resources Impacts). The construction will also result in a small loss of seasonal cattle grazing lands. No mitigation is necessary to offset this impact.

According to the Kettle Butte, Idaho, U.S.G.S. Quadrangle Map, the proposed property terrain currently ranges in elevation from about 1,556 m (5,106 ft) near U.S. Highway Route 20 to about 1,600 m (5,250 ft) in a small area at the eastern edge of the property. The terrain in the area of the developed site facility footprint ranges in elevation from about 1,573 m (5,161 ft) above msl in the vicinity of the stormwater basins to 1,588 m (5,210 ft) above msl.

Approximately 164.9 ha (407.5 ac) will be graded to bring the developed portion of the property to a final grade between 1,576 m (5,170 ft) to 1,592 m (5,223 ft) above msl. The material excavated will be used for on-site fill. Site preparation will include the cutting and filling of approximately 778,700 m<sup>3</sup> (27,500,000 ft<sup>3</sup>) of soil with the deepest cut being approximately 6 m (20 ft) and the deepest fill being 6 m (20 ft). Blasting will be used as necessary to aid in the removal of fractured basalt (hardened lava) where depth to bedrock interferes with the installation of utilities and installation of substructures.

The anticipated effects on the soil during construction activities are limited to a potential short-term increase in soil erosion. However, this will be mitigated by proper construction best management practices (BMPs). These practices include minimizing the construction footprint to the extent possible, limiting site slopes to a horizontal to vertical ratio of four to one or less, the use of a sedimentation detention basin, protection of undisturbed areas with silt fencing and straw bales as appropriate, and site stabilization practices such as placing crushed stone on top of disturbed soil in areas of concentrated runoff. In addition, as indicated in Section 4.2.5, Mitigation Measures (Transportation Impacts), on-site construction roads will be periodically watered down (at least twice daily, when needed) to control fugitive dust emissions. After construction is complete, the site will be stabilized with natural, low maintenance landscaping and pavement.

Impacts to land and groundwater will be controlled during construction through compliance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Construction General Permit obtained from Region 10 of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). A Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) plan will also be implemented during construction to minimize environmental impacts from potential spills and to ensure prompt and appropriate remediation. Potential spills during construction are likely to occur around vehicle maintenance and fueling locations, storage tanks, and painting operations. The SPCC plan will identify sources, locations and quantities of potential spills and response measures. The plan will also identify individuals and their responsibilities for implementation of the plan and provide for prompt notifications to state and local authorities, as required.

Waste management BMPs will be used to minimize solid waste and hazardous waste. These practices include the placement of waste receptacles and trash dumpsters at convenient locations and the designation of vehicle and equipment maintenance areas for the collection of oil, grease and hydraulic fluids. Where practicable, materials suitable for recycling will be collected. If external washing of construction vehicles is necessary, no detergents will be used, and the runoff will be diverted to an on-site detention basin. Adequately maintained sanitary facilities will be provided for construction crews.

#### **4.1.2 Utilities Impacts**

The EREF will require the installation of water and electrical utility lines. Sanitary waste will be treated in a packaged domestic Sanitary Sewage Treatment Plant (SSTP). Solid wastes from the treatment system will be temporarily stored in a holding tank and disposed of at an off-site location. Residual treated sanitary effluent will be directed to the domestic SSTP Basin (see Section 3.4, Water Resources).

Water will be provided from on-site groundwater wells for the proposed facility. Since there are no bodies of water between the site and Idaho Falls, no waterways will be disturbed.

The proposed 161-kV transmission line route would extend west from the existing RMP Bonneville Substation, located in Bonneville County, Idaho, along the following route (refer to Appendix H, Figure H-1):

1. West along the county road (West 65 North Street) to the existing RMP Kettle Substation, a distance of approximately 14.5 km (9 mi); continuing west to the eastern portion of the EREF site, a distance of 1.2 km (0.75 mi); then north within the EREF site to its northern end, then west and south to the new RMP Twin Buttes Substation, for a distance of approximately 6.4 km (4 mi); a total distance of approximately 22.1 km (13.75 mi).

AES would construct, own, and operate a 161-kV substation immediately adjacent to the new RMP Twin Buttes Substation that would distribute power within the EREF.

The proposed route traverses private property. Easements from private landowners would be required for proposed routes on their lands. No federal or state lands are crossed by the proposed 161-kV transmission line.

A detailed discussion of the proposed 161-kV transmission line is provided in Appendix H, 161-kV Transmission Line Project.

Overall land use impacts to the site and vicinity will be changing the use from agriculture to industrial. The area is currently zoned G-1 (grazing), which permits manufacturing process facilities. A majority of the site (approximately 86%) will remain undeveloped, and the

placement of most utilities will be along highway easements. Therefore, the impacts to land use will be small.

Federal actions that could have cumulative effects on the area include a Component Test Facility (CTF) supporting the High Temperature Gas Reactor at Idaho National Laboratory. This facility will be > 32 km (20 mi) from the EREF. Although the impact on land use in the region will vary depending on the exact location of the CTF in the INL boundary, additional impacts from the construction of the CTF are expected to be small. AES is unaware of any additional Federal or non-federal actions that will have cumulative land use impacts.

#### **4.1.3 Comparative Land Use Impacts of No Action Alternative Scenarios**

Chapter 2 provides a discussion of possible alternatives to the construction and operation of the EREF, including an alternative of "no action," i.e., not building the EREF. The following information provides comparative conclusions specific to the concerns addressed in this subsection for each of the two "no action" alternative scenarios addressed in Section 2.4, Table 2.4-2, Comparison of Environmental Impacts for the Proposed Action and the No-Action Alternative Scenarios.

**Alternative Scenario C** - No EREF; LES and USEC deploy gas centrifuge plants (GCP), USEC phases out the Paducah gaseous diffusion plant (GDP) and GEH deploys their plant using Silex enrichment technology: The land use impacts will be the same since three enrichment plants are built.

**Alternative Scenario D** - No EREF; LES and USEC deploy gas centrifuge plants, USEC phases out the Paducah gaseous diffusion plant (GDP) and USEC increases its centrifuge plant capacity: The land use impacts will be the same or less since only two of three GCPs will be built, but expansion at the American Centrifuge Plant (ACP) will impact some additional land.



## **4.2      TRANSPORTATION IMPACTS**

The proposed Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility (EREF) site is located in Bonneville County, Idaho about 32 km (20 mi) west northwest of Idaho Falls and 0.8 km (0.5 mi) east of the Department of Energy Idaho National Laboratory (INL) boundary. The property is immediately north of U.S. Highway 20 and the proposed site for EREF buildings lies about 2.4 km (1.5 mi) north of U.S. Highway 20. Access roads, described below, will be built to provide direct access to the facility. To the east, U.S. Highway 20 intersects with Interstate 15 on the west side of Idaho Falls, Idaho. To the west of the proposed EREF, U.S. Highway 20 intersects with U.S. Highway 26 northwest of Atomic City. See Figure 2.1-1, 80-Kilometer (50-Mile) Radius with Cities and Roads, which depicts highways in the vicinity of the proposed EREF site. As discussed in Section 3.2, Transportation, there are several rail lines in the region. The nearest rail lines are located in Idaho Falls and include the Union Pacific Yellowstone Branch and Montana Main Branch, and the Eastern Idaho Rail Road line. These rail lines are about 32 km (20 mi) from the proposed EREF site. In addition, a Union Pacific Railroad line (Aberdeen Branch) runs parallel to U.S. Highway 26 about 40 km (25 mi) south of the proposed site. The Scoville Branch leads onto the Idaho National Laboratory ending at the Scoville Siding, which is about 40 to 45 km (25 to 28 mi) from the proposed site.

### **4.2.1      Impacts of Construction of the Highway Entrances and Access Roads**

U.S. Highway 20, where it passes the proposed site, is a two-lane highway with 12.5 m (41 ft) of pavement for driving lanes and shoulders, centered on a right-of-way easement of 122 m (400 ft). The posted speed limit is 105 kilometers per hour (65 mph). A packed-dirt road currently provides access to the proposed site from U.S. Highway 20. That road will provide temporary access to the site until two new access roadways off of U.S. Highway 20 are built to support construction and operation activities.

AREVA Enrichment Services (AES) is working with the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) to design and receive permit approval for access to U.S. Highway 20.

Construction of the highway entrances may result in slightly longer commute times for INL workers and others using the road during high volume hours. Lowered traffic speeds for through traffic may result when commuting construction workers are turning off and onto U.S. Highway 20. Transportation of equipment and material requiring large trucks will occur during times of low traffic volume and therefore will not disrupt traffic on U.S. Highway 20.

Additional impacts from construction of the highway entrances and access roads will include the generation of fugitive dust, vehicle emissions, changes in scenic value, and increased noise levels. In addition, construction of the access roads will impact wildlife and habitat. Construction of the highway entrances will have minimal impacts to wildlife and habitat because the areas for the highway entrances has been previously disturbed.

Air quality impacts from construction and site preparation (including construction of highway entrances and access roads) for the proposed EREF were evaluated using emission factors and air dispersion modeling. Emission rates for fugitive dust were calculated using emission factors provided in AP-42, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Compilation of Air Pollutant Emission Factors (EPA, 1995). A more detailed discussion of air emissions and dispersion modeling can be found in Section 4.6.1, Air Quality Impacts from Construction.

Emission rates for fugitive dust during construction, as listed in Table 4.6-1, Peak Emission Rates, were estimated for a 10-hour workday, 5 days/week, 52 weeks/year. Fugitive dust would originate predominantly from vehicle traffic on unpaved surfaces, earth moving and excavating

equipment, and to a lesser extent from wind erosion. Fugitive dust emissions were estimated using an AP-42 emission factor for construction site preparation that was adjusted to account for dust suppression measures and the fraction of total suspended particulate that is expected to be in the range of particulates less than or equal to 10 micrometers ( $PM_{10}$ ) in diameter and less than or equal to 2.5 micrometers ( $PM_{2.5}$ ) in diameter. Two air dispersion modeling efforts were conducted to assess the potential air impacts during construction. The first effort modeled potential impacts to the closest downwind property line. The second effort modeled potential impacts at U.S. Highway 20, which is the major roadway to the south of the proposed site. Potential impacts at U.S. Highway 20 were assessed because U.S. Highway 20 is the closest area where the general public would have reasonable access to the site location, and therefore, is where greatest potential for exposure to emissions during construction exists.

For the evaluation of potential impacts at the property line, the total work-day average emission for  $PM_{10}$  was 13.7 g/s (108.9 lb/hr) and the total work-day average emission for  $PM_{2.5}$  was 1.4 g/s (10.9 lb/hr). For the evaluation of potential receptors at U.S. Highway 20 locations, the total work-day average emission was 31.8 g/s (252.4 lb/hr) and the total work-day average emission for  $PM_{2.5}$  was 3.2 g/s (25.2 lb/hr).

Fugitive air emissions were modeled as a uniform area source with emissions occurring 10 hours per day, 5 days per week, and 52 weeks per year.  $PM_{10}$  emissions from fugitive dust were also below the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) (CFR, 2008nn). Fugitive dust emissions estimates were assumed to occur throughout the year and a 90% reduction in the fugitive dust emissions was assumed for dust suppressant activities.

As discussed in Section 4.9, Visual/Scenic Resources Impacts, impacts to visual and scenic resources from construction of the highway entrances and access roads will include the presence of construction equipment and dust. Construction equipment will be out of character with the current uses and features of the site, and the surrounding properties. Construction of the highway entrances and access roads near U.S. Highway 20 will be most visible to the public, including traffic along U.S. Highway 20 and visitors to the Hell's Half Acre Wilderness Study Area (WSA). Road and road access construction will be relatively short-term; construction equipment will not be tall, thereby minimizing the potential for the equipment to obstruct views, and dust suppression mitigations will be used to minimize visual impacts. Therefore, impacts to visual resources from construction of the highway entrances and access roads will be small.

Noise levels up to 60 dBA are considered "clearly acceptable" under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Land Use Compatibility Guideline for Residential and Livestock Farming Land Uses, "normally acceptable" between 60 and 65 dBA for Residential Land Uses, and "normally acceptable" between 60 and 75 dBA for Livestock Farming Land Uses. Noise levels under 55 dBA would not exceed the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) defined goal of 55 dBA for Day-Night Average Sound Level ( $L_{dn}$ ) for outdoor spaces (EPA, 1974). As detailed in Section 4.7, Noise Impacts, equipment used during construction of the highway entrances and access roads will generate noise levels that will range from 80 to 95 dBA at 15 m (50 ft). Maximum noise levels from construction of the proposed access roads will be about 89 dBA at the nearest site boundary, about 37 m (120 ft) west of the proposed access roads. These noise levels will only occur during construction of the access road.

Noise associated with construction of the access roads is estimated to be reduced to approximately 51 to 66 dBA at the Hell's Half Acre Wilderness Study Area (WSA) nearest trail point which is about 0.5 km (0.3 mi) from the nearest proposed highway entrance. Similarly, noise will be reduced to about 45 to 60 dBA at the WSA trailhead which is about 860 m (2,821 ft) from the proposed highway entrance and noise will be reduced to about 37 to 52 dBA

at the Wasden Complex archaeological sites which are about 2.3 km (1.4 mi) from the nearest portion of the proposed EREF footprint. Construction noise levels will diminish to about 46 to 61 dBA at the nearest site boundary to the proposed EREF footprint, about 762 m (2,500 ft). As a result, access road construction will be audible at the WSA and along U.S. Highway 20 during certain periods but only during construction activities associated with the highway entrances and a short portion of the access roads.

Noise from construction activities will be similar to traffic noise along U.S. Highway 20 during working hours. Noise levels recorded during peak commute times on U.S. Highway 20 were found to be 57 dBA at 15 m (50 ft) in June 2008. As a result, overall impacts from noise generated by construction of the highway entrances and access roads will be small and temporary.

The new access roads leading to the proposed EREF from U.S. Highway 20 will disturb some animal habitat, displace mobile animals (e.g., birds), and may result in mortality of less mobile animals such as mice. In addition, noise from construction of the highway entrances and access roads will also impact wildlife. As discussed in Section 4.5, Ecological Resources Impacts, noise during construction will result in reduced habitat use by wildlife. Construction of the access road would disturb seeded crested wheatgrass vegetation, which provides less quality habitat for wildlife compared to sagebrush steppe vegetation (see Section 3.5.2, General Ecological Conditions of the Site and Section 3.5.3, Description of Important Wildlife and Plant Species). Because of the lower quality habitat, the use of the crested wheatgrass area by large game animals (e.g., pronghorn) or greater sage grouse is expected to be minimal. Therefore, impacts to wildlife will be primarily on small mammals and common bird species and will be small.

There will be a small potential for fire from construction equipment during site clearing. This risk will be reduced once the site has been cleared. Best Management Practices will be implemented, including keeping equipment exhaust systems cleared of brush, and having on-site fire protection equipment, including water and fire extinguishers.

#### **4.2.2 Transportation Route**

The primary transportation route for conveying construction and operation materials, including UF<sub>6</sub>, to the proposed site will be by way of Interstate 15 to U.S. Highway 20. The intersection of Interstate 15 and U.S. Highway 20 is about 32 km (20 mi) east of the proposed site. The mode of transportation for conveying construction material will consist of over-the-road trucks, ranging from heavy-duty 18-wheeled trucks and dump trucks, to box- and flatbed-type light-duty delivery trucks. If a rail spur were to be extended to the site, some materials would be delivered by train; however, as stated above, no rail spur is contemplated at this time. Material delivery during operations will similarly include heavy-duty 18-wheeled trucks and dump trucks, and box- and flatbed-type light-duty delivery trucks.

#### **4.2.3 Traffic Patterns**

U.S. Highway 20 will provide direct access to the proposed site. U.S. Highway 20 serves as the main east-west thoroughfare for traffic to the INL, located west of the proposed site. Traffic volumes are high Monday through Friday during commuting times. Peak commute times range from about 5:00 a.m. through 7:30 a.m. and about 3:30 p.m. through 6:00 p.m. Traffic volumes are low during non-commute times and weekends. Ingress and egress onto U.S. Highway 20 during commuting times can be difficult. AES is working with the ITD to design and receive permit approval for access to U.S. Highway 20.

According to the ITD, no upgrades are planned to U.S. Highway 20 at this time (BMPO, 2005) (ITD, 2008a) (ITD, 2008b). However, three areas between Idaho Falls and the proposed EREF site were identified by ITD as candidates for passing lanes. One of those areas is about 1.6 km (1.0 mi) east of the proposed site. Current traffic volume for nearby impacted road systems is shown in Table 4.2–1, Current Traffic Volume for the Major Roads in the Vicinity of the Proposed EREF Site.

#### **4.2.4 Traffic Impacts**

Section 4.10.2.1 states that the long-term, operational workforce at the proposed EREF will be up to 550 people. Thus, the potential maximum increase in traffic on U.S. Highway 20 due to operational workers is 550 roundtrips per 24 hour day. This is an upper bound estimate since all workers do not work on any given day and there will be three work shifts each day. Three shifts per day, seven days per week totals 21 shift changes per week. Based on five shifts per employee per week, it will require approximately 4.2 employees to staff each position around the clock each week. Since the operational staff will be up to 550, this will result in an average of approximately 130 positions per shift. Allowing for some routine absences, i.e., sick and vacation time, and car pooling, the average vehicles per shift should be less than 130. The day shift (first shift) during the normal work week will generate more vehicles per shift change since some of these positions are not staffed around the clock, e.g., some administration positions. Second and third shifts as well as weekend shifts will have fewer vehicles per shift change than average since all staff positions will not routinely work during these off shifts. Most vehicles will likely travel to and from the site on U.S. Highway 20, through the city of Idaho Falls, Idaho. Therefore, there will be up to 390 operational employee round trips per day which results in up to 780 trips per day.

The maximum potential increase to traffic due to operational deliveries, uranium feed and product, depleted uranium and empty cylinder shipments to and from the facility, and waste removal would be approximately 8,914 roundtrips per year. This value is based on an estimated 5,025 UF<sub>6</sub> and low-level radioactive waste shipments per year, 3,700 non-radiological shipments per year and 189 hazardous, non-hazardous and non-radiological waste shipments per year. Assuming 250 work days per year for material shipments, this will result in about 71 vehicle trips per day on U.S. Highway 20. Table 4.2-2, Annual Shipments to/from the proposed EREF (by Truck) during Operation, presents the materials, container types, and estimated annual number of UF<sub>6</sub> shipments to/from the proposed EREF.

As discussed in Section 3.12, Waste Management, the annual volumes of hazardous wastes will be small. These wastes, which are principally from maintenance operations in the Technical Support Building, will be disposed at a facility that accepts hazardous wastes. Since the quantities of hazardous wastes will be small, wastes would be shipped approximately eight times per year. It is expected that each shipment will contain approximately 633 kg (1,395 lbs) of hazardous waste.

The hazardous wastes will be transported to a Resource Conservation Recovery Act (RCRA)-approved treatment, storage, and disposal facility (TSDF). For example, there is a local TSDF, operated by U.S. Ecology, located near Grandview, Idaho. The Grandview facility is a treatment and disposal facility with a permitted disposal area that can accommodate more than 4.5 million m<sup>3</sup> (5.9 million yd<sup>3</sup>) of waste. The Grandview facility has submitted a permit modification for an additional 0.57 million m<sup>3</sup> (0.75 million yd<sup>3</sup>) and will be submitting a permit for a new landfill cell with a capacity of about 6.9 million m<sup>3</sup> (9 million yd<sup>3</sup>). The annual number of deliveries to a hazardous waste receiver is expected to be approximately eight.

There are two regional TSDFs that dispose of low level waste (LLW), a U.S. Ecology facility near Richland, Washington and an Energy Solutions facility near Clive, Utah. The U.S. Ecology facility has been in operation since 1968 and is licensed through 2058. It has 40.5 ha (100.0 ac) of disposal area and only about 40% of this capacity has been used during its 40 years of operation. The Energy Solutions facility also accepts mixed low level waste (MLLW) for disposal. The Energy Solutions facility has about 25 years of total capacity (all bulk waste types) remaining under an existing receipt rate of about 5.4 million m<sup>3</sup>/yr (7 million yd<sup>3</sup>/yr). MLLW is about 10% of bulk waste accepted at the facility.

As reflected in Table 3.12-2, Estimated Annual Non-Radiological Wastes, non-radiological, non-hazardous wastes primarily consist of miscellaneous combustible wastes, miscellaneous scrap metals, spent vehicle motor oil, spent vehicle oil filters and building ventilation air filters. Non-radiological, non-hazardous wastes come from various operations throughout the facility, and will be disposed of at a standard waste disposal site (e.g., landfill). The estimated volume of building ventilation air filters for disposal will fill approximately 206 6 m<sup>3</sup> (8 yd<sup>3</sup>) dumpsters per year. It is expected that the waste disposal company will unload at least two of these dumpsters into the truck per trip. Therefore, approximately 103 truck shipments per year are expected for disposal of these filters.

Based on discussions with waste disposal companies and experience, it is expected that all other non-radiological, non-hazardous wastes will fill three 6 m<sup>3</sup> (8 yd<sup>3</sup>) dumpsters per week. It is expected that the waste disposal company will empty two of these dumpsters every week using one truck. Therefore, approximately 78 truck shipments per year are expected for disposal of all other non-radiological, non-hazardous wastes. Based on the above, it is expected that approximately 181 truck shipments will be required per year to remove all non-radiological, non-hazardous wastes from the EREF.

The non-radiological, non-hazardous wastes could be disposed of at a county landfill. The Peterson Hill Landfill in Idaho Falls, ID has a remaining capacity of more than 50-years, which is expected to be adequate for disposal of EREF wastes and other local area wastes. Other regional landfills (e.g., Aberdeen Landfill, Bingham County, Idaho) are also options for disposal of this type of waste material. As discussed in Section 3.12.2, Solid Waste Management industrial waste, including miscellaneous trash, vehicle air filters, empty cutting oil cans, miscellaneous scrap metal, and paper will be shipped off site for minimization and then sent to a licensed waste landfill. During operation, a non-hazardous materials waste recycling plan will be implemented. A waste assessment will be performed to identify which materials will be recycled. Brokers and haulers will be contacted to find an end-market for the materials. Employees will be trained to recycle the identified materials. Recycling bins and containers will be labeled and placed in appropriate locations in the facility. The annual number of deliveries to the non-radiological, non-hazardous waste receiver is expected to be no more than 181.

The combined daily trips (employees, deliveries, waste shipments) during operations will be about 851 vehicle trips per day (780 plus 71). This represents a 37% increase over current daily traffic volume of 2,282 vehicles per day on U.S. Highway 20. Refer to Table 4.2-1, current Traffic Volumes for the Major Roads in the Vicinity of the Proposed EREF Site. Car pooling would be encouraged to minimize the traffic due to employee travel. Shift change times and shipment times to and from the facility could be set so as to occur at times when the traffic volume on U.S. Highway 20 is typically at a minimum.

Referring to Table 4.10-2, Estimated Number of Construction Craft Workers by Annual Pay Ranges, the maximum number of construction workers is expected to be 590 during the peak of the eleven-year construction period. Thus, the maximum potential increase to traffic due to construction workers will be 1,180 trips per day. In addition, there will be an average of about

15 roundtrips per day (30 vehicle trips per day) on U.S. Highway 20 due to construction deliveries and waste removal during the first three years of construction (i.e., period of site preparation and major building construction) with reduced delivery and waste removal trips for the remaining construction period (refer to Table 4.2-3, Supply Materials Shipped to the Proposed EREF During Construction, and Table 4.2-4, Waste Materials Shipped from the Proposed EREF During Construction. This value does not include the number of truck deliveries for centrifuge and process equipment. Based on experience at European enrichment plants, there will be about two trucks per day delivering centrifuge and process equipment to the facility. These deliveries will occur during the four to five year period that the centrifuges are being assembled for installation in the facility.

Therefore, the combined daily trips (employee and delivery) during construction will be about 1,210 vehicle trips per day on U.S. Highway 20. This represents a 53% increase over current daily traffic volume of 2,282 vehicles per day on U.S. Highway 20. This is the maximum number of additional vehicle trips anticipated even when project construction and operations activities overlap. Car pooling will be encouraged to minimize the traffic due to employee travel. Shift change times and shipment times to and from the site could be set so as to occur at times when traffic volume on U.S. Highway 20 is typically at a minimum.

The impacts of traffic volume increases associated with construction of the EREF will be moderate to large, while the impacts of traffic volume increases associated with operation of the EREF will be small. The moderate to large impact of traffic volume increases associated with construction of the EREF will be mitigated by constructing the highway entrances early in the construction process and designing the highway entrances to minimize the disruption of traffic flow, particularly during the times of peak commute.

Impacts from on-site construction traffic, after the highway entrances and access roads are constructed, will include vehicle emissions, changes in scenic value, increased noise levels, potential vehicle-wildlife collisions, and disturbance of adjacent habitat by wildlife. Traffic volumes will be observable during shift changes and will reduce the scenic quality of the view of the site. Noise levels will be lower than noise levels on U.S. Highway 20 because traffic will be traveling much slower. Wildlife will likely avoid the access roads, particularly when shift changes occur, due to noise; however, some wildlife mortality of birds and small mammals will occur as animals become habituated to the activities on site. Reduced traffic speeds and lighting at night will reduce wildlife mortality.

Impacts of Decontamination and Decommissioning (D&D) will be similar to operations with an increase of approximately seven more daily deliveries of material and waste removal trips and an increase of 356 worker trips when operation and D&D activities are concurrent. The increase in traffic due to D&D represents a 16% increase over the current daily traffic volume of 2,282 vehicles on U.S. Highway 20. The maximum potential increase to traffic will be 53% when operation and D&D activities overlap, which is equivalent to that noted above for construction. Therefore, transportation impacts from D&D will be small.

#### **4.2.5 Mitigation Measures**

Mitigation measures will be used to reduce traffic volumes, and minimize fugitive dust production, noise, and wildlife mortality. These measures may include the following:

- Encouraging car pooling to minimize traffic due to employee travel.
- Staggering shift changes to reduce the peak traffic volume on U.S. Highway 20.

- Construction and use of acceleration and deceleration lanes to improve traffic flow and safety on U.S. Highway 20 at the proposed EREF highway entrances.
- Using water for dust suppression at least twice daily, when needed, on dirt roads, in clearing and grading operations, and construction activities. Other fugitive dust prevention and control methods will also be implemented.
- Using adequate containment methods during excavation and other similar operations including minimizing the construction footprint, limiting site slopes to a horizontal to vertical ratio of four to one or less, constructing a sedimentation detention basin, protecting undisturbed areas with silt fencing and straw bales, and placing crushed stone on top of disturbed soil in areas of concentrated runoff.
- Covering open-bodied trucks that transport materials likely to give rise to airborne dust.
- Promptly removing earthen materials on paved roads on the EREF site carried onto the roadway by wind, trucks, or earth moving equipment.
- Promptly stabilizing or covering bare areas once roadway and highway entrance earthmoving activities are completed.
- Maintaining low speed limits on site to reduce noise and minimize impacts to wildlife.

Mitigation measures will be used to minimize the release of dirt and other matter onto Highway 20 during construction. These measures will include the following:

- Gravel pads will be built at the EREF entry/exit points along U.S. Highway 20 in accordance with the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) Catalog of Stormwater Best Management Practices for Idaho Cities and Counties, Volume 2, Erosion and Sediment Controls (IDEQ, 2009). Periodic top dressing of clean stone will be applied to the gravel pads, as needed, to maintain effectiveness of the stone voids. Tire washing will be performed as needed, on a stabilized stone (gravel) area which drains to a sediment trap.
- Vehicles will be inspected for cleanliness from dirt and other matter that could be released onto Highway 20 prior to entering U.S. Highway 20.
- Open-bodied trucks will be covered (e.g., the installation of tarps over open beds) to prevent debris from falling off or blowing out of vehicles onto the highway.

#### **4.2.6 Agency Consultations**

U.S. Highway 20 has allowable unit weight capacities ranging from 13,608 kg (30,000 lb) for single axle up to 29,257 kg (64,500 lb) for three-axle vehicles (ITD, 2008d). Overweight capacity can be as high as 90,718 kg (200,000 lbs), depending on the vehicle configuration (ITD, 2008e). AES will obtain permits for oversized or overweight vehicle trips as needed (IDAPA, 2008l). Site access from U.S. Highway 20 will require a state highway access permit for highway modification (IDAPA, 2008k).

#### **4.2.7 Radioactive Material Transportation**

Radioactive material shipments will be transported in packages that meet the requirements of 10 CFR 71 (CFR, 2008e) and 49 CFR 171-178 (CFR, 2008j). The NRC has evaluated the environmental impacts resulting from the transport of nuclear materials in NUREG-0170, Final Environmental Statement on the Transportation of Radioactive Material by Air and Other Modes (NRC, 1977a), updated by NUREG/CR-4829, Shipping Container Response to Severe Highway

and Railway Accident Conditions (NRC, 1987). These references include accident scenarios related to the transportation of radioactive material. The NRC found that these accidents have no significant environmental impacts. The materials that will be transported to and from the EREF are within the scope of the environmental impacts previously evaluated by the NRC. Because these accident-related impacts have been addressed in a previous NRC environmental impact statement (NRC, 1977a), these impacts do not require further evaluation in this report.

The dose equivalent to the public and worker for incident-free transportation as well as the Maximally Exposed Individual (MEI) has been conservatively calculated to illustrate the relative impact resulting from transporting radioactive material. Uranium feed, product, tails and associated low-level waste (LLW) will be transported to and from the EREF. The following sections describe each of these conveyances, associated routes, and the dose contribution to the public and worker, as well as non-radiological environmental impacts associated with vehicle transportation.

#### **4.2.7.1 Radioactive Material Annual Quantities**

The annual radioactive material quantity of packages and associated shipments transported to and from the EREF are summarized on Table 4.2-5, Annual Radioactive Material Quantities and Shipments, and are discussed separately below.

##### **4.2.7.1.1 Uranium Feed**

The uranium feed for the facility is natural uranium in the form of uranium hexafluoride ( $UF_6$ ). The  $UF_6$  is transported to the facility in 48Y cylinders. These cylinders are designed, fabricated and shipped in accordance with American National Standard Institute (ANSI) N14.1, Uranium Hexafluoride - Packaging for Transport (ANSI, applicable version). Feed cylinders are transported to the site by 18-wheeled trucks, one per truck. Since the facility has an operational capacity of 1,424 feed cylinders per year (Type 48Y), up to 1,424 shipments of feed cylinders per year will arrive at the site.

##### **4.2.7.1.2 Uranium Product**

The enriched uranium from the facility is transported in 30B cylinders. These cylinders are designed, fabricated and shipped in accordance with ANSI N14.1, Uranium Hexafluoride - Packaging for Transport (ANSI, applicable version). Product cylinders are transported from the site to fuel fabrication facilities by modified flat bed truck. Typically, two product cylinders are shipped per truck. There will be approximately 1,032 product cylinders shipped per year, which would typically result in a shipment frequency of approximately two shipments per work day (516 shipments per year).

##### **4.2.7.1.3 Depleted Uranium Tails**

Depleted uranium tails will be shipped to conversion facilities via truck in 48Y cylinders similar to feed cylinders. These cylinders are designed, fabricated and shipped in accordance with ANSI N14.1, Uranium Hexafluoride - Packaging for Transport (ANSI, applicable version). Depleted uranium tails will be transported from the site by 18-wheeled trucks, one per truck. Since the facility has an operational capacity of approximately 1,222 tails cylinders containing depleted uranium per year (Type 48Y), approximately 1,222 shipments of depleted uranium tails per year



will leave the site. At present, depleted uranium tails will be temporarily stored on site until shipment to the conversion facilities.

#### **4.2.7.1.4 Radioactive Waste**

Waste materials are transported in packages by truck via highway in accordance with 10 CFR 71 (CFR, 2008b) and 49 CFR 171-178 (CFR, 2008j). Detailed descriptions of radioactive waste (radwaste) materials that will be shipped from the facility for disposal are presented in Section 3.12, Waste Management. Table 3.12-1, Estimated Annual Radiological and Mixed Wastes, presents a summary of these waste materials. Based on the expected generation rate of radwaste, an estimated 954, 55-gallon drums of solid waste are expected annually. Using a nominal 60 drums per radwaste truck shipment, approximately sixteen radwaste shipments per year are anticipated.

#### **4.2.7.1.5 Empty Cylinders**

The number of empty cylinders to be transported annually is as follows: empty feed cylinders (1,424), empty product cylinders (1,032), and empty depleted uranium tails cylinders (1,222). These cylinders are included because they contain decaying residual material (heel) and produce a higher dose equivalent than full 48Y cylinders due to the absence of self-shielding. The empty feed cylinders (with heel) are assumed to be shipped two per truck, totaling 712 shipments per year. The empty product cylinders (with heel) are assumed to be shipped two per truck, totaling 516 shipments per year. The empty depleted uranium tails cylinders (with heel) are assumed to be shipped two per truck, totaling 611 shipments per year.

### **4.2.7.2 Transportation Modes, Treatment and Packaging**

The radioactive materials transported to and from the facility will be transported by truck by way of highway travel only, since rail spurs and barge slips are not available at the proposed facility site.

There will be no treatment of hazardous materials or mixed waste at the EREF that will require a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) permit (CFR, 2008gg). Specific handling of radioactive and mixed wastes is discussed, in detail, in ER Section 3.12, Waste Management. Packaging of product material, radioactive waste and mixed waste will be in accordance with plant implementation procedures that follow 10 CFR 71 (CFR, 2008e) and 49 CFR 171-178 (CFR, 2008j). Product shipments will have additional packaging controls in accordance with ANSI N14.1, Uranium Hexafluoride - Packaging for Transport (ANSI, applicable version). Radwaste materials will have additional packaging controls in accordance with each respective disposal or processing site's acceptance criteria.

### **4.2.7.3 Transportation Routes and Distances**

The proposed site is located in eastern Idaho about 32 km (20 mi) west northwest of Idaho Falls, Idaho and immediately east of the Department of Energy (DOE) Idaho National Laboratory (INL) in Bonneville County, Idaho. The primary transportation route between the site and the conversion, fuel fabrication and disposal facilities is via U.S. Highway 20 to Interstate 15 on the west edge of Idaho Falls, about 32 km (20 mi) east of the site.

The feed and product materials of the facility will be transported by truck via highway travel only. Most of the feed material is expected to be obtained from UF<sub>6</sub> conversion facilities near Port Hope, Ontario and Metropolis, IL, although a small amount could come from other non-domestic

sources. Empty feed cylinders (with heel) are assumed to be returned from the EREF to the UF<sub>6</sub> conversion facilities near Port Hope, Ontario and Metropolis, IL, as well as to ports for overseas shipping near Portsmouth, VA, and Baltimore, MD. The product could be transported to fuel fabrication facilities near Richland, WA, Columbia, SC, and Wilmington, NC, and to the ports for overseas shipping near Portsmouth, VA, and Baltimore, MD. Empty product cylinders (with heel) are assumed to be returned to the EREF from the fuel fabrication facilities near Richland, WA, Columbia, SC, and Wilmington, NC. The designation of the supplier of UF<sub>6</sub> and the product receiver is the responsibility of the utility customer.

Waste generated from the enrichment process may be shipped to a number of disposal sites or processors depending on the physical and chemical form of the waste. Potential disposal sites or processors are located near Hanford, WA; Clive UT; Oak Ridge, TN; Paducah, KY; and Portsmouth, OH. Radioactive waste shipments could be transported to disposal sites or processors located near Hanford, WA, Clive UT, and Oak Ridge, TN. Depleted uranium tails cylinders could be transported to depleted UF<sub>6</sub> conversion facilities located near Paducah, KY, and Portsmouth, OH. To obtain cylinders for depleted uranium tails, empty depleted uranium tails cylinders are assumed to be transported to the EREF from UF<sub>6</sub> conversion facilities near Port Hope, Ontario and Metropolis, IL; from depleted UF<sub>6</sub> conversion facilities near Paducah, KY, and Portsmouth, OH; and from ports for overseas shipping near Portsmouth, VA, and Baltimore, MD. Refer to Section 3.12.2.1, Radioactive and Mixed Wastes, for disposition options of other wastes. Table 4.2-6, Potential Transportation Origins/Destinations and Distances, presents potential origins and destination sites for the transportation of radioactive material along with the approximate distances as generated from the TRAGIS computer code (Johnson, 2003).

#### **4.2.7.4 Incident-Free Dose Radiological Impact**

RADTRAN (Weiner, 2006) was used to calculate the incident-free dose based on TRAGIS location-specific results, applicable NRC RADTRAN model inputs used in NUREG-1790 (NRC, 2005b), and transportation impact assessments performed by DOE (DOE, 1999) (DOE, 2001b) (DOE, 2002c). The NRC and DOE RADTRAN model inputs are similar to the EREF model inputs designed for the uranium enrichment cycle radioactive material shipments. Differences in EREF model inputs are due to site location and throughput as presented in Table 4.2-5, Annual Radioactive Material Quantities and Shipments, Table 4.2-6, Potential Transportation Origins/Destinations and Distances, and Table 4.2-7, TRAGIS Output.

Table 4.2-8, Annual Incident-Free Dose from Radioactive Material Transportation, presents the incident-free dose for workers and the public affected by the transportation of radioactive materials to and from the EREF. A scenario based methodology was used to estimate the dose to the MEI based on conservative shipment parameters and exposure durations. The MEI results are given per individual in Section 4.2.7.4.2, Maximally Exposed Individual. Table 4.2-9, EREF Non-Radiological Environmental Impact from Vehicle Emissions, presents the non-radiological environmental impact of radioactive material transportation to and from the EREF.

##### **4.2.7.4.1 Worker and Public**

This section summarizes the incident-free transportation environmental impacts during the 30 year normal operations for the EREF. Transportation categories include the transport of full and empty feed cylinders, full and empty product cylinders, full and empty depleted uranium tails cylinders, and radwaste containers. Containers are loaded onto trailers for truck transportation to and from the EREF. The incident-free dose to the worker and public during the transportation

of radioactive material is calculated using the TRAGIS (Johnson, 2003) and RADTRAN (Weiner, 2006) computer codes.

The TRAGIS code was run for the origin/destination combinations presented on Table 4.2-6, Potential Transportation Origins/Destinations and Distances. TRAGIS inputs for Highway Route Controlled Quantity (HRCQ) route characteristics account for required state inspections. State inspections are not required for routine commercial transportation, therefore, the TRAGIS input for commercial route characteristics do not include state inspections. In all route cases the exclusive-use, radioactive material shipments will retain two-drivers, and prohibit use of links prohibiting truck use, ferry crossings, and roads with hazardous materials prohibitions.

The TRAGIS output for the various cases are presented in Table 4.2-7, TRAGIS Output. Figure 4.2-1 through Figure 4.2-6 show the potential transportation routes for each category of radioactive material. To assess the most conservative (maximum) impact, the facilities for each type of shipment were chosen for analysis based on the furthest distance and to a lesser degree, population density. From the results presented in Table 4.2-7, TRAGIS Output, results, it is clear that the following origin/destination routes will have the highest impact per shipment, and therefore will demonstrate the most conservative impact.

- Feed: Portsmouth, VA
- Product: Wilmington, NC
- Radwaste: Oak Ridge, TN
- Depleted Uranium Tails: Portsmouth, OH
- Empty Feed: Portsmouth, VA
- Empty Product: Wilmington, NC
- Empty Depleted Uranium Tails: Portsmouth, VA

The TRAGIS demographic results from Table 4.2-7, TRAGIS Output, are inputs to RADTRAN for each route. RADTRAN input parameters based on packaging and route characteristics are presented on Table 4.2-10, RADTRAN Input. References for each major input source are provided in Table 4.2-10, RADTRAN Input.

The dose rate input at a distance of 1.0 m (3.3 ft) from the container is based on varying references (NRC, 2005b; NRC, 2006; DOE, 1999; DOE, 2001b; DOE, 2002c) showing a range of dose rates gathered from calculated or historical measurements for each waste type. In all instances for any waste type, the maximum dose rate recorded is 0.01 mSv/hr (1.00 mrem/hr). Therefore, a conservative value of 0.01 mSv/hr (1.00 mrem/hr) was used for all of the full cylinder container/vehicle dose rate values for the RADTRAN cases for the EREF. Empty cylinder dose rates are higher because they contain decaying residual material (heel) and produce a higher dose equivalent than full cylinders due to the absence of self-shielding. Based on actual cylinder transportation experience, container/vehicle dose rate values for empty feed cylinders and empty depleted uranium tails cylinders are assumed to have an average dose rate of 0.03 mSv/hr (3.00 mrem/hr) at 1.0 m (3.3 ft), and container/vehicle dose rate values for empty product cylinders are assumed to have an average dose rate of 0.05 mSv/hr (5.00 mrem/hr) at 1.0 m (3.3 ft).

The number of annual shipments for each material is presented on Table 4.2-5, Annual Radioactive Material Quantities and Shipments. The number of containers per truck assumed is as described in Sections 4.2.7.1.1 through 4.2.7.1.5. Other RADTRAN inputs are as reflected in Table 4.2-10, RADTRAN Input.

RADTRAN results for incident-free transportation dose to the worker (crew) and public (off-link, on-link, rest and inspection stops) are summarized on Table 4.2-8, Annual Incident-Free Dose from Radioactive Material Transportation. The transportation dose is for dose incurred during exclusive use transport, and is exclusive of worker dose associated with EREF on-site shipment preparation activities. The dose is conservative based on the maximum impact, origin/destination scenarios for each radioactive material type, and the container dose rate. The dose is an annual dose averaged over the facility license life.

#### 4.2.7.4.2 Maximally Exposed Individual

A maximally exposed individual (MEI) is a person who may receive the highest radiation dose from a shipment to and/or from the EREF. The MEI impact is the potential dose for individuals exposed to any one shipment given the maximum exposure for all pathways. The shipment dose is independent of source, and is based on the postulated exposure scenarios. The incident-free MEI scenario assumptions are taken from the other uranium enrichment cycle environmental analyses such as the DOE Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for Depleted Uranium (FPEIS) (DOE, 1999) and the DOE/Argonne National Laboratory (ANL) Transportation Impact Assessment for Shipment of Uranium Hexafluoride (DOE, 2001b). The analysis is based on assumptions about exposure durations, dose rate, and the number of times an individual may be exposed to an offsite shipment. The assumptions for workers and the public are as follows (DOE, 1999):

##### Workers

Truck Crew Members: Truck crew members are assumed to be occupational radiation workers and will be monitored by a dosimetry program. Therefore, the maximum allowable dose will be limited by 10 CFR 20 (CFR, 2008x).

Non-radiation workers, or the general public will receive much less exposure, as demonstrated below.

##### Public

Inspectors: Inspectors are assumed to be either federal or state vehicle inspectors. Inspectors are not assumed to be monitored by a dosimetry program. An average exposure distance of 3.0 m (10 ft) and an exposure duration of 30 minutes are assumed.

Resident: A resident is assumed to live 30.0 m (98 ft) from a site entrance route. Shipments pass at an average speed of 24 km/hr (15 mph), and the resident is exposed unshielded. Cumulative doses are assessed for each site on the basis of the number of shipments entering or exiting the site, with the assumption that the resident is present for 100% of the shipments.

Person in Traffic Obstruction: A person is assumed to be stopped next to a shipment (e.g., because of traffic slowdown). The person is assumed to be exposed unshielded at a distance of 1.0 m (3.3 ft) for 30 minutes.

Person at Truck Service Station: A person is assumed to be exposed at an average distance of 20.0 m (66 ft) for a duration of two hours. This receptor could be a worker at a truck stop.

The conservative vehicle dose rate assumption of 0.05 mSv/hr (5.00 mrem/hr), i.e., the average dose for empty products cylinders, at 1.0 m (3.3 ft) was used for the MEI calculation.

##### Worker MEI Dose

Truck crew members are trained radiation workers, and will receive the highest radiation doses during incident-free transport because of their proximity to the loaded shipping container for an

extended period of time. Although unlikely, it is assumed that the maximum exposure for a crew member could occur. For any radioactive material type shipments, the crew member doses will be limited to 0.05 Sv (5.00 rem) per year, i.e., the limit for occupational exposures specified in 10 CFR 20 (CFR, 2008x). Therefore, a MEI worker could receive a potential maximum dose of 0.05 Sv/yr (5.00 rem/yr).

#### Public MEI Dose

From other enrichment cycle analyses (DOE, 1999; DOE, 2002c) that use the above assumptions, the MEI exposure scenario exhibiting the maximum dose to the public is the Person in Traffic Obstruction. For any given facility using these same assumptions, the Person in Traffic Obstruction scenario will always yield the most conservative or maximum exposure for all public exposure scenarios. This is because the only other input to the calculation is the shipment dose rate, which is a constant across all shipment scenarios. For the EREF, the empty product cylinder shipments will yield the most conservative exposure. An exposure to empty product cylinder shipments of 0.05 mSv/hr (5.00 mrem/hr) at 1.0 m (3.3 ft) exposes an individual stuck in traffic along side the vehicle for 30 minutes. This equates to a public MEI dose of 0.025 mSv (2.50 mrem) for one encounter. There are 5,017 total radiological shipments per year of which 516 shipments per year are of empty product cylinders. On average, this is about two empty product cylinder shipments per work day. In a scenario where a commuter will become stuck in traffic next to an empty product cylinder truck every work day of the year, 260-days (52 weeks/year x 5 days/week), the MEI of the public could receive a potential maximum dose of 260 times 0.025 mSv/yr (2.50 mrem/yr) or 6.50 mSv/yr (0.65 rem/yr).

### **4.2.7.5 Non-Radiological Environmental Impact**

#### **4.2.7.5.1 Vehicle Emissions Fatality Risk**

The non-radiological impact from incident-free transportation to/from the EREF is analyzed for fatality risk from vehicle emissions. The vehicle emissions are independent of source material and dependent on the class of vehicle. Consistent with other uranium enrichment cycle analyses such as those presented in NUREG-1790 (NRC, 2005b), DOE/ANL Transportation Impact Assessment for Shipment of Uranium Hexafluoride (DOE, 2001b) and the DOE Transportation Handbook (DOE, 2002c), the "Vehicle Emission Unit Risk Factors for Transportation Risk Assessments" risk analysis (Biwer, 1999) is used as a vehicle emission rate source for the EREF analysis. The conservative Class VIIIB vehicle emission rate of 8.36 E-10 fatalities/km (1.35 E-09 fatalities/mi) per 1 person/km<sup>2</sup> is used to calculate risk.

The risk for each link is the product of the annual round-trip distance, population density, and the vehicle emission rate:

Risk = link distance x 2 (round-trip) x annual shipments x population density x vehicle emission rate.

Table 4.2-9, EREF Non-Radiological Environmental Impact from Vehicle Emissions, summarizes the maximum route distances, population densities and subsequent emission risk by material type for workers and the public.

#### **4.2.7.5.2 Accident, Fatality, and Injury Risk**

The non-radiological impact from radioactive material transportation to/from the EREF is analyzed for vehicle accidents, accident fatalities, and accident injuries. The impact is in terms of annual risk based on the weighted incident rate (weighted by distance) and the maximum

distance traveled per year. The incident rates are based on the rate data per individual state from "State-Level Accident Rates of Surface Freight Transportation: A Reexamination," Table 4 (Saricks, 1999). The distance traveled through each state is from TRAGIS output. All road designations for incident rate data are for interstate travel only, since primary and secondary road distances are not significant contributors to the total route distance.

Table 4.2-11 through Table 4.2-14 presents the weighted incident rate calculation for accidents, fatalities, and injuries for shipment of feed/empty feed/empty depleted uranium tails cylinders, product/empty product cylinders, radwaste, and depleted uranium tails cylinders, respectively. The weighted incident rates are multiplied by the total round-trip distances traveled for each respective route to yield risk per round-trip (route distance x 2). The total annual risk is the sum of all shipment risks per year.

Table 4.2-15, EREF Non-Radiological Environmental Impact from Vehicle Incidents presents the risk per trip and subsequent annual total risk for transportation incidents given the maximum route distance for radioactive material transportation to/from the EREF.

#### **4.2.8 Cumulative Impacts**

Cumulative traffic impacts will include traffic volumes associated with the EREF in combination with existing traffic on U.S. Highway 20. There are currently about 2,282 daily vehicle trips on U.S. Highway 20, this includes traffic associated with INL and the city of Idaho Falls. AES does not know of any Federal, State or private development plans within 16 km (10 mi) of the EREF. The cumulative impact of existing traffic and EREF traffic will result in a range of total daily vehicle trips between 3,133 trips per day (current traffic levels plus EREF operations traffic) and 4,343 trips per day (current traffic levels plus EREF construction and EREF operations traffic). During the construction timeframe of the EREF, the cumulative transportation impacts will be moderate to large. During the operations timeframe of the EREF, the cumulative transportation impacts will be small. The transportation impacts due to construction will be temporary and will only last for two to three years. The mitigation measures for the traffic increase during the construction phase of the EREF are defined in Section 4.2.5, Mitigation Measures.

#### **4.2.9 Comparative Transportation Impacts of No Action Alternative Scenarios**

Chapter 2, Alternatives, provides a discussion of possible alternatives to the construction and operation of the EREF, including an alternative of "no action," i.e., not building the EREF. The following information provides comparative conclusions specific to the concerns addressed in this subsection for each of the two "no action" alternative scenarios addressed in Section 2.4, Table 2.4-2, Comparison of Environmental Impacts for the Proposed Action and the No-Action Alternative Scenarios.

**Alternative Scenario C** - No EREF; LES and USEC deploy gas centrifuge plants, USEC phases out the Paducah gaseous diffusion plant (GDP) and GEH deploys their plant using Silex enrichment technology: The transportation impacts will be the same since three enrichment plants are built.

**Alternative Scenario D** - No EREF; LES and USEC deploy gas centrifuge plants, USEC phases out the Paducah gaseous diffusion plant (GDP) and USEC increases its centrifuge plant capacity: The transportation impacts for a USEC centrifuge plant with increased capacity will be greater because it will concentrate the shipments at fewer locations.

## TABLES

**Table 4.2-1 Current Traffic Volume for the Major Roads in the Vicinity of the  
Proposed EREF Site  
(Page 1 of 1)**

<b>Road Name</b>	<b>Average Traffic Volume Vehicles Per Day</b>	<b>Average Traffic Volume Vehicles Per Year<sup>(c)</sup></b>
U.S. Highway 20	2,282 <sup>(a)</sup>	832,930
Interstate-15 south side of Idaho Falls	20,041 <sup>(a)</sup>	7,314,965
U.S. Highway 26	1,100 <sup>(b)</sup>	401,500
U.S. Highway 20 at the U.S. Highway 26 intersection	1,900 <sup>(b)</sup>	693,500
U.S. Highway 20 at the I-15 intersection	21,000 <sup>(b)</sup>	7,665,000

Notes:

(a) Source: (ITD, 2008c).

(b) Source: (ITD, 2007).

(c) Assumes 365 travel days in a year.



**Table 4.2-2 Annual Shipments To/From the Proposed EREF (by Truck) During Operation**  
**(Page 1 of 1)**

<b>Material</b>	<b>Container Type</b>	<b>Estimated Number of Shipments per Year <sup>(a)</sup></b>
Natural U Feed (UF <sub>6</sub> )	48Y	1,424
Enriched U Product (UF <sub>6</sub> )	30B	516
Depleted U (UF <sub>6</sub> )	48Y	1,222
Hazardous Waste	208 liter (55 gallon) drum	8
Non-radiological, Non-Hazardous Waste	6 m <sup>3</sup> (8 yd <sup>3</sup> ) waste receptacle	181
Solid Waste (low-level waste)	208 liter (55 gallon) drum	16
Empty Feed (UF <sub>6</sub> )	48Y	712
Empty Product	30B	516
Empty Depleted Uranium Tails	48Y	611

(a) 48Y cylinders are shipped one per truck when full and two per truck when empty. 30B cylinders are typically shipped two per truck, although up to five cylinders per truck can be shipped.

**Table 4.2-3 Supply Materials Shipped to the Proposed EREF During Construction**  
(Page 1 of 3)

Mode of Shipment	Year	Type of Supply Material	Origin of Shipment	Estimated Number of Shipments <sup>1</sup>
Truck	1	Concrete	Local	[ ]
Truck	1	Steel Panels	U.S.A.	[ ]
Truck	1	Structural and Miscellaneous Steel	Idaho	[ ]
Truck	1	Piping Spool Pieces	Idaho	[ ]
Truck	1	Overhead Cranes	U.S.A.	[ ]
Truck	1	HVAC Units	U.S.A.	[ ]
Truck	1	Ductwork	Local	[ ]
Truck	1	Electric Motors	Local	[ ]
Truck	1	Electrical Wire, Conduit, and Cable Tray	Local	[ ]
Truck	2	Concrete	Local	[ ]
Truck	2	Steel Panels	U.S.A.	[ ]
Truck	2	Structural and Miscellaneous Steel	Idaho	[ ]
Truck	2	Built-up Roofing	Local	[ ]
Truck	2	Piping Spool Pieces	Idaho	[ ]
Truck	2	Overhead Cranes	U.S.A.	[ ]
Truck	2	HVAC Units	U.S.A.	[ ]
Truck	2	Ductwork	Local	[ ]
Truck	2	Electric Motors	Local	[ ]
Truck	2	Electrical Wire, Conduit, and Cable Tray	Local	[ ]
Truck	3	Concrete	Local	[ ]
Truck	3	Steel Panels	U.S.A.	[ ]
Truck	3	Piping Spool Pieces	Idaho	[ ]
Truck	3	Electrical Wire, Conduit, and Cable Tray	Local	[ ]

Information in “[ ]” is Proprietary Commercial Information withheld in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390

**Table 4.2-3 Supply Materials Shipped to the Proposed EREF During Construction**  
(Page 2 of 3)

Mode of Shipment	Year	Type of Supply Material	Origin of Shipment	Estimated Number of Shipments <sup>1</sup>
Truck	4	Concrete	Local	[ ]
Truck	4	Steel Panels	U.S.A.	[ ]
Truck	4	Structural and Miscellaneous Steel	Idaho	[ ]
Truck	4	Piping Spool Pieces	Idaho	[ ]
Truck	4	Overhead Cranes	U.S.A.	[ ]
Truck	4	HVAC Units	U.S.A.	[ ]
Truck	4	Ductwork	Local	[ ]
Truck	4	Electric Motors	Local	[ ]
Truck	4	Electrical Wire, Conduit, and Cable Tray	Local	[ ]
Truck	5	Concrete	Local	[ ]
Truck	5	Steel Panels	U.S.A.	[ ]
Truck	5	Structural and Miscellaneous Steel	Local	[ ]
Truck	5	Built-up Roofing	Local	[ ]
Truck	5	Piping Spool Pieces	Idaho	[ ]
Truck	5	Overhead Cranes	U.S.A.	[ ]
Truck	5	HVAC Units	U.S.A.	[ ]
Truck	5	Ductwork	Local	[ ]
Truck	5	Electric Motors	Local	[ ]
Truck	5	Electrical Wire, Conduit, and Cable Tray	Local	[ ]
Truck	6	Concrete	Local	[ ]
Truck	6	Steel Panels	U.S.A.	[ ]
Truck	6	Structural and Miscellaneous Steel	Idaho	[ ]
Truck	6	Built-up Roofing	Local	[ ]
Truck	6	Piping Spool Pieces	Idaho	[ ]
Truck	6	Overhead Cranes	Local	[ ]
Truck	6	HVAC Units	U.S.A.	[ ]

Information in “[ ]” is Proprietary Commercial Information withheld in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390

**Table 4.2-3 Supply Materials Shipped to the Proposed EREF During Construction**  
(Page 3 of 3)

Mode of Shipment	Year	Type of Supply Material	Origin of Shipment	Estimated Number of Shipments <sup>1</sup>
Truck	6	Ductwork	Local	[ ]
Truck	6	Electric Motors	Local	[ ]
Truck	6	Electrical Wire, Conduit, and Cable Tray	Local	[ ]
Truck	7	Concrete	Local	[ ]
Truck	7	Steel Panels	U.S.A.	[ ]
Truck	7	Structural and Miscellaneous Steel	Idaho	[ ]
Truck	7	Built-up Roofing	Local	[ ]
Truck	7	Piping Spool Pieces	Idaho	[ ]
Truck	7	Overhead Cranes	U.S.A.	[ ]
Truck	7	HVAC Units	U.S.A.	[ ]
Truck	7	Ductwork	Local	[ ]
Truck	7	Electric Motors	Local	[ ]
Truck	7	Electrical Wire, Conduit, and Cable Tray	Local	[ ]
Truck		Centrifuges or Parts		[ ]

Information in “[ ]” is Proprietary Commercial Information withheld in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390

**NOTE:**

1. The total estimated number of shipments for Years 8 through 11 will be [ ].

**Table 4.2-4 Waste Materials Shipped from the Proposed EREF During the First Three Years of Construction**

(Page 1 of 1)

Mode of Shipment	Year	Type of Waste Material	Destination of Shipment	Estimated Number of Shipments <sup>1</sup>
Truck	1	Construction Debris	Landfill	[ ]
Truck	2	Construction Debris	Landfill	[ ]
Truck	3	Construction Debris	Landfill	[ ]
Truck	4	Construction Debris	Landfill	[ ]
Truck	5	Construction Debris	Landfill	[ ]
Truck	6	Construction Debris	Landfill	[ ]
Truck	7	Construction Debris	Landfill	[ ]

Information in “[ ]” is Proprietary Commercial Information withheld in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390

**NOTE:**

1. The total estimated number of shipments for Years 8 through 11 is [ ].

**Table 4.2-5 Annual Radioactive Material Quantities and Shipments**  
(Page 1 of 1)

<b>Material</b>	<b>Container Type</b>	<b>Container/year</b>	<b>Containers/Truck Shipment</b>	<b>Shipments/year</b>
Feed	48Y	1,424	1	1,424
Product	30B	1,032	2	516
Depleted Uranium Tails	48Y	1,222	1	1,222
Radwaste	55-gallon Drums	954	60	16
Empty Feed	48Y	1,424	2	712
Empty Product	30B	1,032	2	516
Empty Depleted Uranium Tails	48Y	1,222	2	611

**Table 4.2-6 Potential Transportation Origins/Destinations and Distances**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Facility	To or From EREF	Type Description	Route Characteristic	Distance km (mi)
UF <sub>6</sub> Conversion Facility * Port Hope, Ontario	to/from to	Feed/Empty Feed Empty Depleted Uranium Tails	Commercial	3546.7 (2204.1)
UF <sub>6</sub> Conversion Facility Metropolis, IL	to/from to	Feed/Empty Feed Empty Depleted Uranium Tails	Commercial	2579.7 (1603.0)
UF <sub>6</sub> Conversion Facility Overseas Port: Portsmouth, VA	to/from to	Feed/Empty Feed Empty Depleted Uranium Tails	Commercial	3789.1 (2354.5)
UF <sub>6</sub> Conversion Facility Overseas Port: Baltimore, MD	to/from to	Feed/Empty Feed Empty Depleted Uranium Tails	Commercial	3557.0 (2210.3)
Fuel Fabrication Facility Richland, WA	from/to	Product/Empty Product	HRCQ	948.4 (589.3)
Fuel Fabrication Facility Columbia, SC	from/to	Product/Empty Product	HRCQ	3743.5 (2326.2)
Fuel Fabrication Facility Wilmington, NC	from/to	Product/Empty Product	HRCQ	4109.3 (2553.5)
Fuel Fabrication Facility Overseas Port: Portsmouth, VA	from	Product	HRCQ	4021.9 (2499.1)
Fuel Fabrication Facility Overseas Port: Baltimore, MD	from	Product	HRCQ	3760.5 (2336.8)
U.S. Ecology Hanford, WA	from	Radwaste Disposal	Commercial	870.5 (540.9)
Energy Solutions Clive, UT	from	Radwaste Disposal	Commercial	474.5 (294.8)
Energy Solutions Oak Ridge, TN	from	Radwaste Disposal	Commercial	3068.3 (1906.6)
Depleted UF <sub>6</sub> Conversion Facility Paducah, KY	from/to	Depleted UF <sub>6</sub> Disposal/Empty Depleted Uranium Tails	Commercial	2610.3 (1622.0)
Depleted UF <sub>6</sub> Conversion Facility Portsmouth, OH	from/to	Depleted UF <sub>6</sub> Disposal/Empty Depleted Uranium Tails	Commercial	3002.0 (1865.4)

Note: HRCQ = Highway Route Controlled Quantity for fissile material.

\* Added 241-km (150-mi) and one stop to TRAGIS output.

**Table 4.2-7 TRAGIS Output**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Facility	Rest or Inspect/Rest Stops	Link	Distance		Population Density	
			km	(mi)	people/km <sup>2</sup>	(people/mi <sup>2</sup> )
UF <sub>6</sub> Conversion Facility * Port Hope, Ontario	9	Rural	2820.3	(1752.8)	11.3	(29.2)
		Suburban	648.2	(402.8)	295.4	(765.2)
		Urban	78.3	(48.7)	2493.1	(6457.1)
UF <sub>6</sub> Conversion Facility Metropolis, IL	6	Rural	2157.2	(1340.4)	9.2	(23.8)
		Suburban	368.6	(229.0)	340.3	(881.3)
		Urban	54.0	(33.5)	2268.9	(5876.4)
UF <sub>6</sub> Conversion Facility Overseas Port: Portsmouth, VA (Commercial)	9	Rural	2915.4	(1811.6)	11.4	(29.5)
		Suburban	768.9	(477.8)	338.1	(875.6)
		Urban	105.2	(65.4)	2297.9	(5951.6)
UF <sub>6</sub> Conversion Facility Overseas Port: Baltimore, MD (Commercial)	9	Rural	2705.6	(1681.2)	11.8	(30.5)
		Suburban	772.3	(479.9)	308.3	(798.6)
		Urban	79	(49.1)	2353.6	(6095.9)
Fuel Fabrication Facility Richland, WA	2/2	Rural	797.4	(495.5)	9.7	(25.0)
		Suburban	138.0	(85.8)	295.9	(766.3)
		Urban	13.0	(8.1)	2182.9	(5653.7)
Fuel Fabrication Facility Columbia, SC	10/10	Rural	2836.2	(1762.4)	11.1	(28.8)
		Suburban	832.8	(517.5)	312.5	(809.4)
		Urban	74.2	(46.1)	2179.5	(5644.9)
Fuel Fabrication Facility Wilmington, NC	9/11	Rural	3006.8	(1868.4)	11.6	(30.2)
		Suburban	1013.9	(630.0)	330.5	(856.1)
		Urban	88.4	(54.9)	2150.1	(5568.8)
Fuel Fabrication Facility Overseas Port: Portsmouth, VA (HRCQ)	9/10	Suburban	3034.3	(1885.5)	12.6	(32.7)
		Urban	908.9	(564.8)	310.1	(803.2)
		Rural	78.9	(49.0)	2245.4	(5815.6)
Fuel Fabrication Facility Overseas Port: Baltimore, MD (HRCQ)	10/10	Suburban	2820	(1752.3)	12.4	(32.1)
		Urban	850.9	(528.7)	307.1	(795.5)
		Rural	89.7	(55.8)	2293.3	(5939.6)
U.S. Ecology Hanford, WA	2	Rural	751.2	(466.8)	7.3	(19.0)
		Suburban	103.1	(64.1)	347.0	(898.8)
		Urban	16.3	(10.1)	2188.0	(5666.8)
Energy Solutions Clive, UT	1	Rural	359.5	(223.4)	10.1	(26.1)
		Suburban	95.5	(59.4)	350.1	(906.7)
		Urban	19.3	(12.0)	2377.7	(6158.3)
Energy Solutions Oak Ridge, TN	7	Rural	2481.4	(1541.9)	10.4	(27.0)
		Suburban	523.7	(325.4)	320.3	(829.5)
		Urban	63.3	(39.3)	2281.5	(5909.1)
Depleted UF <sub>6</sub> Conversion Facility Paducah, KY	6	Rural	2179.9	(1354.6)	9.3	(24.0)
		Suburban	376.6	(234.0)	339.3	(878.8)
		Urban	54.0	(33.5)	2268.9	(5876.4)
Depleted UF <sub>6</sub> Conversion Facility Portsmouth, OH	7	Rural	2452.9	(1524.2)	10.7	(27.8)
		Suburban	493.9	(306.9)	317.2	(821.6)
		Urban	55.4	(34.4)	2294.4	(5942.4)

\*Added 241-km (150-mi) and one stop to TRAGIS output to account for that portion of the route located in Canada.  
TRAGIS only accounts for U.S. routes. (NRC, 2005b; NRC, 2006)



**Table 4.2-8 Annual Incident-Free Dose from Radioactive Material Transportation**  
**(Page 1 of 1)**

Origin/Destination	Radioactive Material	Incident-Free Dose, person-Sv/yr (person-rem/yr)			
		Worker Crew	Off-Link	Public On-Link	Stops
Portsmouth, VA	Feed	1.68E-01 (1.68E+01)	1.54E-02 (1.54E+00)	3.14E-01 (3.14E+01)	3.37E-02 (3.37E+00)
Wilmington, NC	Product	4.98E-02 (4.98E+00)	7.71E-03 (7.71E-01)	1.35E-01 (1.35E+01)	5.17E-02 (5.17E+00)
Portsmouth, OH	Depleted Uranium Tails	1.08E-01 (1.08E+01)	8.07E-03 (8.07E-01)	1.69E-01 (1.69E+01)	2.25E-02 (2.25E+00)
Oak Ridge, TN	Radwaste	2.98E-03 (2.98E-01)	2.54E-04 (2.54E-02)	5.37E-03 (5.37E-01)	6.63E-04 (6.63E-02)
Portsmouth, VA	Empty Feed	2.52E-01 (2.52E+01)	4.32E-02 (4.32E+00)	8.81E-01 (8.81E+01)	9.46E-02 (9.46E+00)
Wilmington, NC	Empty Product	2.49E-01 (2.49E+01)	3.85E-02 (3.85E+00)	6.74E-01 (6.74E+01)	2.58E-01 (2.58E+01)
Portsmouth, VA	Empty Depleted Uranium Tails	2.16E-01 (2.16E+01)	3.71E-02 (3.71E+00)	7.56E-01 (7.56E+01)	8.12E-02 (8.12E+00)

**Table 4.2-9 EREF Non-Radiological Environmental Impact from Vehicle Emissions**  
(Page 1 of 1)

		Distance <sup>(b)</sup>		Annual <sup>(c)</sup>	Population Density		Annual Risk <sup>(a)</sup> , fatalities	
Facility	Link	km	Shipments	Worker <sup>(d)</sup> crew/km <sup>2</sup>	Public <sup>(b)</sup> person/km <sup>2</sup>	Worker	Public	
Feed	Rural	2915.4	1,424	2	11.4	1.39E-02	7.92E-02	
	Suburban	768.9			338.1	3.66E-03	6.18E-01	
	Urban	105.2			2297.9	5.00E-04	5.76E-01	
	Totals:				1.80E-02	1.27E+00		
Product	Rural	3006.8	516	2	11.6			
	Suburban	1013.9			330.5	5.18E-03	3.00E-02	
	Urban	88.4			2150.1	1.75E-03	2.90E-01	
	Totals:				1.53E-04	1.64E-01		
Radioactive Waste	Rural	2481.4	16	2	10.4	1.33E-04	6.90E-04	
	Suburban	523.7			320.3	2.80E-05	4.48E-03	
	Urban	63.3			2281.5	3.38E-06	3.86E-03	
	Totals:				1.64E-04	9.03E-03		
Depleted Uranium Tails	Rural	2452.9	1,222	2	10.7	1.00E-02	5.37E-02	
	Suburban	493.9			317.2	2.03E-03	3.21E-01	
	Urban	55.4			2294.4	<u>2.26E-04</u>	<u>2.60E-01</u>	
	Totals:				1.23E-02	6.34E-01		
Empty Feed	Rural	2915.4	712	2	11.4	6.94E-03	3.96E-02	
	Suburban	768.9			338.1	1.83E-03	3.10E-01	
	Urban	105.2			2297.9	2.50E-04	2.88E-01	
	Totals:				9.02E-03	6.38E-01		
Empty Product	Rural	3006.8	516	2	11.6			
	Suburban	1013.9			330.5	5.18E-03	3.00E-02	
	Urban	88.4			2150.1	1.75E-03	2.90E-01	
	Totals:				1.53E-04	1.64E-01		
Empty Depleted Uranium Tails	Rural	2915.4	611	2	11.4	7.08E-03	4.84E-01	
	Suburban	768.9			338.1			
	Urban	105.2			2297.9	5.95E-03	3.40E-02	
	Totals:				1.57E-03	2.65E-01		
Sum of Totals:						2.14E-04	2.48E-01	

(a) Risk based on 8.36 E-10 fatalities/km (1.35 E-09 fatalities/mi) per 1 person/km<sup>2</sup> (Biwer, 1999). Distance is doubled for round-trip transport.

(b) From Table 4.2-7, TRAGIS Output..

(c) From Table 4.2-5, Annual Radioactive Material and Quantities and Shipments.

(d) From Table 4.2-10, RADTRAN Input.

**Table 4.2-10 RADTRAN Input**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Input Parameter	Value		Reference	Section
48Y Packaging Length, m (ft)	3.8	(12.5)	NRC, 2005	Table D-4
48Y Packaging Diameter, m (ft)	1.22	(4.0)	NRC, 2005	Table D-4
30B Packaging Length, m (ft)	2.06	(6.8)	NRC, 2005	Table D-5
30B Packaging Diameter, m (ft)	0.76	(2.5)	NRC, 2005	Table D-5
55-gallon Drum Packaging Length, m (ft)	0.889	(2.9)	DOE, 2002c	Table 6.1
55-gallon Drum Packaging Diameter, m (ft)	0.61	(2.0)	DOE, 2002c	Table 6.1
Distance to Package, m (ft)	5	(16.4)	* Weiner, 2006	page 27
Dose Rate at 1-m from Vehicle/Package, mSv/hr (mrem/hr)	0.01 to 0.05	(1 to 5)	**	
Vehicle Speed, Rural, km/hr (mi/hr)	88.49	(55)	DOE, 2002c	Table 6.11
Vehicle Speed, Suburban, km/hr (mi/hr)	40.25	(25)	DOE, 2002c	Table 6.11
Vehicle Speed, Urban, km/hr (mi/hr)	24.16	(15)	DOE, 2002c	Table 6.11
Number of Truck Crew	2		NRC, 2005	Table D-13
Number of People in Adjacent Vehicle	2		NRC, 2005	Table D-13
Vehicle Density - Rural, vehicles/hr	1155		Weiner, 2006	page 34
Vehicle Density - Suburban, vehicles/hr	2414		Weiner, 2006	page 34
Vehicle Density - Urban, vehicles/hr	5490		Weiner, 2006	page 34
Shielding Factors	1***			
People at Stops	25		NRC, 2005	Table D-13
Stop Distance, m (ft)	20	(65.6)	NRC, 2005	Table D-13
Stop Time, h/stop	0.5		Weiner, 2006	Default
Farm Fraction	1		Weiner, 2006	page 36

\* RADTRAN Manual suggests 3 to 7, 5 is mid range.

\*\* Conservative value based on NRC, 2005b; NRC, 2006; DOE, 1999; DOE, 2001b; DOE, 2002c, and actual cylinder transportation experience.

\*\*\* 1 equals no shielding.

**Table 4.2-11 Feed, Empty Feed, and Empty Depleted Uranium Tails Cylinders Non-Radiological Incident Risk**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Incident Rate <sup>(a)</sup>							
	Accidents	Fatalities	Injuries	Route			
	Accidents / trk-km	Fatalities / trk-km	Injuries / trk-km	Distance <sup>(b)</sup>		Risk	
State	(Accidents / trk-mi)	(Fatalities / trk-mi)	(Injuries / trk-mi)	km, (mi)	Accidents	Fatalities	Injuries
IA	1.12E-07 (1.80E-07)	9.40E-09 (1.51E-08)	8.60E-08 (1.38E-07)	21.4 (13.3)	2.40E-06	2.01E-07	1.84E-06
ID	2.95E-07 (4.75E-07)	3.80E-09 (6.12E-09)	3.07E-07 (4.94E-07)	270.0 (167.8)	7.97E-05	1.03E-06	8.29E-05
IL	2.22E-07 (3.57E-07)	8.30E-09 (1.34E-08)	1.50E-07 (2.41E-07)	209.1 (129.9)	4.64E-05	1.74E-06	3.14E-05
IN	2.25E-07 (3.62E-07)	6.70E-09 (1.08E-08)	1.40E-07 (2.25E-07)	197.8 (122.9)	4.45E-05	1.33E-06	2.77E-05
KY	3.10E-07 (4.99E-07)	1.28E-08 (2.06E-08)	2.21E-07 (3.56E-07)	306.3 (190.3)	9.49E-05	3.92E-06	6.77E-05
MO	4.64E-07 (7.47E-07)	1.24E-08 (2.00E-08)	3.14E-07 (5.05E-07)	607.0 (377.2)	2.82E-04	7.53E-06	1.91E-04
NE	3.19E-07 (5.13E-07)	1.37E-08 (2.20E-08)	1.97E-07 (3.17E-07)	722.0 (448.6)	2.30E-04	9.89E-06	1.42E-04
VA	3.93E-07 (6.32E-07)	1.61E-08 (2.59E-08)	3.10E-07 (4.99E-07)	462.0 (287.1)	1.82E-04	7.44E-06	1.43E-04
WV	1.72E-07 (2.77E-07)	1.68E-08 (2.70E-08)	1.12E-07 (1.80E-07)	296.0 (183.9)	5.09E-05	4.97E-06	3.31E-05
WY	6.74E-07 (1.08E-06)	1.08E-08 (1.74E-08)	3.23E-07 (5.20E-07)	697.8 (433.6)	4.70E-04	7.54E-06	2.25E-04
Sum (per trip):				3789.1 (2354.5)	1.48E-03	4.56E-05	9.46E-04
Annual Feed Risk (risk/trip x 1,424 ship/yr x 2 round-trip/ship):					4.22E+00	1.30E-01	2.70E+00
Annual Empty Feed Risk (risk/trip x 712 ship/yr x 2 round-trip/ship):					2.12E+00	6.48E-02	1.35E+00
Annual Empty Depleted Uranium Risk (risk/trip x 611 ship/yr x 2 round-trip/ship):					1.81E+00	5.56E-02	1.16E+00

(a) From Table 4 (Saricks, 1999).

(b) From TRAGIS.

**Table 4.2-12 Product and Empty Product Cylinders Non-Radiological Incident Risk**  
(Page 1 of 1)

State	Incident Rate <sup>(a)</sup>			Route Distance <sup>(b)</sup> km, (mi)	Accidents	Risk Fatalities	Injuries
	Accidents	Fatalities	Injuries				
	Accidents / trk-km (Accidents / trk-mi)	Fatalities / trk-km (Fatalities / trk-mi)	Injuries / trk-km (Injuries / trk-mi)				
CO	4.46E-07 (7.18E-07)	1.14E-08 (1.83E-08)	3.15E-07 (5.07E-07)	416.7 (258.9)	1.86E-04	4.75E-06	1.31E-04
ID	2.95E-07 (4.75E-07)	3.80E-09 (6.12E-09)	3.07E-07 (4.94E-07)	210.2 (130.6)	6.20E-05	7.99E-07	6.45E-05
IL	2.22E-07 (3.57E-07)	8.30E-09 (1.34E-08)	1.50E-07 (2.41E-07)	281.6 (175.0)	6.25E-05	2.34E-06	4.22E-05
KS	2.84E-07 (4.57E-07)	5.20E-09 (8.37E-09)	2.54E-07 (4.09E-07)	695.6 (432.2)	1.98E-04	3.62E-06	1.77E-04
KY	3.10E-07 (4.99E-07)	1.28E-08 (2.06E-08)	2.21E-07 (3.56E-07)	149.8 (93.1)	4.64E-05	1.92E-06	3.31E-05
MO	4.64E-07 (7.47E-07)	1.24E-08 (2.00E-08)	3.14E-07 (5.05E-07)	403.6 (250.8)	1.87E-04	5.00E-06	1.27E-04
NC	3.46E-07 (5.57E-07)	1.49E-08 (2.40E-08)	3.17E-07 (5.10E-07)	684.6 (425.4)	2.37E-04	1.02E-05	2.17E-04
TN	1.23E-07 (1.98E-07)	1.00E-08 (1.61E-08)	9.20E-08 (1.48E-07)	471.1 (292.7)	5.79E-05	4.71E-06	4.33E-05
UT	2.90E-07 (4.67E-07)	1.19E-08 (1.92E-08)	2.53E-07 (4.07E-07)	206.5 (128.3)	5.99E-05	2.46E-06	5.22E-05
WY	6.74E-07 (1.08E-06)	1.08E-08 (1.74E-08)	3.23E-07 (5.20E-07)	589.8 (366.5)	3.98E-04	6.37E-06	1.91E-04
Sum (per trip):				4109.3 (2553.5)	1.49E-03	4.22E-05	1.08E-03
Annual Product Risk (risk/trip x 516 ship/yr x 2 round-trip/ship):					1.54E+00	4.36E-02	1.11E+00
Annual Empty Product Risk (risk/trip x 516 ship/yr x 2 round-trip/ship):					1.54E+00	4.36E-02	1.11E+00

(a) From Table 4 (Saricks, 1999).

(b) From TRAGIS.

**Table 4.2-13 Radwaste Shipments Non-Radiological Incident Risk**  
(Page 1 of 1)

State	Incident Rate <sup>(a)</sup>			Route Distance <sup>(b)</sup> km, (mi)			
	Accidents	Fatalities	Injuries		Risk		
	Accidents / trk-km (Accidents / trk-mi)	Fatalities / trk-km (Fatalities / trk-mi)	Injuries / trk-km (Injuries / trk-mi)		Accidents	Fatalities	Injuries
ID	2.95E-07 (4.75E-07)	3.80E-09 (6.12E-09)	3.07E-07 (4.94E-07)	270.0 (167.8)	7.97E-05	1.03E-06	8.29E-05
IL	2.22E-07 (3.57E-07)	8.30E-09 (1.34E-08)	1.50E-07 (2.41E-07)	264.1 (164.1)	5.86E-05	2.19E-06	3.96E-05
IA	1.12E-07 (1.80E-07)	9.40E-09 (1.51E-08)	8.60E-08 (1.38E-07)	21.4 (13.3)	2.40E-06	2.01E-07	1.84E-06
KY	3.10E-07 (4.99E-07)	1.28E-08 (2.06E-08)	2.21E-07 (3.56E-07)	149.8 (93.1)	4.64E-05	1.92E-06	3.31E-05
MO	4.64E-07 (7.47E-07)	1.24E-08 (2.00E-08)	3.14E-07 (5.05E-07)	607.0 (377.2)	2.82E-04	7.53E-06	1.91E-04
NE	3.19E-07 (5.13E-07)	1.37E-08 (2.20E-08)	1.97E-07 (3.17E-07)	722.0 (448.6)	2.30E-04	9.89E-06	1.42E-04
TN	1.23E-07 (1.98E-07)	1.00E-08 (1.61E-08)	9.20E-08 (1.48E-07)	336.4 (209.0)	4.14E-05	3.36E-06	3.09E-05
WY	6.74E-07 (1.08E-06)	1.08E-08 (1.74E-08)	3.23E-07 (5.20E-07)	697.8 (433.6)	4.70E-04	7.54E-06	2.25E-04
Sum (per trip):				3068.3 (1906.6)	1.21E-03	3.37E-05	7.47E-04
Annual Radwaste Risk (risk/trip x 16 ship/yr x 2 round-trip/ship):					3.88E-02	1.08E-03	2.38E-02

(a) From Table 4 (Saricks, 1999).

(b) From TRAGIS.

**Table 4.2-14 Depleted Uranium Tails Cylinders Non-Radiological Incident Risk**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Incident Rate <sup>(a)</sup>							
	Accidents	Fatalities	Injuries	Route			
	Accidents / trk-km	Fatalities / trk-km	Injuries / trk-km	Distance <sup>(b)</sup>		Risk	
State	(Accidents / trk-mi)	(Fatalities / trk-mi)	(Injuries / trk-mi)	km, (mi)	Accidents	Fatalities	Injuries
ID	2.95E-07 (4.75E-07)	3.80E-09 (6.12E-09)	3.07E-07 (4.94E-07)	270.0 (167.8)	7.97E-05	1.03E-06	8.29E-05
IL	2.22E-07 (3.57E-07)	8.30E-09 (1.34E-08)	1.50E-07 (2.41E-07)	347.8 (216.1)	7.72E-05	2.89E-06	5.22E-05
IN	2.25E-07 (3.62E-07)	6.70E-09 (1.08E-08)	1.40E-07 (2.25E-07)	274.9 (170.8)	6.18E-05	1.84E-06	3.85E-05
IA	1.12E-07 (1.80E-07)	9.40E-09 (1.51E-08)	8.60E-08 (1.38E-07)	491.3 (305.3)	5.50E-05	4.62E-06	4.23E-05
KY	3.10E-07 (4.99E-07)	1.28E-08 (2.06E-08)	2.21E-07 (3.56E-07)	10.9 (6.8)	3.39E-06	1.40E-07	2.42E-06
NE	3.19E-07 (5.13E-07)	1.37E-08 (2.20E-08)	1.97E-07 (3.17E-07)	728.6 (452.7)	2.32E-04	9.98E-06	1.44E-04
OH	1.64E-07 (2.64E-07)	3.90E-09 (6.28E-09)	1.40E-07 (2.25E-07)	180.9 (112.4)	2.97E-05	7.05E-07	2.53E-05
WY	6.74E-07 (1.08E-06)	1.08E-08 (1.74E-08)	3.23E-07 (5.20E-07)	697.8 (433.6)	4.70E-04	7.54E-06	2.25E-04
Sum (per trip):				3002.0 (1865.4)	1.01E-03	2.87E-05	6.12E-04
Annual Depleted Uranium Tails Risk (risk/trip x 1,222 ship/yr x 2 round-trip/ship):					2.46E+00	7.03E-02	1.50E+00

(a) From Table 4 (Saricks, 1999).

(b) From TRAGIS.

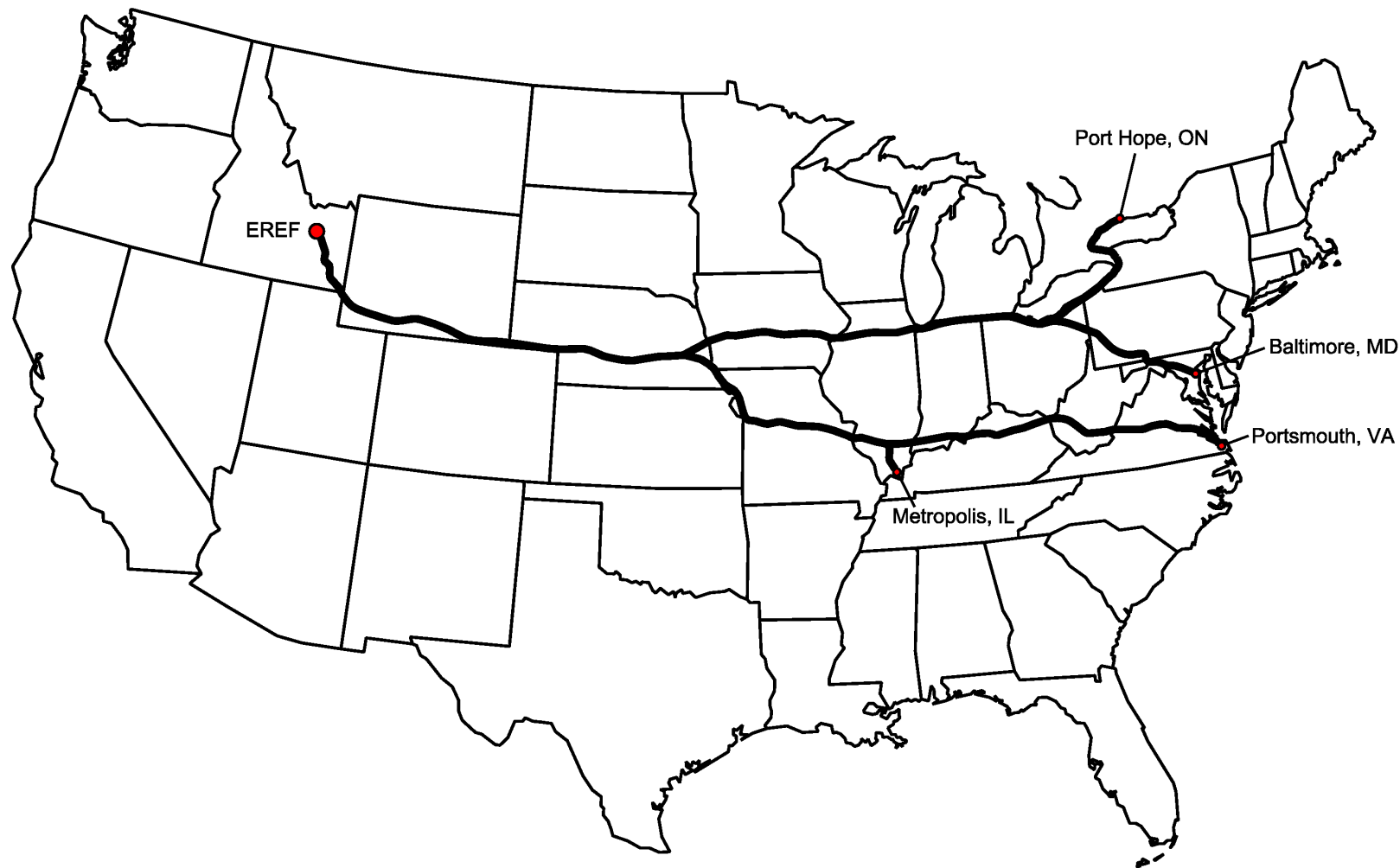
**Table 4.2-15 EREF Non-Radiological Environmental Impact from Vehicle Incidents**  
**(Page 1 of 1)**

Radioactive Material	Annual Risk *		
	Accidents	Fatalities	Injuries
Feed	4.22E+00	1.30E-01	2.70E+00
Product	1.54E+00	4.36E-02	1.11E+00
Radioactive Waste	2.46E+00	7.03E-02	1.50E+00
Depleted Uranium Tails	3.88E-02	1.08E-03	2.38E-02
Empty Feed	2.12E+00	6.48E-02	1.35E+00
Empty Product	1.54E+00	4.36E-02	1.11E+00
Empty Depleted Uranium Tails	1.81E+00	5.56E-02	1.16E+00
Sum:	1.37E+01	4.09E-01	8.95E+00

\* From Table 4.2-11 through Table 4.2-14.



## FIGURES

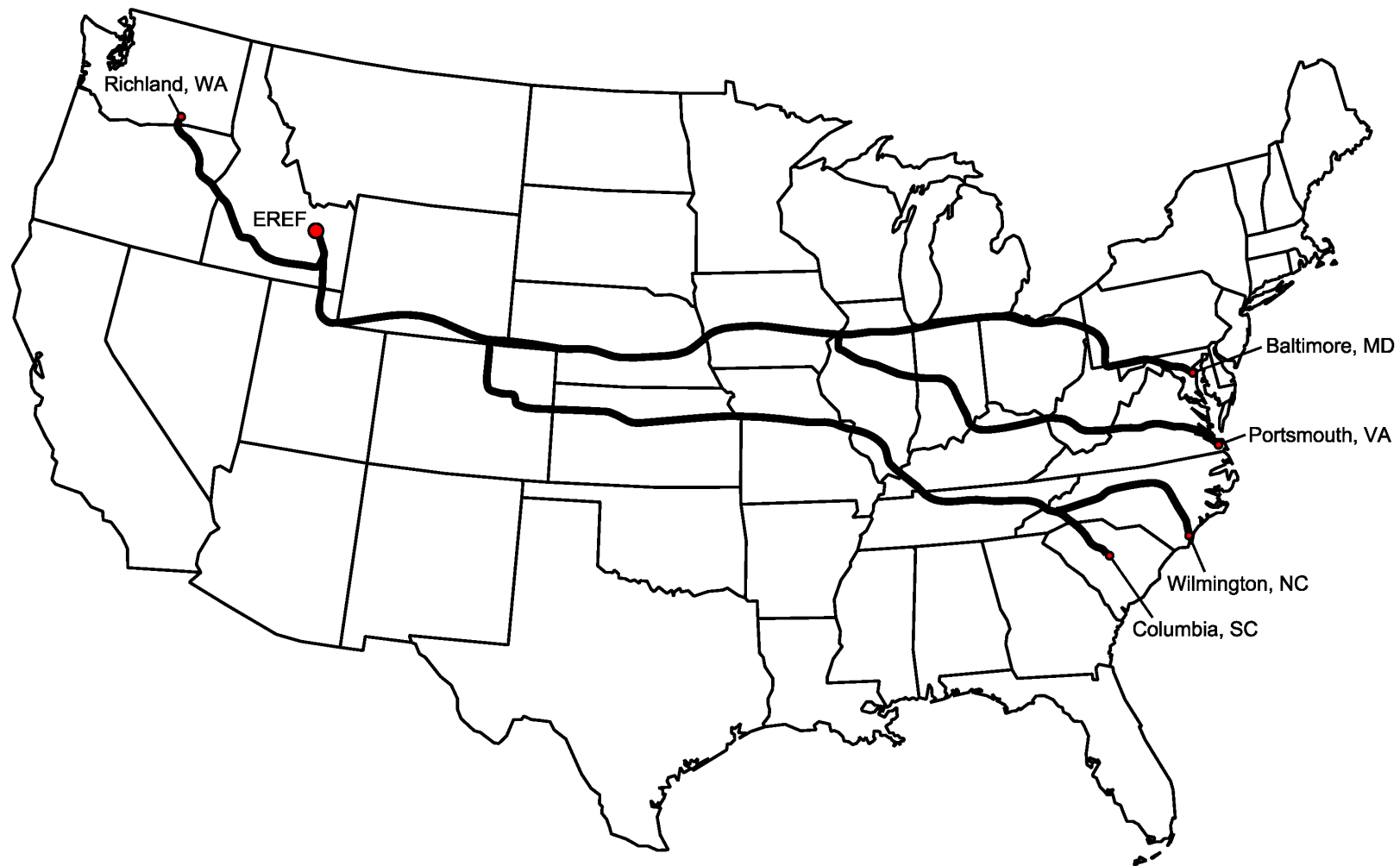


**FIGURE 4.2-1**

**Rev. 2**

Potential Feed / Empty Feed  
Transportation Routes

**EAGLE ROCK ENRICHMENT FACILITY  
ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT**



**FIGURE 4.2-2**

**Rev. 2**

Potential Product Transportation Routes

**EAGLE ROCK ENRICHMENT FACILITY  
ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT**



**FIGURE 4.2-3**

**Rev. 2**

Potential Depleted Uranium Tails  
Transportation Routes

**EAGLE ROCK ENRICHMENT FACILITY  
ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT**

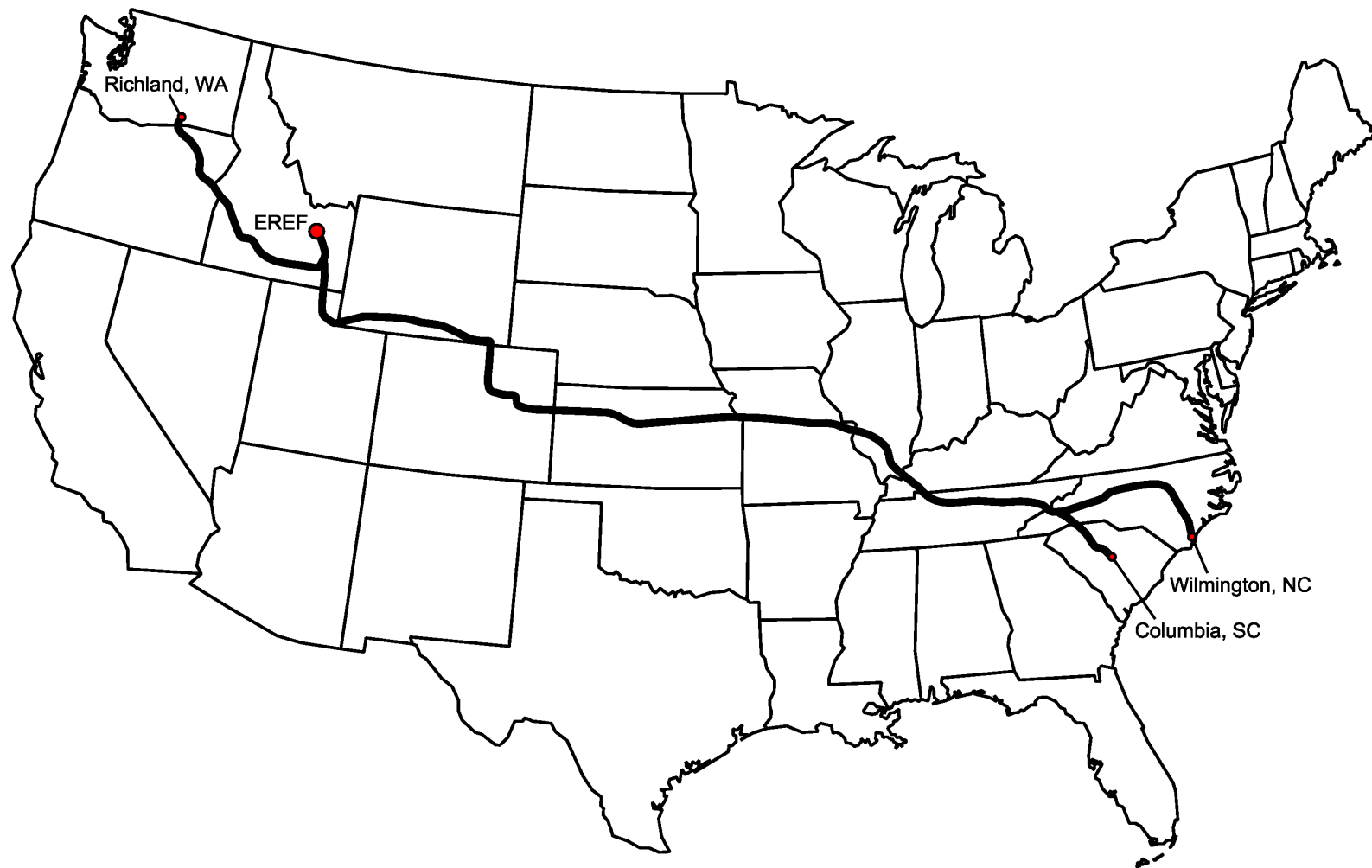


**FIGURE 4.2-4**

**Rev. 2**

Potential Radioactive Waste  
Transportation Routes

**EAGLE ROCK ENRICHMENT FACILITY  
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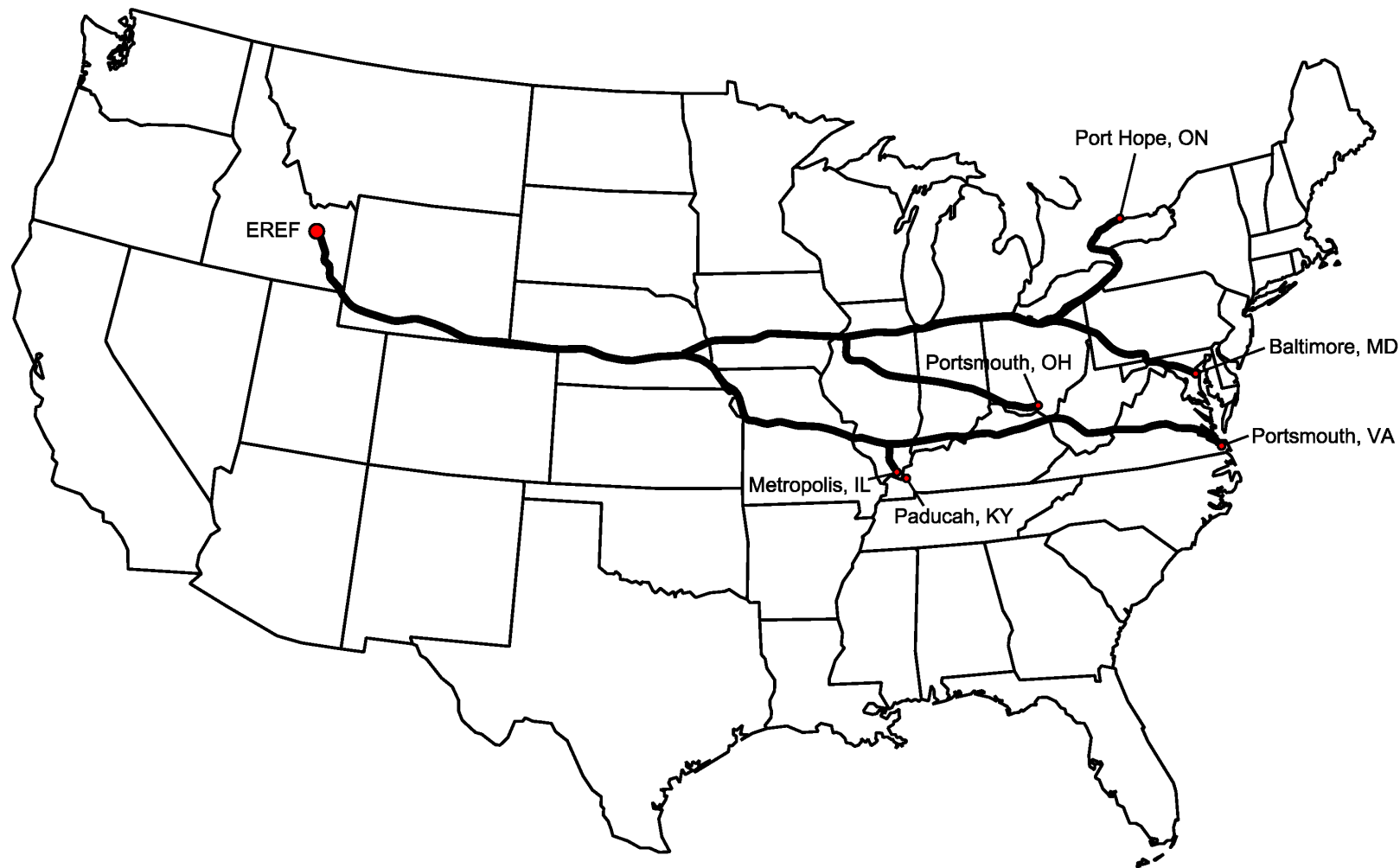


**FIGURE 4.2-5**

**Rev. 2**

Potential Empty Product Cylinder  
Transportation Routes

**EAGLE ROCK ENRICHMENT FACILITY  
ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT**



**FIGURE 4.2-6**

**Rev. 2**

Potential Empty Depleted Uranium Cylinder  
Transportation Routes

**EAGLE ROCK ENRICHMENT FACILITY  
ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT**

### 4.3 GEOLOGY AND SOILS IMPACTS

This section provides a description of the impacts to geology and soils that can be expected from the construction, operation, and decommissioning of the proposed Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility (EREF). A complete description of the geology and soils at the proposed site is provided in ER Section 3.3, Geology and Soils. A brief description of the geology and soils follows to provide context for the impacts discussion.

The surface area of the proposed site is comprised mostly of relatively flat semi-arid steppe covered by eolian soils of variable thickness that incompletely cover broad areas of bedrock outcrop. The outcrops cover about 14% of the total area of the proposed site and exist in the form of low irregular ridges, small areas of thin soils mixed with blocky rubble, and as erosional surfaces in intermittent stream drainages (see Figures 3.3-8, Areas of Exposed Basaltic Lava Flows and 3.3-9, Topography, Roads and Drainage). The outcrops at the proposed site are comprised of 100% basaltic lava flows that originated from nearby vent and fissure systems. The lava flows show a range of morphologies indicative of eruption, flow, and cooling. In outcrop and drill cores (obtained during the investigation of the EREF site), these morphologies include jointing in approximate columnar patterns, extensive vertical, less extensive horizontal jointing, and open cavities and rubble at the flow surfaces and margins. Drill cores also indicate that for thicker lava flows, the highly vesicular, pervasively fractured lava associated with flow margins grades into finely vesicular to non-vesicular (massive) lava of the flow interior. Within the massive flow interiors, the frequency and aperture of fractures are decreased and permeability zones observed in core and geophysical logs consisted of widely spaced, subhorizontal fractures and thin subhorizontal vesicular zones. Most of the exposed fractures and cavities show evidence of infilling by wind and water carried silt and clay, reducing the potential for infiltration of surface water into the subsurface. The remaining 86% of the area is covered with thin soils of predominantly eolian origin. Soil thicknesses on the proposed site range from 0 to 6.2 m (20.5 ft). Many of the areas with thickest soils, gentle slopes, and a minimum of rock outcrop are currently used for irrigated crops. Laboratory analyses of soil samples collected during geotechnical investigation of the EREF site indicate that soils at depths of five feet or greater consist of 84% to 98% clay sized particles. The characteristics of the soil and bedrock at the EREF site are variable with respect to the potential for infiltration of precipitation. Although precipitation may readily infiltrate into the soil and bedrock exposed at the land surface, intervening lower permeability clay rich zones and massive basalt flow interiors that may retard vertical infiltration of precipitation also occur beneath the site.

There are few established surface drainages at the proposed site primarily due to the low annual precipitation rate and high evapotranspiration rate. The high potential for infiltration into surficial materials, relatively young geological age of the terrain, and smoothing of terrain in crop areas also influence the surface drainage morphology. A few small intermittent stream drainages exist in the southeastern corner of the site. A more significant intermittent drainage exists in the southwestern corner of the proposed site and runs from the south-central area of the proposed site southward toward U.S. Highway 20 (see Figure 3.3-8, Topography, Roads and Drainage). U.S. Highway 20 has a culvert to convey water from this drainage to the south away from the roadway.

Elevations over the entire area of the proposed site range from approximately 1,556 m (5,106 ft) near U.S. Highway 20 to about 1,600 m (5,250 ft) in a small area at the eastern edge of the property. Within the footprint of the proposed facility, elevations range from approximately 1,573 m (5,161 ft) in the vicinity of the stormwater basins to 1,588 m (5,210 ft). There is no risk of landslides at the proposed site due to the low slopes, thin soils, and low rate of precipitation.



The proposed facility will be located on flat terrain, requiring cut and fill of significant areas to bring ground level to a final grade of 1,576 to 1,592 m (5,170 to 5,223 ft). The excavation of the detention basins will also produce fill material. The material excavated will be a combination of soil and basaltic bedrock. It is planned that the volume of material excavated from the higher portions of the site will be fully utilized for fill at the lower areas of the site, with a total of about 778,700 m<sup>3</sup> (1,018,500 yd<sup>3</sup>) cut and used as fill. The modification of the site to a finished grade of 1,576 to 1,592 m (5,170 to 5,223 ft) will cause about 79 ha (196 acres) of the site to be raised with soil fill and 47 ha (117 acres) to be excavated down to that elevation. There are no current plans to dispose of excavated materials off site. Because of the agricultural history of the site, the resulting terrain change for the site from gently sloping to flat topography as a result of construction of the proposed facility is expected to cause a small environmental impact to the site geology or soils.

The entire area of the facility is underlain by competent bedrock of basaltic lava that is not expected to subside due to construction of buildings and related infrastructure. The possible exception to this generalization is a low potential for the occurrence of lava tubes in the subsurface that could be subject to collapse due to increased loads resulting from facility construction. Lava tubes have been observed at other locations on the Eastern Snake River Plain (ESRP) and are locally a major mode of lava flow movement across the landscape. Generally, however, lava tubes collapse after a volcanic event terminates because they are no longer supported by the flowing lava. Based on these observations, the likelihood of subsurface lava tubes within the facility footprint is expected to be small but should be considered during detailed subsurface investigations associated with facility construction.

Short-term increases in soil erosion and dust generation in the areas in and adjacent to the proposed facility footprint and roads may occur during construction due to earth-moving activities, clearing of vegetation, and compaction of soils. However, rainfall in the region is limited and erosional impacts due to site clearing and grading will be mitigated by utilization of construction and erosion control best management practices (BMPs). (See ER Section 4.1, Land Use Impacts, for a discussion of construction BMPs.) Disturbed soils would be stabilized as part of construction work. Earth berms, dikes, and sediment fences will be utilized as necessary during all phases of construction to limit runoff. These measures will prevent the local surface drainages from being affected substantially by construction activities. Much of the excavated areas would be covered by structures or paved, limiting the creation of new dust sources. At a minimum (when needed) twice-daily watering will be used to control potentially fugitive construction dust in addition to other fugitive dust prevention and control BMPs discussed in ER Section 4.6.5, Mitigative Measures for Air Quality Impacts. Because site preparation and construction result in only short-term effects to the geology and soils, the impacts will be small.

The operation phase of the proposed facility will not involve additional disruption of the local bedrock and therefore, is expected to have no impact on the site geology beyond that caused by excavation activities during construction. Thus, the impact to geology and soils due to operation will be small. Also, during operation of the proposed facility, BMPs will be used to manage stormwater runoff from paved and compacted surfaces to drainage ditches and basins. Process waste water will be contained within enclosed systems treated and evaporated; process waste water and will not be disposed to the subsurface bedrock or local soils. These various measures will minimize impacts to geology and soils from the proposed facility.

A portion of the proposed site located primarily in the northeastern corner is currently used for irrigated crops. The remainder of the proposed site is currently used for seasonal cattle grazing. These areas of cropland and grazing will be taken out of service during construction and operation of the proposed facility. However, it is not expected that agrarian areas surrounding

the proposed site will be affected; and it is anticipated that they will continue to be used for irrigated cropland and grazing.

Decommissioning activities will be staged during facility operations to reduce impacts. The retention and detention basins, and building pads will be restored to natural ground contours using local fill to the extent possible and revegetated. These activities will allow the area to be released for unrestricted use after decommissioning has been completed.

The volcanic and seismic hazards associated with the EREF site are summarized in Sections 3.3.3, Site-Specific Volcanic Hazard Analysis and 3.3.7, Seismic Hazard Assessment of this report, and detailed evaluations of these hazards are presented in Appendices D and F. The baseline geology and soil features at the site are products of the natural environment of the ESRP and agricultural development in the area.

The EREF site is located within the Axial Volcanic Zone, between the Circular Butte – Kettle Butte and Lava Ridge – Hell's Half Acre volcanic rift zones, and north of the Hell's Half Acre lava field. The most recent volcanic activity in the area was at Hell's Half Acre approximately 5,400 years ago. The land surface was formed in response to inundation of the area by basalt lava flows from nearby eruptive centers, subsequent deposition of wind blown fine sediment, and physical and chemical weathering of the lava flows and soils. No evidence of volcanic rift zones, volcanic vents, or dike-induced fissures and faults have been observed in the outcrops or core samples from the EREF site. However, the area has been repeatedly inundated by basaltic lava flows erupted from nearby volcanic centers during approximately the last 750,000 years. The volcanic hazards analysis included in Appendix D indicates the estimated mean annual probability (preferred value) of lava inundation at the proposed site is  $5 \times 10^{-6}$ . The estimated upper and lower bounds of the annual probability distribution span two orders of magnitude, from  $10^{-5}$  to  $10^{-7}$ , respectively. Because they have a more frequent recurrence interval and affect larger areas than local silicic volcanism, basalt lava flows are considered to pose the most significant volcanic hazard to facilities. Other hazards associated with basaltic volcanism, with or without lava effusion, include: release of corrosive gas from eruptive fissures or lava tubes, which would mainly affect areas within a few hundred meters (feet) of active vents; coarse tephra deposition within a few hundred meters (feet) of active vents; surface fissuring and minor faulting above ascending dikes, within narrow zones up to about 10 km (6 mi) long; and small- to moderate-magnitude earthquakes induced by the ascending dikes (Hackett, 1996; Hackett, 2002). Due to the low probability of a local volcanic event affecting the planned EREF area, it is unlikely that construction, operation, or decommissioning activities and/or structures will be affected.

The northwest-trending volcanic rift zones in the ESRP are generally parallel to several of the long axes of fault bounded mountain ranges of the adjacent Basin and Range Province. Both the mountain ranges and the volcanic rift zones are extensional tectonic features that developed in response to the same extensional, regional-stress field. However, in contrast to the range front faults, the volcanic rift zones are the result of ascent and eruption of basaltic dikes. The emplacement of magma as dikes within the rift structures is considered to be the mechanism of crustal extension within the ESRP volcanic province (Parsons, 1991).

The results of a probabilistic seismic hazard assessment (PSHA) including peak ground acceleration (PGA) estimates and estimated contributions to total hazard from regional seismic sources are presented in Appendix F. The predominant source of ground motion hazard is seismic activity located within the ESRP. Impacts from regional Quaternary Faults are considered minor compared to ground motion impacts attributed to seismic activity that may occur within the ESRP. The reason for the negligible ground motion impacts from the Basin and Range faults is the high rate of attenuation of ground vibrations generated by slip on normal

faults. The central location of the EREF site within the ESRP relative to the adjacent Basin and Range faulted areas contributes to the minimized impact of seismic activity in the tectonically active Basin and Range zones.

On a local scale, dike emplacement and inflation are important controls on extension in the ESRP (Parsons, 1998). Study of historical seismicity observed during dike intrusion events beneath volcanic rift zones in analog regions (Iceland, Hawaii, etc.), and the published results of numerical and physical modeling of the dike intrusion process indicate that only small to moderate earthquakes (magnitude 3 - 5.5) are associated with dike intrusion (Parsons, 1998; Hackett, 1994; Hackett, 1996).

#### **4.3.1 Potential Mitigation Measures**

Mitigation measures will be in place to minimize the impact to geology and soil resources. These include the following items:

- The use of BMPs to reduce soil erosion (e.g., earth berms, dikes, and sediment fences).
- Prompt revegetation or covering of bare areas with natural materials will be used to mitigate erosional impacts due to construction activities.
- Watering will be used to control potentially fugitive construction dust.
- Standard drilling and blasting techniques, if required, will be used to minimize impact to bedrock, reducing the potential for over-excavation thereby minimizing damage to the surrounding rock, and protecting adjacent surfaces that are intended to remain intact.
- Soil stockpiles generated during construction will be placed in a manner to reduce erosion.
- Excavated materials will be reused whenever possible.

#### **4.3.2 Cumulative Impacts to Geologic Resources**

The cumulative impacts to the geologic resources of the proposed construction and operation of the EREF will be similar to the direct and indirect impacts of the project and those associated with the current land use. No federal, state, or private development plans are known within 16 km (10 mi) of the proposed site. Current land use, primarily agriculture and grazing, will continue to have similar impacts on wildlife and habitat on surrounding properties. Construction of the proposed EREF will result in limited soil erosion, which will be minimized using BMPs. Therefore, cumulative impacts will be small.

#### **4.3.3 Comparative Geology and Soils Impacts of No Action Alternative Scenarios**

ER Chapter 2, Alternatives, provides a discussion of possible alternatives to the construction and operation of the EREF, including an alternative of "no action," i.e., not building the EREF. The following information provides comparative conclusions specific to the concerns addressed in this subsection for each of the two "no action" alternative scenarios addressed in ER Section 2.4, Table 2.4-2, Comparison of Environmental Impacts for the Proposed Action and the No-Action Alternative Scenarios.

**Alternative Scenario C** - No EREF; LES and USEC deploy gas centrifuge plants, USEC phases out the Paducah gaseous diffusion plant (GDP) and GEH deploys their plant using Silex

enrichment technology: The geology and soils impacts will be the same since three enrichment plants will be built.

**Alternative Scenario D** - No EREF; LES and USEC deploy gas centrifuge plants, USEC phases out the Paducah gaseous diffusion plant (GDP) and USEC increases its centrifuge plant capacity: The geology and soils impacts will be the same if the increased centrifuge plant is located on previously undisturbed land; otherwise, the impact will be less if the increased plant is located on previously disturbed land.

## 4.4 WATER RESOURCES IMPACTS

The water resources at the proposed Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility (EREF) site are discussed in Section 3.4, Water Resources. ER Section 3.4.1, Surface Hydrology, indicates that there are no permanent surface water features and although intermittent stream drainages exist, they have not been observed to carry water. ER Section 3.4.15, Groundwater Characteristics, indicates that groundwater exists at the site in quantity and is of high quality in this portion of the Eastern Snake River Plain (ESRP). The depth to groundwater in wells on the proposed EREF site ranges between 199.5 m (654.4 ft) and 219.4 m (719.9 ft) below the ground surface, depending on location. The ESRP Aquifer extends over much of southeastern Idaho and is a major water source for drinking and irrigation water in the region. The area of the site has a semi-arid climate with low precipitation rates and high evapotranspiration rates. Soils are thin and the vertical conductivity of the underlying bedrock is high. Although minimal, there is the potential for impacts to groundwater. Impacts to surface water are expected to be minimal to nonexistent. The pathways for planned and potential releases are discussed below.

Permits related to water that may be applicable to site construction and EREF operation are described in ER Section 1.3, Applicable Regulatory Requirements, Permits and Required Consultation. These permits address various potential discharges to water and prescribe mitigation needed to maintain state water quality standards and avoid degradation to water resources at or near the site. These permits include:

- *A National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Industrial Stormwater:* The NPDES General Permit for Industrial Stormwater regulates point source discharges of stormwater runoff from industrial and commercial facilities to waters of the United States. In Idaho, the NPDES permit program is administered by the EPA, Region 10 (IDEQ, 2008a). AES will file a Notice of Intent (NOI) for coverage under the Multi-Section General Permit with the EPA, Washington, D.C., at least 60 days prior to the initiation of EREF operations per EPA permit application instructions.
- *NPDES General Permit for Construction Stormwater:* The construction of the proposed EREF will involve the disturbance of 240 ha (592 acres). Because this disturbance area is more than 0.4 ha (1 acre), a NPDES Construction General Permit from the EPA Region 10 and an oversight review by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) are required. AES will develop a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and file a NOI with the EPA, Washington, D.C., prior to the commencement of construction activities. (IDEQ, 2008a)
- *NPDES Individual Permit for Point Sources.* The Clean Water Act (CWA) authorizes the EPA to regulate point sources that discharge pollutants into surface waters of the United States through the NPDES permit program. In Idaho, the NPDES permit program is administered by the EPA Region 10. An applicant may apply for either an individual or a general NPDES permit. An individual permit is specifically tailored to an individual facility, and a general permit covers multiple facilities with a specific category, such as stormwater discharges (IDEQ, 2008c). Because the EREF will discharge treated domestic sanitary wastewaters to the lined retention basins, an Individual NPDES permit will not be required as there will be no discharge of wastewaters to surface waters.
- *Section 401 Certification:* Under Section 401 of the federal Clean Water Act, states can review and approve, condition, or deny all federal permits or licenses that might result in a discharge to State waters, including wetlands (IDEQ, 2008b). The purpose of this review is to ensure that the given project conforms to applicable state water criteria. By letter dated October 10, 2008, the USACE notified AES of its determination that there are no

Department of the Army (DA) jurisdictional waters at the EREF site and for this reason the project does not require a 404 permit (USACE, 2008). As a result, a Section 401 certification is not required.

The EREF site design addresses the following:

- General construction activities
- Domestic Sanitary Sewage Treatment Plant design and construction
- Discharge of stormwater and treated domestic sanitary effluents to site detention and retention basins during operations.

Construction of the EREF will pose a short-term risk to water resources due to transport in stormwater runoff of constituents, such as sediment, oil and grease, fuels, and chemical constituents derived from wash-off of concrete, fill materials, and construction materials. The off-site transport of these types of potential contaminants will be controlled by employing best management practices (BMPs) during construction, including control and mitigation of hazardous materials and fuels. The BMPs will be designed to reduce the probability of hazardous material spills and stormwater runoff from contacting potential contaminant sources related to construction activities. The BMPs will also be used for dust control associated with excavation and fill operations during construction. See Section 4.1, Land Use Impacts, for more information on construction BMPs.

During operation of the proposed EREF, domestic sanitary wastewater and stormwater runoff will be controlled by routing to the detention and retention basins. These basins are described in Section 3.4.1.1, Facility Withdrawals and/or Discharges to Hydrologic Systems, and include the following:

- Site Stormwater Detention Basins
- Cylinder Storage Pads Stormwater Retention Basins
- Domestic SSTP Basin

The locations of these basins are shown in Figure 4.4-1, Facility Layout with Detention/Retention Basins.

The three Site Stormwater Detention Basins will collect stormwater runoff from parking lots, roofs, roads, and diversions from unaltered areas around the site. The detention basins are designed to contain runoff for a volume equal to the 24-hour, 100-year return frequency rain storm of 5.70 cm (2.24 in) rainfall. The storage capacity available for maintaining a freeboard of 0.6 m (2.0 ft) is approximately 32,835 m<sup>3</sup> (27 acre-ft). For a highly unlikely storm scenario maintaining a freeboard of 0.3 m (1.0 ft), the basin will have approximately 49,600 m<sup>3</sup> (40 acre-ft) of storage capacity. The area served by the detention basin is about 139.3 ha (344.2 acres).

Water quality of the Site Stormwater Detention Basins will be typical of runoff from building roofs and paved areas from any industrial facility and natural runoff from diversions in unaltered areas of the site. Except for small amounts of oil and grease typically found in runoff from paved roadways and parking areas, the runoff is not expected to contain other chemical contaminants. The detention basins will not be lined so that the collected runoff is allowed to infiltrate as well as evaporate.

The Site Stormwater Detention Basins will each be designed with an outlet structure for overflow. It is possible that overflow from the basins will occur during a rainfall event larger than the design basis. Overflow of the basins is an unlikely event, but if it does occur, then the local downgradient terrain will serve as the receiving area for the excess runoff. The additional

impact to the surrounding land above what would occur during such a flood is expected to be small. Therefore, the potential overflow of the Site Stormwater Detention Basins during an event beyond their design capacity is expected to have a small impact to surrounding land.

The Cylinder Storage Pads Stormwater Retention Basins will be utilized for the collection and containment of stormwater runoff from the Cylinder Storage Pads. The Cylinder Storage Pads Stormwater Retention Basins will be lined to prevent infiltration and open to the air to allow evaporation. There will be no direct discharge to waters of the U.S. or to groundwater. The retention basins will not have an outfall.

Stormwater runoff from the Cylinder Storage Pads, where full tails, full feed, full product and empty cylinders are stored, will be directed to the Cylinder Storage Pads Stormwater Retention Basins. The area served for stormwater retention by the basins is 25.6 ha (63.3 acres) and is the total area of the facility where the Cylinder Storage Pads are located. Stormwater runoff from the Cylinder Storage Pads will be distributed between the two retention basins. Each retention basin has two cells and is designed to contain a volume of approximately 83,019 m<sup>3</sup> (67.3 acre-ft) maintaining a freeboard of 0.9 m (3.0 ft). Under highly unlikely events, the volume of each basin will contain approximately 113,700 m<sup>3</sup> (92.2 acre-ft), maintaining a freeboard of 0.3 m (1.0 ft). As designed, the retention basins can contain runoff for a volume equal to twice that for the 24-hour, 100-year return frequency rain storm, a 5.70-cm (2.24-in) rainfall.

Although a highly unlikely occurrence, the stored cylinders represent a potential source of low-level radioactivity that could enter stormwater runoff. The engineering of cylinder storage systems (high-grade sealed cylinders described in ER Section 2.1.2, Proposed Action) with the collection of stormwater to the lined basins and environmental monitoring of the Cylinder Storage Pads Stormwater Retention Basins (described in ER Section 6.2, Physicochemical Monitoring), combine to make the potential for contamination release through this system extremely low. An assessment was made by AES that assumed a conservative contamination level on cylinder surfaces and 100% washoff to the Cylinder Storage Pads Stormwater Retention Basins from a single storm event. Results show that the levels of radioactivity discharged to the basin will be below the regulatory unrestricted release criteria.

For an average annual rainfall at the site of 25.4 cm/yr (10.0 in/yr), the potential stormwater runoff volumes reaching the basins are approximately 85,175 m<sup>3</sup>/yr (22,501,000 gal/yr) for the Site Stormwater Detention Basins and 65,240 m<sup>3</sup>/yr (17,234,700 gal/yr) for the Cylinder Storage Pads Stormwater Retention Basins. The potential stormwater runoff volume for the balance of the property is 3,892,815 m<sup>3</sup>/yr (1,028,372,815 gal/yr). This is the pure volume of the mean precipitation falling (before evapotranspiration and infiltration) upon the remaining undeveloped area. Considering the size of the property at approximately 1,700 ha (4,200 acres) compared to the developed central footprint area of 164.9 ha (407.5 acres), about 9.7% of the property, the attenuation of the increase of runoff by the detention and retention basins, the placement of the developed area being a considerable distance to the property lines, and the semi-arid climate, it is unlikely that there will be an increase of stormwater runoff to adjacent properties.

A Domestic SSTP Basin, with two cells, will be utilized for the discharge of treated domestic sanitary effluent. Sanitary effluent discharges will total approximately 18,700 m<sup>3</sup>/yr (4,927,500 gal/yr). The collected effluent will be allowed to evaporate. Under normal design conditions with a freeboard of 0.6 m (2.0 ft), the SSTP Basin will have an available storage volume of 6,784 m<sup>3</sup> (5.5 acre-ft). With a freeboard of 0.3 m (1.0 ft), the available storage volume will be 9,128 m<sup>3</sup> (7.4 acre-ft). During winter time, if one cell cannot provide enough storage, the second cell will be available.

#### 4.4.1 Receiving Waters

The proposed EREF will not discharge any process effluents from plant operations onto the site or into surface waters. Daily treated domestic sanitary effluent will be discharged from the Domestic Sanitary Sewage Treatment Plant to the Domestic SSTP Infiltration Basin. Stormwater runoff from most of the developed portions of the site will be collected in the Site Stormwater Detention Basins with the exception of the Cylinder Storage Pads. Stormwater runoff from the Cylinder Storage Pads will be directed to the Cylinder Storage Pads Stormwater Retention Basins.

Discharge from the Site Stormwater Detention Basins will occur through evaporation, low discharge orifices, and infiltration into the ground. Discharge from the Cylinder Storage Pads Stormwater Retention Basins will occur by evaporation only. The detention and retention basins are designed to provide a means of controlling discharges of runoff for approximately 79.8 ha (197.3 acres) of pavement, parking lots, and roofs of the EREF structures and landscaped areas plus an additional 21.9 ha (54 acres) of the Cylinder Storage Pads. Combined, these areas represent about 101.7 ha (251.3 acres) of the approximate 1,700 ha (4,200 acres) total EREF site area. Discharge from the Domestic SSTP Basin will occur through evaporation.

Due to high evapotranspiration rates for the area, it is not anticipated that runoff derived from the proposed EREF will reach receiving waters. The soils in the site area are thin, and the vertical conductivity of the bedrock is high. Therefore, it is likely that a portion of the stormwater collected in the detention basins will infiltrate into the subsurface and eventually reach groundwater. The Site Stormwater Detention Basins are designed to have an outlet structure for overflow, if needed, such as for a storm event exceeding the design basis. The local terrain serves as the receiving area in the rare event that there is enough stormwater to cause release from the outlet of the detention basins. Under normal weather conditions, evapotranspiration will likely consume the majority of water released from the outlet, and a fraction will be expected to infiltrate into the subsurface. The infiltrating water is expected to have a chemical composition typical of runoff from paved roadways, roofs, parking areas, and natural runoff. Similarly, evaporation is expected to consume the treated sanitary effluent within the SSTP Basin. The detention basins will be included in the site environmental monitoring program as described in Section 6.1, Radiological Monitoring, and ER Section 6.2, Physiochemical Monitoring. The sanitary sewage treatment system will be monitored as described in ER Section 6.1, Radiological Monitoring.

As discussed in ER Section 3.4.15, Groundwater Characteristics, water that reaches the basalt bedrock will likely infiltrate and flow vertically downward until reaching a low permeability layer, such as the sedimentary interbeds. Once encountering a low permeability layer, the water could become temporarily perched and/or flow laterally until the low permeability layer pinches out or contacts a higher permeability zone. At this point the water will continue to migrate vertically until reaching the next low permeability layer. The water will migrate from the ground surface downward in a step-wise manner until reaching the saturated groundwater zone. Some vaporization of the moisture may occur in the thick vadose zone causing additional diffusion of the wetting front in its downward migration to the aquifer. Further transport will be a function of the transmissivity and flow direction of the groundwater in the aquifer.

The Cylinder Storage Pads Stormwater Retention Basins, which will serve the concrete paved outdoor cylinder storage areas, will be single-lined to prevent infiltration and designed to retain a volume that is slightly more than twice that for the 24-hour, 100-year storm. The configuration of the retention basins will allow for radiological testing of water and sediment (see ER Section 4.4.2, Impacts on Surface Water and Groundwater Quality). Neither retention basin will have an outlet. The only discharge allowed from the Cylinder Storage Pads Stormwater Retention



Basins will be through evaporation. If applicable, residual solids, after evaporation of water, will be removed through approved procedures.

The Cylinder Storage Pads will be constructed of reinforced concrete with a minimal number of construction joints, and pad joints will be plugged with joint sealer and water stops as a leak prevention measure. The ground surfaces around the Cylinder Storage Pads will be contoured to prevent rainfall in the area surrounding the pads from entering the pad drainage system.

#### **4.4.2 Impacts on Surface Water and Groundwater Quality**

Groundwater of good quality and quantity exists at the proposed EREF site, but there are no natural surface water bodies. During construction of the proposed EREF, surface water runoff will be controlled in accordance with the NPDES Construction General Permit (CGP). Therefore, no significant impacts are expected for either surface water bodies or groundwater as a result of construction activities.

During operation, stormwater runoff from the developed portions of the site, such as parking lots, roads, and roofs, will be collected in the Site Stormwater Detention Basins as described above in ER Section 4.4.1, Receiving Waters, and shown in Figure 4.4-1, Facility Layout with Detention/Retention Basins. No wastes from facility operational systems will be discharged to the detention basins. Therefore, the water from the detention basins is not expected to have any impact on water quality in the downgradient groundwater system. Water collected in the detention basins will be routinely monitored for chemical composition to detect the presence of any contaminants. ER Section 6.2, Physiochemical Monitoring, provides the details of the monitoring plan for the detention basins. In addition, stormwater discharges during plant operation will be controlled by a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). The SWPPP will identify potential sources of pollution that may reasonably be expected to affect the quality of stormwater discharge from the site, describe the practices used to reduce pollutants in stormwater, and define compliance with the terms and conditions of the CGP.

During operation of the proposed EREF, the Cylinder Storage Pads Stormwater Retention Basins will collect runoff water from the Cylinder Storage Pads. Runoff from the Cylinder Storage Pads has the extremely remote potential to contain low-level radioactivity from cylinder surfaces or leaks. However, an assessment of a potential release of radioactive constituents from the Cylinder Storage Pads from a single precipitation event based on conservative assumptions about contamination levels on cylinder surfaces and 100% washoff showed that the level of radioactivity in such a discharge to the basins will be below the regulatory criteria. The capacities of the retention basins are designed to be sufficient for containment of the volume of runoff predicted for more than twice the 100-year, 24-hour frequency precipitation event.

To prevent potential losses of runoff from the Cylinder Storage Pads to the environment, the drainage system from the pads to the retention basins for surface water runoff will include pre-cast catch basins and concrete trench drains, and piping will have sealed joints to preclude leakage. Each retention basin will be lined with a single layer of impervious synthetic fabric with ample soil cover over the liner to prevent surface damage and degradation by ultraviolet radiation. The liner will prevent infiltration of water, thereby averting potential impacts to the groundwater system.

Wastewater associated with the Domestic Sanitary Sewage Treatment Plant will be directed to the Domestic SSTP Basin as described in ER Section 3.4.1.1, Facility Withdrawals and/or Discharges to Hydrologic Systems. Sanitary effluents will be treated to applicable requirements prior to discharge into the SSTP Basin. The sanitary sewage treatment plant will also be

monitored under the radiological environmental monitoring program as described in ER Section 6.1, Radiological Monitoring.

In summary, runoff controls incorporated into the facility design and treatment of sanitary waste effluents, are expected to prevent impacts to surface water and groundwater.

#### **4.4.3 Hydrological System Alterations**

Excavation and placement of fill for construction of the proposed EREF will result in a final site grade between 1,576 m (5,170 ft) and 1,592 m (5,223 ft). An approximate total of 778,700 m<sup>3</sup> (1,018,500 yd<sup>3</sup>) of cutting and filling is required for site preparation. Approximately 79 ha (196 acres) of the site will be raised with soil fill and 47 ha (117 acres) will be excavated down to that elevation. This earthwork will not require alteration or filling of surface water features on the site.

No alterations to groundwater systems will occur due to facility construction. The construction will involve the excavation and placement of fills at the surface, but these activities are not expected to affect the groundwater system, which is located at depths from 199.5 m (654.4 ft) and 219.4 m (719.9 ft) below ground surface. Runoff controls will be in place both during construction as part of BMPs and during operation to prevent uncontrolled releases of water. These control systems are described above in ER Sections 4.4, Water Resources Impacts, and 4.4.1, Receiving Waters. The potential for water or other liquids from spills or pipeline leaks to introduce sufficient amounts of liquid to saturate the top soil and bedrock surfaces to cause significant migration of contaminants downward to the groundwater system, is considered unlikely.

#### **4.4.4 Hydrological System Impacts**

The proposed EREF will obtain its water supply from on-site wells. Rates of water usage consumption are summarized in Table 3.4-2, Anticipated Normal Plant Water Consumption and Table 3.4-3, Anticipated Peak Plant Water Consumption. The ESRP Aquifer that underlies the proposed EREF is extremely productive (Garabedian, 1992). For example, typical well yields for most seasonally pumped agricultural wells in the ESRP Aquifer range from 3.4 m<sup>3</sup>/min (900.0 gal/min) to 12.5 m<sup>3</sup>/min (3,300.0 gal/min) and experience less than 6.1 m (20.0 ft) of drawdown (Garabedian, 1992). In comparison, the normal and peak potable water requirements for operation of the EREF are expected to be approximately 0.05 m<sup>3</sup>/min (12.5 gal/min) and 2.8 m<sup>3</sup>/min (739 gal/min), respectively. In consideration of the productivity of the ESRP Aquifer and high rates of normal water usage for irrigation, the amounts of water used at the proposed EREF are not expected to cause significant impacts to the site hydrologic systems.

Control of surface water runoff will be required for the EREF construction activities and will be covered by the NPDES Construction General Permit. As a result, no significant impacts are expected to either surface or groundwater bodies. Control of impacts from construction runoff is discussed below in ER Section 4.4.7, Control of Impacts to Water Quality.

The volume of water discharged into the ground from the Site Stormwater Detention Basins is expected to be minimal, as evapotranspiration is expected to be the dominant natural influence on standing water.

#### **4.4.5 Ground and Surface Water Use**

The proposed EREF will obtain its water supply from on-site wells. Anticipated normal plant water consumption and peak plant water requirements are provided in ER Table 3.4-2, Anticipated Normal Plant Water Consumption, and ER Table 3.4-3, Anticipated Peak Plant Water Consumption, respectively. No surface water sources will be used and there will be no liquid effluent discharges from plant operations. Treated sanitary effluents and stormwater runoff will be to engineered retention and detention basins.

The use of groundwater will be covered by a 1961 water right appropriation that will be transferred to the property for use as industrial water. The water transfer will occur concurrently with the purchase of the property by AES and will change the original water use from agriculture to industrial use. The primary point of diversion is expected to be from the existing agricultural well, Lava Well 3, near the center of Section 13, or a replacement well. The water will be assigned to other points of diversion to allow for the use of water from another well if the primary well should happen to fail. The original 1961 appropriation will decrease to approximately 1,713 m<sup>3</sup>/d (452,500 gal/d) for industrial use and 147 m<sup>3</sup>/d (38,800 gal/d) for seasonal irrigation use. The predicted daily water consumption of the EREF is anticipated to be approximately 68.2 m<sup>3</sup>/d (18,000 gal/d) and the peak water consumption rate is anticipated to 42 L/s (664 gal/min). The normal annual water usage rate for the EREF will be 24,870,000 L/yr (6,570,000 gal/yr), which is a very small fraction (i.e., about 4%) of the water appropriation value of 625,000,000 L/yr (165,000,000 gal/yr) for industrial use. The peak water usage is developed based on the assumption that all water users are operating simultaneously. Furthermore, the peak water usage assumes that each water user is operating at maximum demand. This combination of assumptions is very unlikely to occur during the lifetime of the EREF. Nevertheless, the peak water usage is used to size the piping system and pumps. Given that the normal annual water usage rate for the EREF is a very small fraction of the appropriation value, momentary usages of water beyond the expected normal water usage rate is expected to be well within the water appropriation value for the EREF.

The closest and largest municipalities that rely on the ESRP Aquifer for drinking water are Idaho Falls in Bonneville County and Pocatello in Bannock County. Idaho Falls is upgradient of the proposed site according to regional hydrologic maps (Ackerman, 2006) and Pocatello is on the opposite side of the Snake River from the proposed EREF. Therefore, any groundwater consumption at the proposed EREF will not impact groundwater availability for these municipalities.

For both peak and normal usage rates, the needs of the proposed EREF facility should be readily met by the on-site groundwater pumping wells. The impacts to water resources on site and in the vicinity of the proposed EREF are expected to be negligible.

#### **4.4.6 Identification of Impacted Ground and Surface Water Users**

The locations of known groundwater users within a 1.6-km (1.0-mi) radius of the site boundary are shown on Figure 4.4-2, Water Wells in the Vicinity of the EREF. These locations were obtained from the Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR, 2008c). There are two irrigation (agricultural) wells located within the site boundaries. These wells are part of the water right appropriation described in ER Section 4.4.5, Ground and Surface Water Use. There is also one domestic well located near the southeast corner of the site. This domestic well is located approximately 1.21 km (0.75 mi) from the site boundary and is cross-gradient to the groundwater flowpath beneath the proposed facility footprint. The well is labeled as a domestic well by the IDWR, but there are no structures near the well. This domestic well is used to

irrigate several crop fields. There are also three IDWR observation wells shown on Figure 4.4-2, Water Wells in the Vicinity of the EREF, approximately 3.2 km (2.0 mi) from the site boundary; two of the wells are hydrologically upgradient of the proposed EREF site and one is downgradient. The water right appropriation associated with the EREF property transfer defines the amount of water allowed for use and is less than the current irrigation appropriation. As a result, the impact of groundwater withdrawals during operation of the EREF is expected to be less than current impacts from irrigation practices.

There are no permanent surface water bodies on the site or within 1.6 km (1.0 mile), and no surface water users in the vicinity of the EREF. Therefore, there will be no impacts to surface water users.

#### **4.4.7 Control of Impacts to Water Quality**

Site runoff water quality impacts will be controlled during construction by compliance with NPDES Construction General Permit requirements, and BMPs will be described in a site SWPPP.

Wastes generated during site construction will be varied, depending on the stage of construction. Any hazardous wastes from construction activities will be handled and disposed of in accordance with applicable state and federal regulations. These regulations include proper labeling, recycling, controlling and protecting storage, and shipping off site to approved disposal sites. Sanitary wastes generated at the site will be handled by portable systems until the Domestic Sanitary Sewage Treatment Plant is available for use.

The need to level the site for construction will require some soil excavation as well as fills. Native soils will be used for fill. Therefore, fill placed on the site will provide the same characteristics as the existing natural soils and runoff from altered soil areas will have the same chemical characteristics as natural soils on the site.

During operation, the EREF's stormwater runoff detention and retention system will provide a means to allow controlled releases of site runoff only from the Site Stormwater Detention Basins in the event of a major precipitation event exceeding the 24-hr, 100-yr design criteria. Stormwater discharge will be periodically monitored in accordance with state and/or federal permits. A Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) plan will be implemented for the facility to identify potential spill substances, sources, and responsibilities and perform any mitigations that are necessary. This plan is described in ER Section 4.1, Land Use Impacts. A SWPPP will also be implemented for the EREF so that runoff released to the environment will be of suitable quality.

Water discharged from the EREF Domestic Sanitary Sewage Treatment Plant will only consist of treated sanitary effluents; no facility process related effluents will be introduced into the Domestic Sanitary Sewage Treatment Plant. The Liquid Effluent Collection and Treatment System for the EREF will provide a means to control liquid process wastes within the plant. The system provides for the collection and treatment of liquid process wastes to remove contaminants by filtration and precipitation prior to being sent to an evaporator for vaporization; there will be no liquid effluent discharges from plant operations. Refer to ER Section 3.12, Waste Management, for further information on this system.

The Cylinder Storage Pads Stormwater Retention Basins will be lined to prevent infiltration. The basins will be designed to retain a volume slightly more than twice that for the 24-hour, 100-year frequency storm.

The Site Stormwater Detention Basins are designed with outlet structures for overflow. It is possible that overflow from the basins could occur during a rainfall event larger than the design basis. Overflow of the basins is an unlikely event, but if it does occur, then the local downgradient terrain will serve as the receiving area for the excess runoff. The additional impact to the surrounding land over what would occur during such a flood alone is expected to be small.

The Domestic SSTP Basin will be designed to provide storage for treated sanitary effluents as well as rainwater that falls directly on the basin and will include two feet of freeboard. The basin will consist of two equally sized lined cells. Only one cell is in operation at a time. Annual operation will rotate between the two cells. The overall size of each cell is equivalent to 1.7 ha (4.1 acres). At a maximum water depth of 1.2 m (4 ft), the storage volume of each cell is 27,048 m<sup>3</sup> (21.93 acre-ft). During winter time, if one cell cannot provide enough storage, the second cell will be available for use.

The retention basins have no flow outlets so that the only means for water loss is by evaporation. The retention and detention basins will be designed for sampling and radiological testing of the contained water and sediment. The sanitary sewage treatment system will be designed for radiological testing.

#### **4.4.7.1 Mitigations**

Mitigation measures will be in place to minimize potential impacts on water resources during construction and operation. These include employing BMPs and the control of hazardous materials and fuels. In addition, the following controls will also be implemented:

- Construction equipment will be in good repair without visible leaks of oil, grease, or hydraulic fluids.
- The control and mitigation of spills during construction will be in conformance with the SPCC plan.
- Use of the BMPs will control stormwater runoff to prevent releases to nearby areas to the extent possible. See ER Section 4.1.1, Construction Impacts, for descriptions of construction BMPs.
- In addition to twice-daily watering (when needed), other BMPs will also be used for dust control associated with excavation and fill operations during construction.
- Silt fencing and/or sediment traps will be used.
- External vehicle washing will use only water (no detergents).
- Stone construction pads will be placed at entrance/exits if unpaved construction access adjoins a state road.
- All temporary construction and permanent basins will be arranged to provide for the prompt, systematic sampling of runoff in the event of any special needs.
- Water quality impacts will be controlled during construction by compliance with the NPDES – Construction General Permit requirements and by applying BMPs as detailed in the site SWPPP.
- A SPCC plan will be implemented for the facility to identify potential spill substances, sources and responsibilities.
- All above-ground gasoline and diesel fuel storage tanks will be bermed or self contained.

- Any hazardous materials will be handled by approved methods and shipped off site to approved disposal sites. Sanitary wastes generated during site construction will be handled by portable systems until the Domestic Sanitary Sewage Treatment Plant is available for site use. An adequate number of these portable systems will be provided.
- The Liquid Effluent Collection and Treatment System will use evaporators, eliminating the need to discharge treated process water to an on-site basin.
- Control of surface water runoff will be required for activities covered by the NPDES Construction General Permit.

The proposed EREF is designed to minimize the use of water resources as shown by the following measures:

- The use of low-water consumption landscaping versus conventional landscaping reduces water usage.
- The installation of low flow toilets, sinks, and showers reduces water usage when compared to standard flow fixtures.
- Localized floor washing using mops and self-contained cleaning machines reduces water usage compared to conventional washing with a hose twice a week.
- Closed-loop cooling systems have been incorporated to reduce water usage.
- Cooling towers will not be used resulting in the use of less water since evaporative losses and cooling tower blowdown are eliminated.

#### **4.4.8 Identification of Predicted Cumulative Effects on Water Resources**

The cumulative impact to water resources is limited to those resulting from construction and operation of the EREF, and the existing development on surrounding properties, because AES does not know of any other Federal, State, or private development plans within 16 km (10 mi) of the EREF.

The proposed EREF will not extract groundwater from the site in excess of its water right appropriation. Stormwater runoff from the Cylinder Storage Pads will be discharged to lined, engineered basins. Treated sanitary effluents will be discharged to the lined Domestic SSTP Basin. There will be no liquid effluent discharges from plant operations. As a result, no significant effects on natural water systems are anticipated and the cumulative impact to the water resources will be small.

#### **4.4.9 Comparative Water Resources Impacts of No Action Alternative Scenarios**

ER Chapter 2, Alternatives, provides a discussion of possible alternatives to the construction and operation of the EREF, including an alternative of "no action," i.e., not building the EREF. The following information provides comparative conclusions specific to the concerns addressed in this subsection for each of the two "no action" alternative scenarios addressed in ER Section 2.4, Table 2.4-2, Comparison of Environmental Impacts for the Proposed Action and the No-Action Alternative Scenarios.

**Alternative Scenario C** - No EREF; LES and USEC deploy gas centrifuge plants, USEC phases out the Paducah gaseous diffusion plant (GDP) and GEH deploys their plant using Silex

enrichment technology: The water resources impacts will be the same assuming similar water requirements for Silex technology as for GDPs.

**Alternative Scenario D** - No EREF; LES and USEC deploy gas centrifuge plants, USEC phases out the Paducah gaseous diffusion plant (GDP) and USEC increases its centrifuge plant capacity: The water resources impacts will be greater since expansion concentrates water usage at one location.

## FIGURES



Security-Related Information  
Figure Withheld Under 10 CFR 2.390

**Figure 4.4-1** **Rev. 4**  
Facility Layout With Detention/  
Retention/Infiltration Basins  
**EAGLE ROCK ENRICHMENT FACILITY**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT**



## **4.5 ECOLOGICAL RESOURCES IMPACTS**

This section discusses the potential impacts of site preparation, construction, and operation of the proposed Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility (EREF) site on ecological resources.

### **4.5.1 Maps**

Construction and operation of the proposed plant will result in changes to the ecological resources on the proposed property. Figure 4.5-1, EREF Footprint Relative to Vegetation, shows the location of the proposed EREF in relation to vegetation types.

### **4.5.2 Proposed Schedule of Activities**

Construction for the proposed EREF will be initiated in 2011. Building heavy construction will be completed in 2018 with the installation of cascades continuing until 2022. Operations will begin in 2014 and continue until 2036. Decommissioning and decontamination will be initiated in 2032 and be completed in 2041. Refer to Section 1.2.4, Schedule on Major Steps Associated with the Proposed Action, for a complete schedule of all major steps in the proposed action.

### **4.5.3 Area of Disturbance**

The total area of land to be directly disturbed by construction and operation of the facilities will be approximately 240 ha (592 ac). This area includes two access roads, parking area, and lay-down areas. Figure 2.1-2, Site Area and Facility Layout Map, shows the locations of proposed buildings. All of the disturbed lands ultimately will be used for buildings, support structures, parking, or landscaped areas. There are no areas that will be used on a short-term basis other than for temporary construction facilities.

The proposed EREF will disturb about 75 ha (185 ac) of sagebrush steppe, 55 ha (136 ac) of seeded crested wheatgrass (non-irrigated seeded pasture), and 109 ha (268 ac) of irrigated crops will be eliminated (See Figure 4.5-1, EREF Footprint Relative to Vegetation). The total area of the proposed site represents about 4.3% of the land area within a radius of 8 km (5mi) from the site boundary (see Figure 3.1-4). The proposed EREF will result in a loss of about 0.3% of the sagebrush steppe vegetation, 1.4% of seeded crested wheatgrass, and 1.6% of agricultural lands within this area. No aquatic habitat, wetlands, riparian areas, or wet meadows will be affected because these habitats are not found on the proposed site.

The majority of the proposed site is suitable for use by wildlife, providing potential habitat for an assortment of birds, mammals, and reptiles (See Section 3.5.2, General Ecological Conditions of the Site). The sagebrush steppe is the most valuable and used by the greatest number and diversity of wildlife compared to the seeded crested wheatgrass and irrigated crop vegetation types.

### **4.5.4 Activities Expected to Impact Communities or Habitats**

A variety of potential impacts will result from construction and operation of the proposed EREF. Sources of impact during construction will include loss of habitat, soil erosion, dust emissions, noise, night lighting, tall structures (e.g., construction cranes, powerline poles, and powerlines), presence of workers, traffic, and stormwater discharge ponds. Sources of impact during operations will be similar to those during construction, with the exception that dust and soil erosion will be negligible and a lined catch basin will contain treated domestic sanitary effluent.

Habitat loss (i.e., clearing of vegetation) from site preparation, construction, and operation of the proposed EREF will result in mobile animal species being displaced and loss of less mobile animals (e.g., small mammals). Mobile species moving through the area will likely avoid the disturbed area and facilities. Loss of the agriculture fields will result in some loss of a food source (e.g., grains) for mobile species. As discussed in Section 4.5.3, Area of Disturbance, the amount of habitat to be disturbed is 240 ha (592 ac) and is a small percentage of the available habitat in the 8 km (5 mi) area. Therefore, impacts will be small.

Dust emissions during construction may reduce vegetation productivity in the immediate vicinity of the disturbed areas. Best management practices will be used to minimize dust. Therefore, impacts will be negligible to small.

Noise from heavy equipment, traffic, and blasting during site preparation; from heavy equipment and traffic during construction; and from chillers, other equipment, and traffic during operations will result in reduced use of nearby onsite and offsite habitat for some species. Blasting and heavy equipment will have the largest noise footprints (see Section 4.7, Noise Impacts) and will result in the greatest reduction in habitat use by wildlife. As defined in Section 4.5.9, AES will take actions to minimize impacts to migratory birds. Maximum noise levels will be about 95 dBA at 15 m (50 ft) and about 61 dBA at the nearest site boundary to the footprint of the proposed plant. This level exceeds the limit that is considered acceptable based on the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) land use compatibility guideline of 60 dBA for farm land use (See Table 3.7-2, U.S. Department of Housing Urban Development Land Use Compatibility Guidelines). However, this sound level is within the guideline for industrial facilities of 70 dBA. Blasting will be limited and episodic. For comparison, thunder can generate sound levels of 120 dB.

Equipment used during construction will generate noise levels as high as 95 dBA at 15 m (50 ft) and about 46 to 61 dBA at the nearest site boundary to the footprint of the proposed plant. This sound level exceeds the HUD land use compatibility guideline of 60 dBA for farm land use but is within the guideline for industrial facilities of 70 dBA. Construction sound levels will be within the HUD land use compatibility guidelines of 60 dBA for farm land use about 1 km (0.6 mi) from the site footprint, which is no more than 0.4 km (0.25 mi) from the boundary of the proposed site nearest to the proposed EREF footprint.

Noise from the plant during operations will be less than 15 dBA at the north boundary of the proposed site. This sound level is within the HUD land use compatibility guidelines of 60 dBA for farm land use.

The impacts to wildlife from noise during construction and operation of the proposed EREF likely will be small.

Night lighting will be used during operation of the proposed EREF. Lighting could reduce wildlife use of habitat adjacent to the facility. Bats could be attracted to the lights since insects, a food source for many bat species, are also attracted to the lights. Lighting will be limited to the plant and access roads. All lights will be pointed or aimed downward to minimize the distance that lights could be observed. Therefore, impacts likely will be small.

Cranes will be used during construction. The tallest plant structure will be about 20 m (65 ft) in height. Bird strikes are possible. However, the structure height is less than the 61 m (200 ft) threshold that requires notifying the FAA and installing lights for aviation safety (CFR, 2008pp); and no wires will be required to support the structure or cranes. In addition, the proposed site is not within a migration concentration area (e.g., near major water bodies or topographic features used for navigation). Therefore, bird strikes are much less likely to occur and the impacts will be small.

Presence of workers will result in avoidance of habitat immediately adjacent to construction and operation activities. Human presence will have the greatest impact during site preparation and construction, when workers are outside and using the most area within the proposed site. During operations worker presence will be lower (i.e., fewer workers, less amount of time outside) and animal populations will have adjusted during the first few years of plant construction. Presence of humans will be in part associated with noise impacts and the spatial extent of human activity will be limited to about 240 ha (592 ac); therefore, impacts will be small.

Traffic and use of onsite access roads can result in vehicle-wildlife collisions and fragmentation of seeded crested wheatgrass vegetation. Collisions will be minimized by maintaining reduced speeds for vehicles. Small mammals and birds will be the most affected by onsite traffic and roads, because few, if any, large mammals use this area on the property. However, the habitat value of this vegetation type potentially will improve with the removal of livestock grazing. The reduced grazing will result in increased vertical structure and a potential increase in plant diversity. This potential increase in plant community structure will offset potential loss from traffic although big game species (e.g., pronghorn) may begin to use the habitat if structure and diversity improves. Offsite traffic will increase along U.S. Highway 20 resulting in increased vehicle-wildlife collisions. The increased traffic volume over existing levels will range from about 37% during operations to about 53% during construction. Impacts from onsite and offsite traffic will be small.

The retention and detention basins and the Domestic SSTP Basin could be attractants to wildlife. The water quality of discharges to the stormwater basins will meet standards for stormwater. The water quality of discharges to the Domestic SSTP Basin will meet standards for treated effluent as required by the State of Idaho. The retention basins will be fenced to minimize the potential for land animals to use the water. Detention Basins B and C are within the fenced facility. Detention Basin A and the Domestic SSTP Basin will be surrounded by animal friendly fencing. Impacts from the retention and detention basins will be negligible to small.

#### **4.5.5 Expected Impacts to Communities or Habitats**

The communities and habitats on the proposed site are not unique or rare. No currently listed rare, threatened, or endangered species have been found or are known to occur on the proposed site. USFWS and IDFG identified that pronghorn (*Antilocapra americana*), greater sage grouse (*Centrocercus urophasianus*), and pygmy rabbit (*Brachylagus idahoensis*) were the three sensitive species of greatest interest to the agencies related to this project.

The proposed site is within BLM-designated crucial winter-spring pronghorn habitat. The sagebrush steppe habitat on the proposed site is adjacent and contiguous to habitat identified as key greater sage grouse habitat (ISGAC, 2006). The sagebrush steppe vegetation also represents potential habitat for pygmy rabbits. The sagebrush steppe habitat and the seeded crested wheatgrass vegetation provide nesting habitat for migratory birds, including various sparrow species, western meadowlark (*Sturnella neglecta*), sage thrasher (*Oreoscoptes montanus*), northern harrier (*Circus cyaneus*), short-eared owl (*Asio flammeus*), killdeer (*Charadrius vociferous*), and long-billed curlew (*Numenius americanus*), all of which were observed during site surveys. Impacts to these species will be similar to the impacts discussed in Section 4.5.4, Activities Expected to Impact Communities or Habitats. Specific potential impacts to these species are discussed below. See Section 4.5.10, Coordination with Federal and State Agencies, regarding regulatory compliance and protection of these species.

The construction and operation of the proposed EREF will result in the loss of about 75 ha (185 ac) of sagebrush steppe which is used by pronghorn. This is a small percent of this crucial

winter-spring range. AREVA will improve the existing boundary fence to ensure pronghorn access to the remaining habitat on the proposed site. Removal of livestock will likely improve cover and vegetation diversity of the remaining sagebrush steppe and seeded crested wheatgrass vegetation types. This improvement may increase the carrying capacity and use of the remaining acres for pronghorn use.

Impacts to greater sage grouse will be similar to those for general wildlife relying on the sagebrush steppe habitat. About 75 ha (185 ac) of sagebrush steppe habitat that could be used for nesting, roosting, and brood rearing will be lost. Greater sage grouse are birds that require large expanses of habitat. Home ranges for non-migratory greater sage grouse have been reported to vary between 11 to 31 km<sup>2</sup> (4-12 mi<sup>2</sup>) (Crawford, 2004) (Utah DNR, 2002). This is equivalent to approximately 1,100 ha (2,718 ac) to 3,100 ha (7,660 ac). The median distance traversed by birds from nests to summer/fall range has been reported to be 20.9 km (13 mi) (Fischer, 1993) while hens in Idaho nest an average of 3-5 km (2-3 mi) from their lek of capture but may move more than 8 km (5 mi) to nest (Connelly, 2004). Because greater sage grouse require large areas, the proposed site, which is 1,700 ha (4,200 ac) in size, likely supports only a few birds. The area of sagebrush steppe directly affected by land clearing is about 75 ha (185 ac) which is less than 10% of the median home range for a bird.

Portions of the remaining habitat will be avoided or used less frequently due to noise, human presence, and night lighting. Greater sage grouse mortality may increase if raptors use the remaining habitat more heavily due to increased numbers of perch sites. Removal of grazing may improve the remaining sagebrush steppe vegetation and may increase greater sage grouse use of this vegetation along the western portions of the proposed site. Noise during construction may affect the lek activity and decrease numbers of birds at this lek during breeding season. Maximum construction noise levels will be about 35 dBA at the nearest known lek, which is within ambient noise levels measured in June 2008. This lek is between 6.4 and 8 km (4 and 5 mi) from the proposed site. Therefore, breeding success at this lek may be affected. All other known leks are over 8 km (5 mi) from the proposed EREF site and will not be affected. Therefore, impacts to greater sage grouse from the proposed EREF will be small.

Impacts to the pygmy rabbit may be similar to those for general wildlife relying on the sagebrush steppe habitat. About 75 ha (185 ac) of sagebrush steppe habitat will be lost. Pygmy rabbits and sign were not observed during June 2008, October 2008, January 2009, April 2009 and October 2010. Pygmy rabbits and sign were not observed during surveys conducted on two areas on the INL within 3.2 km (2 mi) of the proposed site and on several other INL areas within 8 km (5 mi) of the proposed EREF site. However, rabbits have been observed during surveys on the INL about 8.7 km (5.4 mi) from the proposed site. If pygmy rabbits are present, portions of the remaining habitat will be avoided or used less frequently due to noise and human presence. Pygmy rabbit mortality may increase if raptors use the remaining habitat more heavily due to increased numbers of perch sites. Conversely, removal of grazing may improve the remaining sagebrush steppe vegetation and increase pygmy rabbit use along the western portions of the proposed site.

Impacts to migratory birds will include loss of breeding, nesting habitat, roosting, rearing, and feeding habitat. All three vegetation types totaling 240 ha (592 ac) provide some habitat for selected species of migratory birds. Therefore, the loss of habitat will result in birds relocating to adjacent habitat. None of the habitat is unique and remaining habitat may improve as grazing is eliminated, thereby, potentially offsetting some of the impacts. AES will minimize the impacts to migratory birds by taking the actions defined in Section 4.5.9.

#### **4.5.6 Tolerances or Susceptibilities of Important Biota to Pollutants**

Species that are highly mobile are not susceptible to localized physical and chemical pollutants as are other less mobile species such as invertebrates and aquatic species. The facility will have very low air emissions (see Section 4.6, Air Quality Impacts) and limited water discharges (see Section 4.4, Water Resources Impacts). Treated domestic sanitary effluent will be discharged to a basin and stormwater runoff from the Cylinder Storage Pads will be collected in lined retention basins. Stormwater runoff from roads, parking lots, and roofs will be collected in detention basins. The retention and detention basins and the Domestic SSTP Basin will be fenced, therefore limiting access to wildlife. There will be no impacts to aquatic systems because there are no existing aquatic resources on the proposed site, and the plant will not discharge water to any drainages.

#### **4.5.7 Maintenance Practices**

Maintenance practices such as the use of chemical herbicides and removal of detention basin residues will be employed during plant operation. No herbicides will be used during construction, but may be used during operations in limited amounts along the access roads, plant area, and security fence surrounding the plant. Herbicides will be used according to government regulations and manufacturer's instructions to control unwanted noxious vegetation during operation of the plant. Any eroded areas that may develop will be repaired and stabilized and sediment will be collected in a stormwater detention basin.

##### **4.5.7.1 Special Maintenance Practices**

No unique habitats (e.g., marshes, natural areas, bogs) have been identified within the 1,700-ha (4,200-ac) proposed site. Similarly, no special maintenance practices will be required to construct or operate the proposed EREF. Therefore, no special maintenance practices will be used.

#### **4.5.8 Construction Practices**

Standard land clearing methods, primarily the use of heavy equipment, will be used during the construction phase of the proposed EREF site. Erosion and runoff control methods, both temporary and permanent, will follow Best Management Practices (BMPs). These practices include minimizing the construction footprint to the extent possible, limiting site slopes to a horizontal to vertical ratio of four to one or less, using temporary sedimentation detention basins, protecting adjacent undisturbed areas with silt fencing and straw bales as appropriate, using crushed stone on top of disturbed soil in areas of concentrated runoff, and other site stabilization practices. Water will be applied at least twice daily, when needed, to control dust in construction areas in addition to other fugitive dust prevention and control methods.

#### **4.5.9 Practices and Procedures to Minimize Adverse Impacts**

Several practices and procedures have been designed to minimize adverse impacts to the ecological resources of the proposed site. These practices and procedures include the use of BMP's recommended by various state and federal management agencies (refer to Section 4.5.8, Construction Practices), minimizing the construction footprint to the extent possible, avoiding all direct discharge (including stormwater) to any waters of the United States (i.e., the use of temporary detention ponds), and site stabilization practices to reduce the potential for erosion and sedimentation. The use of native plant species in disturbed area revegetation will

enhance and maximize the opportunity for native wildlife habitat to be re-established at the site. In addition, AREVA has identified the following additional mitigations to reduce impacts to ecological resources:

- Dust suppression methods will be used to minimize dust emissions.
- Fence the stormwater discharge retention and detention basins and the domestic SSTP Basin to limit access by wildlife.
- Improve the existing boundary fence by using smooth wire on the bottom wire and maintaining a minimum distance of about 40 cm (16 in) between the bottom wire and the ground.
- Continue seasonal monitoring of habitat to confirm habitat use by sensitive species.
- To protect migratory birds during the construction and decommissioning of the EREF, the following measures will be taken:
  - Clearing or removal of habitat (e.g., sagebrush), including buffer zones, will be performed outside of the breeding and nesting season for migratory birds.
  - If additional areas are to be disturbed or impacted that have not been cleared outside of breeding and nesting season, surveys will be performed to identify active nests during breeding and nesting season for migratory birds. Activities in areas containing active nests for migratory birds will be avoided.
  - AES will consult with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to determine the appropriate actions to take a migratory bird, if needed.
- The use of low maintenance landscaping in and around the stormwater detention basins.
- The management of unused open areas (i.e. leave undisturbed), including areas of native grasses and shrubs for the benefit of wildlife.
- Eliminate livestock grazing on the property, when the plant becomes operational.
- Re-seed cropland areas on the property with native species, when the plant becomes operational.

#### **4.5.10 Coordination with Federal and State Agencies**

Currently, no listed rare, threatened, or endangered species or habitats are known to occur on the proposed site. However, the sagebrush community isolated to the northwestern one-third of the proposed site has the potential to provide habitat for the pygmy rabbit and is used by the greater sage grouse. In January 2008, the USFWS initiated a status review for the pygmy rabbit (USFWS, 2008d) and in February 2008 for the greater sage grouse (USFWS, 2008e) (USFWS, 2008f) to determine if listing of either species is warranted. In addition, multiple agencies, including IDFG, published an updated sage grouse conservation plan (ISGAC, 2006). The life history and habitat requirements for both species are discussed in Section 3.5.3, Description of Important Wildlife and Plant Species. By letter dated June 30, 2008, the USFWS notified AES of its determination that Endangered Species Act consultation is not needed. In March 2010, the USFWS announced that listing of the greater sage grouse as an endangered species is warranted, but listing precluded by higher listing priorities (USFWS, 2010a). In September 2010, the USFWS announced that it had completed a status review of the pygmy rabbit and concluded that it does not warrant protection under the Endangered Species Act in Idaho and other western states (USFWS, 2010b).



AREVA met with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). AREVA, IDFG, and USFWS agreed to continue discussions as the proposed project planning evolves and, as appropriate, develop mitigations to minimize impacts to ecological resources. Section 4.5.9, Practices and Procedures to Minimize Adverse Impacts, provides the current mitigations identified by AREVA. AREVA, if needed, will consult with the USFWS to determine appropriate actions for taking of migratory birds. In addition, AREVA will continue to work with USFWS and IDFG if the greater sage grouse is listed as threatened or endangered.

#### **4.5.11 Cumulative Impacts**

The cumulative impacts to the ecological resources is limited to those resulting from construction and operation of the EREF and existing development on surrounding properties, because AES does not know of any other Federal, State, or private development plans within 16 km (10 mi) of the EREF. Continued land use, primarily agriculture and grazing, will continue to have similar impacts on wildlife and habitat. Wildfire threats will remain. In the larger region, reduction of sagebrush steppe habitat likely will continue from developments and conversion of sagebrush steppe to crop land. Federal, state, and private activities and coordination may reduce habitat losses in the future. Construction and operation of the proposed EREF will contribute to the direct loss of about 75 ha (185 ac) of sagebrush steppe in the region. This loss will be at the edge of contiguous habitat and will represent less than 1% of the sagebrush steppe habitat within 8 km (5 mi) of the proposed site. Therefore, cumulative impacts will be small.

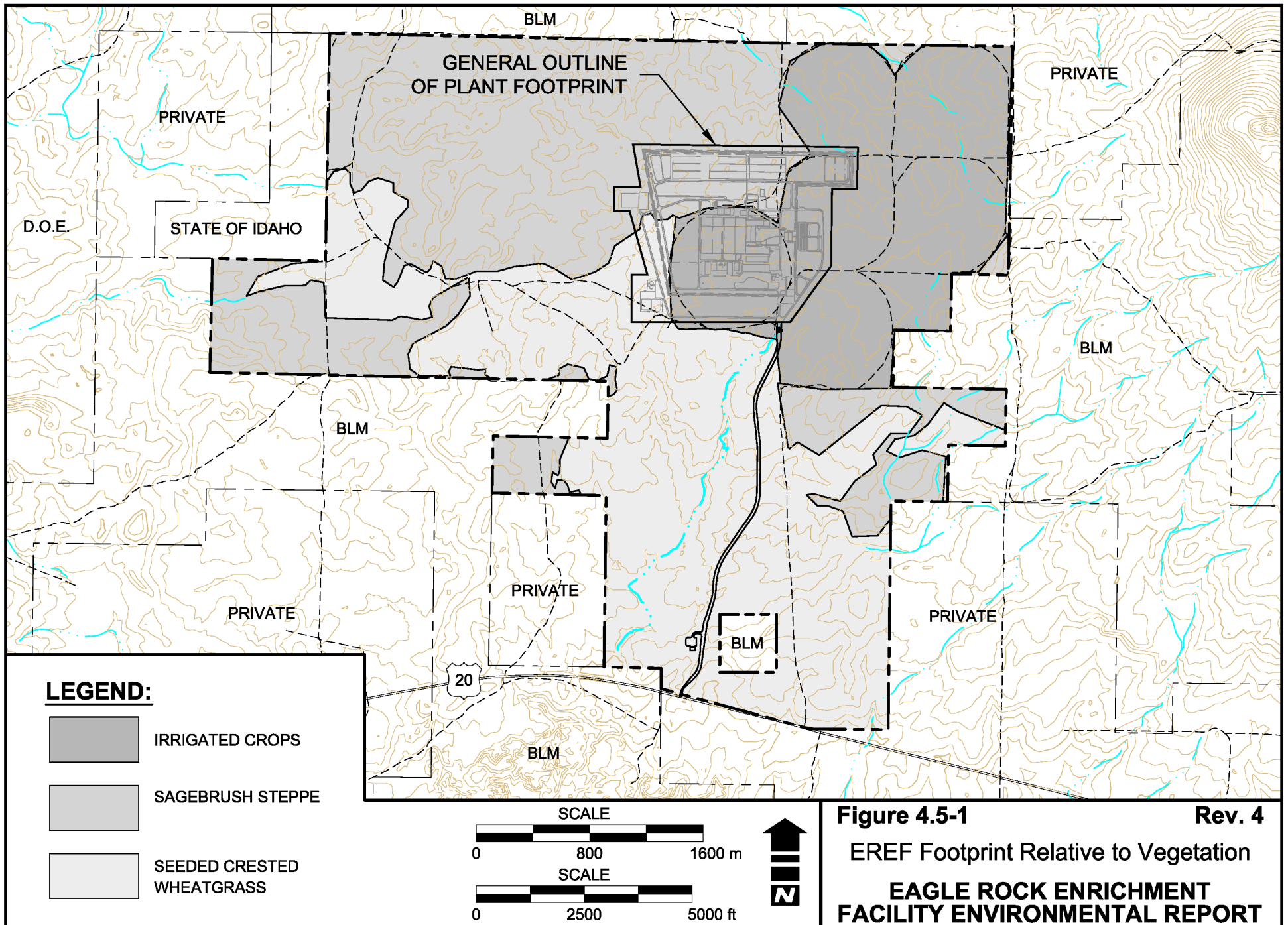
#### **4.5.12 Comparative Ecological Resource Impacts of No Action Alternative Scenarios**

ER Chapter 2, Alternatives, provides a discussion of possible alternatives to the construction and operation of the EREF, including an alternative of "no action," i.e., not building the EREF. The following information provides comparative conclusions specific to the concerns addressed in this subsection for the two "no action" alternative scenarios addressed in ER Section 2.4, Table 2.4-2, Comparison of Environmental Impacts for the Proposed Action and the No-Action Alternative Scenarios.

**Alternative Scenario C** - No EREF; LES and USEC deploy gas centrifuge plants, USEC phases out the Paducah gaseous diffusion plant (GDP) and GEH deploys their plant using Silex enrichment technology: The ecological resource impacts would be the same since three enrichment plants would be built.

**Alternative Scenario D** - No EREF; LES and USEC deploy gas centrifuge plants, USEC phases out the Paducah gaseous diffusion plant (GDP) and USEC increases its centrifuge plant capacity: The ecological resource impacts would be the same or greater since there is additional concentration of activity at a single location.

## FIGURES



## **4.6      AIR QUALITY IMPACTS**

This section describes the air quality impacts of the proposed action (construction, operation, and decommissioning of the Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility (EREF)).

### **4.6.1      Air Quality Impacts from Construction**

Air quality impacts from site preparation for the EREF were evaluated using emission factors and air quality dispersion modeling. Emission rates of criteria pollutants were estimated for exhaust emissions from construction vehicles and for fugitive dust using emission factors provided in the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) AP-42, Compilation of Air Pollutant Emission Factors (EPA, 2008f). The total emission rates were used to scale the output from the American Meteorological Society (AMS)/EPA Regulatory Model (AERMOD), based upon a unit source term as input to the model, to estimate both short-term and annual average ambient air concentrations at the facility property boundary. AERMOD is a refined, steady-state, multi-source, Gaussian dispersion model that is EPA's preferred model for a wide range of regulatory applications in all types of terrain (EPA, 2008g). The air emissions calculations and air dispersion modeling are discussed in more detail in Appendix B.

Emission rates from vehicle exhaust and fugitive dust, as listed in Table 4.6-1, Peak Emission Rates, were estimated for a 10-hour workday assuming peak construction activity levels were maintained throughout the year. Fugitive dust will originate predominantly from vehicle traffic on unpaved surfaces, earth moving, excavating and bulldozing, and to a lesser extent from wind erosion. Fugitive dust emissions were estimated using an AP-42 emission factor for construction site preparation that was adjusted to account for dust suppression measures and the fractions of total suspended particulate that are expected to be in the particulate matter less than 10 microns ( $PM_{10}$ ) and particulate matter less than 2.5 microns ( $PM_{2.5}$ ) size ranges. As discussed below, higher dust emission rates were demonstrated not to exceed standards at the area where potential off-site exposures during construction are greatest (on U.S. Highway 20). Dust emission rates that are lower than these were developed for potential property line exposures. For the potential property line exposures, it was assumed that no more than 89 ha (221 ac) of the construction site would be involved in construction work at any one time. The area limitation on construction activities is based on the need to maintain compliance with the 24-hour  $PM_{10}$  ambient air quality standard. A more detailed discussion of this issue and a possible remedy to increase the percentage of allowable disturbed area is presented later in this section.

Of the combustion sources, vehicle exhaust will be the dominant source. Fugitive volatile emissions will occur because vehicles will be refueled on-site. Estimated vehicles that will be operating on the site during construction will consist of two types: support vehicles and construction equipment. The support vehicles will include fifty pickup trucks, forty gators (gas-powered carts), three fuel trucks, four stakebody trucks and three mechanic's trucks. Emission factors in EPA's MOBILE6.2 emission estimation model (EPA, 2003) were used to estimate emissions of criteria pollutants and non-methane hydrocarbons for these vehicles. Use of MOBILE6.2 requires that mobile sources be categorized by vehicle size. The gators were assumed to be Light Duty Vehicles, the pickup trucks and the mechanic's trucks Category I Light Duty Trucks, the stakebody trucks Category II Light Duty Trucks and the fuel trucks were assumed to be Heavy Duty Trucks. Baseline emission factors for each of the vehicle categories were provided in MOBILE6.2 as a function of the calendar year. Emission factors used included vehicle model years for the last 25 years.

The construction equipment that will be operating on the site during peak construction consists of five bulldozers, four graders, five pans (diesel-powered fill transporters), twenty dump trucks, nine backhoes, eight loaders, six rollers, four water trucks, five telehandlers, 16 manlifts, nine track drills, three 25-ton cranes and four cranes at 250-ton or greater, three concrete pump trucks, nine concrete delivery trucks and one tractor. Emission factors, in units of grams per hour of operation, provided in MOBILE6.2 for diesel-powered construction equipment, were compiled. In calculating emissions, it was conservatively assumed that all equipment would be in continuous operation throughout the 10-hour workday.

Emissions were modeled in AERMOD as a uniform area source with emissions occurring 10 hours per day, 5 days per week, and 52 weeks per year (Note: Construction activities are planned to occur for 50 weeks per year; however, since it was impossible to determine which two weeks of the year to eliminate from the meteorological data base, the dispersion model was conservatively run for all 52 weeks of the year). The modeling analysis was performed using the most recent five years (2003-2007) of hourly surface meteorological data from the EBR station on the INL site (determined to be representative of the EREF site) and from the National Weather Service (NWS) station at Pocatello Municipal Airport in Pocatello, Idaho along with concurrent upper air sounding data collected at the Boise International Airport in Boise, Idaho. The three sets of data (two surfaces and one upper air) were input into AERMOD's general purpose meteorological preprocessor AERMET, which organizes and processes meteorological data and estimates the boundary layer parameters necessary for dispersion calculations. AERMET processed the meteorological data by utilizing the Pocatello data only when the EBR station data was not available.

Pocatello Airport is located 77 kilometers (48 miles) south of the EREF and both sites are characterized by predominantly rural surroundings with no significant nearby terrain influences. Therefore, the surface data collected at Pocatello Airport was adequately representative to conduct the modeling analysis to evaluate maximum impacts at the EREF site. For the upper air data, Boise Airport was the closest available data and therefore was used in this analysis.

Two air dispersion modeling efforts were conducted to assess the potential air impacts during construction. The first effort modeled potential impacts to the closest downwind property boundary. The second effort modeled potential impacts at U.S. Highway 20, which is the major roadway to the south of the proposed site. Potential impacts at U.S. Highway 20 were assessed because U.S. Highway 20 is the closest area where the general public would have reasonable access to the site location, and therefore, is where greatest potential for exposure to emissions during construction exists.

Sixty-two (62) property line receptors were selected for the refined modeling analysis to determine the maximum air quality impacts caused by construction site preparation activity. Fifty (50) potential receptor locations were modeled along U.S. Highway 20 at intervals approximately 100 meters apart.

In order to demonstrate that the construction site preparation activities comply with the applicable National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) (CFR, 2008nn), maximum predicted air quality impacts for each pollutant must be added to representative background air quality concentrations that represent the contribution from all un-modeled emissions sources. Background concentrations must be obtained for each pollutant and each averaging period for which an NAAQS exists.

There is a network of air pollutant monitoring sites throughout the State of Idaho. The nearest monitoring sites to the EREF are located in Pocatello, Idaho, where multiple monitoring sites are in operation for most of the criteria pollutants. Because of the general proximity of the Pocatello monitors to the EREF site, the air quality data at these sites will be assumed to be

representative of air quality at the EREF site. For criteria pollutants not monitored in Pocatello, the next closest monitoring location was selected. In order to determine background concentrations for the modeling analysis, monitoring data reports for the most recent two years (2006 and 2007) were obtained from EPA's AIRData web-site (EPA, 2008i).

Table 4.6-2, Background Air Quality Concentrations for AERMOD Modeling Analysis, summarizes the monitored concentration data that were used in the background analysis and presents the calculated background concentrations that were used in the AERMOD modeling analysis. Because the NAAQS typically allow for a single exceedance of a short-term (24-hour average or less) standard without causing a violation, the short-term background concentrations for carbon monoxide (CO) and sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) are based on the second-highest concentration measured at each monitor during each year. The higher of the two second-highest values was selected as the background concentration. In addition, based on modeling guidelines, the 24-hour average background concentrations for PM<sub>10</sub> are based on the third highest concentration measured over the two-year period and PM<sub>2.5</sub> are based on the 98<sup>th</sup> percentile monitored concentration (i.e., 98 percent of the monitored concentrations are less than that value).

The results of the air quality impact analysis of the EREF construction site preparation activities are presented in Tables 4.6-3a and 4.6-3b, Results of Air Quality Impact AERMOD Dispersion Modeling for EREF Construction Site Preparation Activity Property Line Receptor Locations and U.S. Highway 20 Receptor Locations, respectively. All predicted concentrations shown in Tables 4.6-3a and 4.6-3b, Results of Air Quality Impact AERMOD Dispersion Modeling for EREF Construction Site Preparation Activity Property Line Receptor Locations and U.S. Highway 20 Receptor Locations, respectively, include the appropriate ambient background level noted in Table 4.6-2, Background Air Quality Concentrations for AERMOD Modeling Analysis. No NAAQS has been set for hydrocarbons; however, the total annual emissions of hydrocarbons predicted from the site (approximately 4,045 kg (4.5 tons)) are well below the level of 36,287 kg (40 tons) that defines a significant source of volatile organic compounds (40 CFR 52.21(b)(23)(i)) (CFR, 2008qq).

As shown in Table 4.6-3a, Results of Air Quality Impact AERMOD Dispersion Modeling for EREF Construction Site Preparation Activity Property Line Receptor Locations, the maximum predicted one-hour and eight-hour CO concentrations for the EREF construction site preparation were 4.6 ppm and 2.2 ppm, respectively. All CO concentrations were generated by vehicle exhaust from support vehicles and construction equipment utilized on-site. None of the modeled CO concentrations exceed the NAAQS noted in Table 4.6-3a, Results of Air Quality Impact AERMOD Dispersion Modeling for EREF Construction Site Preparation Activity Property Line Receptor Locations.

The maximum predicted annual nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) concentration was estimated to be 11.9 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. As with CO concentrations, all NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations were generated from vehicle exhaust and do not exceed the NAAQS.

For SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations, the estimated maximum annual concentration was 15.7 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, 63.8 µg/m<sup>3</sup> for the 24-hour averaging period, and 165.7 µg/m<sup>3</sup> for the 3-hour averaging period. SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations were generated by vehicle exhaust from construction equipment. None of the predicted SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations exceeded the NAAQS.

PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations were mainly generated by fugitive dust caused by construction activity. To a lesser extent, vehicle exhaust from construction equipment contributed to the PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations. As can be seen in Table 4.6-3a, Results of Air Quality Impact AERMOD Dispersion Modeling for EREF Construction Site Preparation Activity Property Line Receptor Locations, the maximum predicted annual PM<sub>10</sub> concentration was 27.3 µg/m<sup>3</sup> while the 24-hour

PM<sub>10</sub> concentration was estimated to be 150 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. The NAAQS for the annual averaging period was revoked in 2006 and therefore does not apply. The 24-hour PM<sub>10</sub> concentration is at the NAAQS but does not exceed the limit noted in Table 4.6-3a, Results of Air Quality Impact AERMOD Dispersion Modeling for EREF Construction Site Preparation Activity Property Line Receptor Locations. This maximum 24-hour PM<sub>10</sub> concentration is predicted to occur at a location on the property boundary that is closest to the southwest portion of the area of disturbance.

Predicted maximum PM<sub>2.5</sub> annual concentrations at the property boundary were estimated to be 7.0 µg/m<sup>3</sup> and the 24-hour concentration was 28.0 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. These concentrations do not exceed the annual and 24-hour NAAQS shown in Table 4.6-3a, Results of Air Quality Impact AERMOD Dispersion Modeling for EREF Construction Site Preparation Activity Property Line Receptor Locations. Fugitive dust generated by construction activity and vehicle exhaust is a contributor to the PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations.

As shown in Table 4.6-3b, Results of Air Quality Impact AERMOD Dispersion Modeling for EREF Construction Site Preparation Activity U.S. Highway 20 Receptor Locations, the maximum predicted one-hour and eight-hour CO concentrations for the EREF construction site preparation at U.S. Highway 20 locations were 4.4 and 2.1 ppm, respectively. The predicted CO concentrations do not exceed the NAAQS noted in Table 4.6-3b.

The maximum predicted annual NO<sub>2</sub> concentration at U.S. Highway 20 locations was estimated to be 11.3 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, below the standard shown in Table 4.6-3b.

For SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations at U.S. Highway 20 locations, the estimated maximum annual concentration was 15.7 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. The 24-hour average was 63.3 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. The three-hour average was 162.3 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. All predicted SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations were below the standards shown in Table 4.6-3b.

The maximum predicted annual PM<sup>10</sup> concentration at U.S. Highway 20 locations was 23.2 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. The 24-hour average PM<sup>10</sup> concentration was 113.5 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. Neither concentration exceeded the standards shown in Table 4.6-3b. The maximum predicted annual PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration at U.S. Highway 20 locations was 6.6 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. The 24-hour average PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration was 24.3 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. The predicted PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations do not exceed the standards shown in Table 4.6-3b.

Other onsite air quality impacts will occur due to the construction work, such as portable generator exhaust, air compressor exhaust, welding torch fumes, paint fumes, and petroleum emissions from fueling operations. Since the EREF will be constructed using a phased construction plan, some of the facility will be operational while construction continues. As such, other air quality impacts will occur due to the operation of the standby diesel generators. Construction emission types, source locations, and emission quantities are presented in Table 4.6-4, Construction Emission Types. A comparison of the air quality impacts during construction and operation indicates that the construction emissions are bounding.

During the three-year period of site preparation and major building construction, offsite air quality will be impacted by passenger vehicles with construction workers commuting to the site and trucks delivering construction materials and removing construction wastes. Emission rates from passenger vehicle exhaust were estimated for a 80 km (50 mi) roundtrip commute for 900 vehicles per workday. No credit was taken for the use of car pools. Emission rates from delivery trucks were estimated for a 402 km (250 mi) roundtrip for 30 vehicles per workday. It was assumed that there are 250 workdays per year (five-day work week and fifty-week work year). Emission factors are based on MOBILE6.2. The resulting emission factors, tons of daily

emissions, number of vehicles and heavy duty engines are provided in Table 4.6-5, Offsite Vehicle Air Emissions During Construction.

The construction estimates for daily emissions are based on the average number of trucks per day. There will be peak days, such as when large concrete pours are executed, where there will be more than the average number of trucks per day. This peak daily value of truck trips is not available at this time. It is estimated, however, that the daily emission values presented in Table 4.6-5, Offsite Vehicle Air Emissions During Construction, that are based on the average number of trucks could be about an order of magnitude higher on the peak days.

The air quality impacts from construction activities will be small, because:

- Impacts from vehicular emissions are predicted to be well below NAAQS.
- Impacts from particulate matter emissions from fugitive dust are predicted to be below NAAQS.
- The extent of the maximum fugitive dust impacts is limited to a small area that is in close proximity to the property boundary.
- Mitigation measures will be implemented to ensure that fugitive dust emissions are controlled to the lowest levels practicable.

#### **4.6.2 Air Quality Impacts from Operation**

Onsite air quality will be impacted during operation due to the operation of the standby generators. Operation emission types, source locations, and emission quantities of the EREF standby diesel generators are presented in Table 4.6-6, Air Emissions During Operations.

During operation, offsite air quality will be impacted by passenger vehicles with EREF workers commuting to the site, delivery trucks, uranium hexafluoride (UF<sub>6</sub>) cylinder shipment trucks, and waste removal trucks. Emission rates from passenger vehicle exhaust were estimated for a 80.5 km (50 mi) roundtrip commute for 550 vehicles per workday. No credit was taken for the use of car pools. Emission rates from trucks were estimated for an average distance of 805 km (500 mi) for 36 vehicles per workday. It was assumed that there are 250 workdays per year (five-day work week and fifty-week work year). Emission factors are based on MOBILE6.2. The resulting emission factors, tons of daily emissions, number of vehicles and heavy duty engines are provided in Table 4.6-7, Offsite Vehicle Air Emissions During Operations.

NUREG-1748 (NRC, 2003a) recommends that atmospheric dispersion factors ( $\chi/Q$ 's) be used to assess the environmental effects of normal plant operations and facility accidents. In the following subsections, information is presented about the gaseous effluents, the gaseous effluent control systems, and computer models and data used to calculate the atmospheric dispersion and deposition factors.

The air quality impacts from operation activities will be small, because:

- Emissions from the operation of four emergency generators will be small. These emission units are exempt from permitting requirements.
- Vehicular emissions are predicted to be extremely low in the vicinity of the site.
- Emissions of hazardous air pollutants are predicted to be insignificant and are well below permitting thresholds.



#### **4.6.2.1 Description of Gaseous Effluents**

Uranium hexafluoride (UF<sub>6</sub>) will be the radioactive effluent for gaseous pathways. Average source term releases to the atmosphere are estimated to be 19.5 MBq (528 µCi) per year for the purposes of bounding routine operational impacts. European experience indicates that uranium discharges from gaseous effluent ventilation systems are less than 20 g (0.71 ounces) per year. Therefore, 19.5 MBq (528 µCi) is a very conservative estimate and is consistent with an NRC estimate (NRC, 1994) for a 6.6 million SWU plant that has been scaled for the 3.3 million SWU EREF.

Nonradioactive gaseous effluents include hydrogen fluoride (HF), ethanol, methylene chloride, and petroleum hydrocarbons. HF releases are estimated to be 2.0 kg (4.4 lbs) each year. Approximately 173 kg (382 lbs) and 1,055 kg (2,325 lbs) of ethanol and methylene chloride, respectively, are estimated to be released each year. These values are based on European operational experience. Petroleum hydrocarbon emissions from the Gasoline and Diesel Fueling Station are estimated at 298 kg (657 lb) per year.

In addition, on-site diesel engines include four standby diesel generators for use as standby power sources, a security diesel generator, and a fire pump diesel. Their use will be administratively controlled (i.e., only run a limited number of hours per year to limit emissions) and are exempt from air permitting requirements of the state of Idaho (IDAPA, 2008i).

#### **4.6.2.2 Description of Gaseous Effluent Ventilation Systems and Exhaust Filtration Systems**

The principal functions of the gaseous effluent ventilation system (GEVS) is to protect both the operator during connection/disconnection of UF<sub>6</sub> process equipment, and the environment, by collecting and cleaning all potentially hazardous gases from the plant prior to release to the atmosphere. Releases to the atmosphere will be in compliance with regulatory limits.

The stream of air and water vapor drawn into the GEVS can have suspended within it UF<sub>6</sub>, hydrogen fluoride (HF), oil and uranium particulates (mainly UO<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>). Online instrument measurements will provide a continuous indication to the operator of the quantity of radioactive material and HF in the emission stream. This will enable rapid corrective action to be taken in the event of any deviation from the normal operating conditions.

There are ten Gaseous Effluent Ventilation Systems for the plant: (1) the Separations Building Modules (SBM) GEVS with Passive IROFS that Contain Safe-by-Design Component Attributes (one in each of the four modules), (2) the Separations Building Modules Local Extraction GEVS (one in each of the four modules), (3) the Technical Support Building (TSB) GEVS and (4) the Centrifuge Test and Post Mortem Facilities GEVS within the Centrifuge Assembly Building (CAB). In addition, the TSB, the Blending, Sampling & Preparation Building (BSPB), and the Centrifuge Test and Post Mortem Facilities have HVAC systems that function to maintain negative pressure and exhaust filtration for rooms served by these systems.

The SBM GEVS with Passive IROFS that Contain Safe-by-Design Component Attributes transports potentially contaminated gases to a set of redundant filters (pre-filter, high efficiency particulate air filter, potassium carbonate impregnated activated carbon filter, a final high efficiency particulate air filter) and fans. The cleaned gases are discharged via rooftop exhaust vents to the atmosphere. The SBM Local Extraction GEVS collects potentially contaminated gaseous effluent from local flexible hose connections that are used during cylinder connection and disconnection and maintenance activities. The TSB GEVS transports potentially contaminated gases to a set of redundant filters (pre-filter, high efficiency particulate air filter,

potassium carbonate impregnated activated carbon filter, a final high efficiency particulate air filter) and fans. The Centrifuge Test and Post Mortem Facilities GEVS has one set of filters (pre-filter, high efficiency particulate air filter, potassium carbonate impregnated activated carbon filter, a final high efficiency particulate air filter) and a single fan. The TSB Contaminated Area HVAC system has two active sets of filters (roughing filter, high efficiency particulate air filter, potassium carbonate impregnated activated carbon filter, a final high efficiency particulate air filter) and fans. The Ventilated Room HVAC System in the BSPB and Centrifuge Test and Post Mortem Facilities Exhaust Filtration (HVAC) System each have one set of filters (roughing filter, high efficiency particulate air filter, potassium carbonate impregnated activated carbon filter, a final high efficiency particulate air filter) and one fan. The TSB GEVS and TSB Contaminated Area HVAC System exhaust vents are on the roof of the TSB. The Ventilated Room HVAC System exhaust point is on the roof of the BSPB. The Centrifuge Test and Post Mortem Facilities GEVS and Exhaust Filtration System exhaust vents are on the roof of the CAB.

Instrumentation is provided to detect and signal via alarm all non-routine process conditions so that the process can be returned to normal by operator actions. Trip actions from the same instrumentation automatically put the system into a safe condition.

#### **4.6.2.3 Calculation of Atmospheric Dispersion and Deposition Factors**

NUREG-1748 (NRC, 2003a) recommends that atmospheric dispersion factors ( $\chi/Q$ 's) be used to assess the environmental effects of normal plant operations and facility accidents. Although onsite meteorological data were not available for this analysis, five years (2003-2007) of meteorological data that meet the guidelines of Regulatory Guide 1.23, Revision 1 (NRC, 2007c) were obtained from the Air Resources Laboratory Field Research Division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The meteorological data used in the calculation of atmospheric dispersion and deposition factors were collected at a monitoring station known as EBR (now identified as MFC) located 18 km (11 mi) west of the EREF site. Both the EREF site and the meteorological monitoring station are located in the Eastern Snake River Plain of Idaho and have the same climate; as such, the meteorological data collected at EBR are representative of meteorological conditions at the EREF site. The meteorological data used in this analysis are discussed in greater detail in Section 3.6.

The computer program AEOLUS3, Revision 1, is intended to provide estimates of atmospheric dispersion and deposition of gaseous effluents in routine releases from nuclear facilities. AEOLUS3 implements the guidance in Regulatory Guide 1.111 (NRC, 1977c). AEOLUS3 is based on the theory that material released to the atmosphere will be normally distributed (Gaussian distribution) about the plume centerline. In predicting concentrations for longer time periods, the horizontal plume distribution is assumed to be evenly distributed within the directional sector, the so-called sector average model. A straight-line trajectory is assumed between the point of release and all receptors. Distances to the site boundary were determined using guidance from NRC Regulatory Guide 1.145 (NRC, 1983).

Maximum annual average atmospheric dispersion and deposition factors for the site boundary, and nearest gardens, meat animals, and businesses are presented in Table 4.6-8. Factors are not provided at the locations of nearest residents; instead, a resident is assumed to exist in the critical sectors at the site boundary (as designed in Table 4.6-8). The highest  $\chi/Q$  was 4.259 E-06 sec/m<sup>3</sup> on the site boundary at a distance of 1,073 m (3,520 ft) in the north sector. The highest deposition factor was 1.710 E-08 1/m<sup>2</sup> on the site boundary at a distance of 1,073 m (3,520 ft) in the north-northeast sector. Tables 4.6-9 through 4.6-14 present atmospheric dispersion and deposition factors out to 80 km (50 mi).

### **4.6.3 Visibility Impacts**

Visibility impacts from construction will be limited to fugitive dust emissions. Fugitive dust will originate predominantly from vehicle traffic on unpaved surfaces, earth moving, excavating and bulldozing, and to a lesser extent from wind erosion. There are no anticipated visibility impacts from operation of the EREF since there are no cooling towers that would produce visible plumes. Visibility impacts from decommissioning will be limited to fugitive dust. Fugitive dust will originate predominantly from building demolition, bulldozing, and vehicle traffic on unpaved surfaces.

### **4.6.4 Air Quality Impacts from Decommissioning**

Air quality impacts will occur during the decommissioning work, such as fugitive dust, vehicle exhaust, portable generator exhaust, air compressor exhaust, cutting torch fumes, and solvent fumes. Decommissioning emission types, source locations, and emission quantities are presented in Table 4.6-15, Decommissioning Emission Types. Fugitive dust and vehicle exhaust during decommissioning are assumed to be bounded by the emissions during construction.

The air quality impacts from decommissioning activities will be small, because these impacts are similar to and bounded by the air quality impacts associated with the construction of the EREF. The construction impacts were determined to be small.

### **4.6.5 Mitigative Measures for Air Quality Impacts**

Air concentrations of criteria pollutants for vehicle emissions and fugitive dust will be below the NAAQS. Particulate matter and visibility impacts from fugitive dust emissions will be minimized by watering of the site at least twice daily (when needed) during the construction phase to suppress dust emissions.

Mitigative measures for all credible accident scenarios considered in the Safety Analysis Report (SAR) are summarized in ER Section 4.12, Public and Occupational Health Impacts and ER Chapter 5, Mitigation Measures.

Mitigation measures will be in place to minimize potential impact on air quality. These include the following items:

- The SBM GEVS with Passive IROFS that Contain Safe-by-Design Component Attributes and SBM Local Extraction GEVS are designed to collect and clean all potentially hazardous gases from the plant prior to release into the atmosphere. Instrumentation is provided to detect and signal via alarm all non-routine process conditions, including the presence of radionuclides or HF in the exhaust system that will trip the system to a safe condition in the event of effluent detection beyond routine operational limits.
- The TSB GEVS is designed to collect and clean all potentially hazardous gases from the serviced areas in the TSB prior to release into the atmosphere. Instrumentation is provided to detect and signal the Control Room via alarm all non-routine process conditions, including the presence of radionuclides or HF in the exhaust stream. Operators will then take appropriate actions to mitigate the release.
- The Centrifuge Test and Post Mortem Facilities GEVS is designed to collect and clean all potentially hazardous gases from the serviced areas in the CAB prior to release into the atmosphere. Instrumentation is provided to detect and signal the Control Room via alarm all

non-routine process conditions, including the presence of radionuclides or HF in the exhaust stream. Operators will then take appropriate actions to mitigate the release.

- The TSB Contaminated Area HVAC, the Ventilated Room HVAC System in the BSPB, and the Centrifuge Test and Post Mortem Facilities Exhaust Filtration System are designed to collect and clean all potentially hazardous gases from the serviced areas prior to release into the atmosphere.
- Construction Best Management Practices will be applied to minimize fugitive dusts.
- Applying gravel to the unpaved surface of haul roads.
- Imposing speed limits on unpaved haul roads.
- Applying an environmentally safe chemical soil stabilizer or chemical dust suppressant to the surface of the unpaved haul roads.
- The use of water spray bars at drop and conveyor transfer points.
- Limiting the height and disturbances of stockpiles.
- Applying water to the surface of stockpiles.
- Air concentrations of the criteria pollutants resulting from vehicle emissions and fugitive dust during construction will be below NAAQS.

#### **4.6.6 Comparative Air Quality Impacts of No Action Alternative Scenarios**

ER Chapter 2, Alternatives, provides a discussion of possible alternatives to the construction and operation of the EREF, including an alternative of "no action," i.e., not building the EREF. The following information provides comparative conclusions specific to the concerns addressed in this subsection for each of the two "no action" alternative scenarios addressed in ER Section 2.4, Table 2.4-2, Comparison of Environmental Impacts for the Proposed Action and the No-Action Alternative Scenarios.

**Alternative Scenario C** - No EREF; LES and USEC deploy gas centrifuge plants, USEC phases out the Paducah gaseous diffusion plant (GDP) and GEH deploys their plant using Silex enrichment technology: The air quality impacts would be the same since three enrichment plants would be built.

**Alternative Scenario D** - No EREF; LES and USEC deploy gas centrifuge plants, USEC phases out the Paducah gaseous diffusion plant (GDP) and USEC increases its centrifuge plant capacity: The air quality impacts would be the same or greater since there is additional concentration of activity at a single location.

#### **4.6.7 Cumulative Air Quality Impacts**

The cumulative impacts to the regional air quality is limited to those resulting from construction and operation of the EREF and existing development on surrounding properties, because AES does not know of any other Federal, State, or private development plans within 16 km (10 mi) of the EREF.

ER Section 3.6.3.9, Regional Emissions, provides an emissions inventory of other emission sources in the four-county region surrounding the EREF. The inventory consists of ten sources, eight of which are associated with activities at the INL. The other two sources are owned by Basic American Foods, Inc. Due to the relatively small quantity of emissions from these

sources and their distance from the EREF site, it is unlikely that these sources, in combination with emissions from the EREF site, will result in significant cumulative impacts. Nevertheless, the air quality impact analysis described in ER Section 4.6.1, Air Quality Impacts from Construction, does incorporate background concentrations (see Table 4.6-2, Background Air Quality Concentrations for AERMOD Modeling Analysis) that are added to potential EREF impacts to simulate cumulative impacts. The cumulative impact to the regional air quality will be small.

# TABLES

**Table 4.6-1 Peak Emission Rates**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Pollutant	Total Work-Day Average Emissions g/s (lbs/hr)
<b>Vehicle Emissions:</b>	
Hydrocarbons	0.34 (2.67)
Carbon Monoxide	3.55 (28.19)
Nitrogen Oxides	1.30 (10.29)
Sulfur Oxides	0.10 (0.77)
Particulates <sup>1</sup>	0.02 (0.17)
<b>Fugitive Emissions: Property Line Receptor Locations</b>	
PM <sub>10</sub>	13.7 g/s (108.9 lb/hr)
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	1.4 g/s (10.9 lb/hr)
<b>Fugitive Emissions: U.S. Highway 20 Receptor Locations</b>	
PM <sub>10</sub>	31.8 g/s (252.4 lb/hr)
PM <sub>2.5</sub>	3.2 g/s (25.2 lb/hr)

Note:

<sup>1</sup>Conservatively assumed all vehicle particulate emissions were PM<sub>2.5</sub>, which means PM<sub>2.5</sub>=PM<sub>10</sub>.

**Table 4.6-2 Background Air Quality Concentrations for AERMOD Modeling Analysis**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Pollutant	Averaging Period	Closest Selected Station	Ambient Background Concentration		Selected Background Concentration
			2006	2007	
Carbon Monoxide	1-Hour	Eastman Bldg/ 166 N. 9 <sup>th</sup> St. Boise, Idaho Site ID 160010014	3.5 ppm	4.3 ppm	4.3 ppm
	8-Hour		2.1 ppm	1.6 ppm	2.1 ppm
Nitrogen Dioxide	Annual	N. of Lancaster Rd. Hayden, Idaho Site ID 16055003	11.3 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	11.3 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	11.3 µg/m <sup>3</sup>
Sulfur Dioxide	3-Hour	Stp/Batiste & Chubbuck Rd. Pocatello, Idaho Site ID 160050004	159.7 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	133.5 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	159.7 µg/m <sup>3</sup>
	24-Hour		62.8 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	62.8 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	62.8 µg/m <sup>3</sup>
	Annual		13.1 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	15.7 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	15.7 µg/m <sup>3</sup>
Particulates -PM <sub>10</sub>	24-Hour	G&G/Corner of Garret & Gould Pocatello, Idaho Site ID 160050015	52 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	45 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	52 µg/m <sup>3</sup>
	Annual		21 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	22 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	22 µg/m <sup>3</sup>
Particulates -PM <sub>2.5</sub>	24-Hour	G&G/Corner of Garret & Gould Pocatello, Idaho Site ID 160050015	21 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	ND <sup>1</sup>	21 µg/m <sup>3</sup>
	Annual		6.4 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	ND <sup>1</sup>	6.4 µg/m <sup>3</sup>

Note:

<sup>1</sup>ND means no data available.



**Table 4.6-3a Results of Air Quality Impact AERMOD Dispersion Modeling for EREF Construction Site Preparation Activity Property Line Receptor Locations**

Pollutant	Averaging Period	Standard	Modeled Maximum Concentration	Units	Exceedance?
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	8-Hour	9 ppm	2.2	ppm	NO
	1-Hour	35 ppm	4.6	ppm	NO
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO <sub>2</sub> )	Annual	100 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	11.9	µg/m <sup>3</sup>	NO
Sulfur Dioxide (SO <sub>2</sub> )	Annual	80 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	15.7	µg/m <sup>3</sup>	NO
	24-Hour	365 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	63.8	µg/m <sup>3</sup>	NO
	3-Hour	1300 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	165.7	µg/m <sup>3</sup>	NO
Particulate Matter – PM <sub>10</sub>	Annual	Revoked 2006	27.3	µg/m <sup>3</sup>	NA
	24-Hour	150 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	150.0	µg/m <sup>3</sup>	NO
Particulate Matter – PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Annual	15 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	7.0	µg/m <sup>3</sup>	NO
	24-Hour	35 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	28.0	µg/m <sup>3</sup>	NO

Note: All modeled concentrations include an ambient background concentration.  
NA means not applicable.

**Table 4.6-3b Results of Air Quality Impact AERMOD Dispersion Modeling for EREF Construction Site Preparation Activity U.S. Highway 20 Receptor Locations**

Pollutant	Averaging Period	Standard	Modeled Maximum Concentration	Units	Exceedance?
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	8-Hour	9 ppm	2.1	ppm	NO
	1-Hour	35 ppm	4.4	ppm	NO
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO <sub>2</sub> )	Annual	100 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	11.3	µg/m <sup>3</sup>	NO
Sulfur Dioxide (SO <sub>2</sub> )	Annual	80 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	15.7	µg/m <sup>3</sup>	NO
	24-Hour	365 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	63.3	µg/m <sup>3</sup>	NO
	3-Hour	1300 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	162.3	µg/m <sup>3</sup>	NO
Particulate Matter – PM <sub>10</sub>	Annual	Revoked 2006	23.2	µg/m <sup>3</sup>	NA
	24-Hour	150 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	113.5	µg/m <sup>3</sup>	NO
Particulate Matter – PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Annual	15 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	6.6	µg/m <sup>3</sup>	NO
	24-Hour	35 µg/m <sup>3</sup>	24.3	µg/m <sup>3</sup>	NO

Note: All modeled concentrations include an ambient background concentration.  
NA means not applicable.

**Table 4.6-4 Construction Emission Types****(Page 1 of 1)**

<b>Emission Type</b>	<b>Source Location</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
Fugitive Dust Property Line Receptor Locations PM <sub>10</sub> PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Onsite	13.7 g/s (108.9 lb/hr) 1.4 g/s (10.9 lb/hr)
Fugitive Dust U.S. Highway 20 Receptor Locations PM <sub>10</sub> PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Onsite	31.8 g/s (252.4 lb/hr) 3.2 g/s (25.2 lb/hr)
Vehicle Exhaust	Onsite	4,045 kg/yr (4.5 tons/yr)
Paint Fumes	Onsite buildings	NA <sup>1</sup>
Welding Torch Fumes	Onsite buildings	NA <sup>1</sup>
Solvent Fumes	Onsite buildings	NA <sup>1</sup>
Petroleum Hydrocarbons	Gasoline and Diesel Fueling Station	392 kg/yr (865 lb/yr)
Air Compressors	NA <sup>1</sup>	NA <sup>1</sup>
Portable Generators	NA <sup>1</sup>	NA <sup>1</sup>
Standby Diesel Generator Exhaust <sup>2</sup>	Electrical Services Building	61 kg/yr (0.067 ton/yr) of PM <sub>10</sub> 8,437 kg/yr (9.3 ton/yr) of NO <sub>x</sub> 726 kg/yr (0.80 ton/yr) of CO 168 kg/yr (0.185 ton/yr) of VOC

Notes:

<sup>1</sup>Information is not available at this time.

<sup>2</sup>This emission category includes emissions from four (4) 2,500 kW standby diesel generators and two (2) smaller diesel generators (security diesel generator and fire pump diesel). For the purpose of calculating aggregate emissions from this emission category, it was conservatively assumed that all six generators each had a capacity of 2,500 kW and that each generator was tested for 1.6 hours per week for 52 weeks per year.

**Table 4.6-5 Offsite Vehicle Air Emissions During Construction**  
(Page 1 of 1)

<b>Estimated Vehicle Type</b>	<b>Emission Factor (g/mi)</b>	<b>Estimated Daily Number Of Vehicles</b>	<b>Estimated Daily Mileage km (mi)</b>	<b>Daily Work Day Emissions (g)</b>
<b>NONMETHANE HYDROCARBONS</b>				
Light Duty Vehicles (Gasoline)	1.219	900	80 (50)	54,855
Heavy Duty Truck (Diesel)	0.506	30	402 (250)	3,795
Total				58,650
<b>Daily Emissions</b>				<b>5.9E-02 metric tons (6.5E-02 tons)</b>
<b>CARBON MONOXIDE</b>				
Light Duty Vehicles (Gasoline)	20.350	900	80 (50)	915,750
Heavy Duty Truck (Diesel)	2.560	30	402 (250)	19,200
Total				934,950
<b>Daily Emissions</b>				<b>9.3E-01 metric tons (1.0E+00 tons)</b>
<b>NITROGEN OXIDES</b>				
Light Duty Vehicles (Gasoline)	1.193	900	80 (50)	53,685
Heavy Duty Truck (Diesel)	10.292	30	402(250)	77,190
Total				130,875
<b>Daily Emissions</b>				<b>1.3E-01 metric tons (1.4E-01 tons)</b>

**Table 4.6-6 Standby Diesel Generator Air Emissions During Operations**  
**(Page 1 of 1)**

Standby Diesel Generator Exhaust <sup>1</sup>	Electrical Services Building	61 kg/yr (0.067 ton/yr) of PM <sub>10</sub>
		8,437 kg/yr (9.3 ton/yr) of NO <sub>x</sub>
		726 kg/yr (0.80 ton/yr) of CO
		168 kg/yr (0.185 ton/yr) of VOC

Note:

<sup>1</sup>This emission category includes emissions from four (4) 2,500 kW standby diesel generators and two (2) smaller diesel generators (security diesel generator and fire pump diesel). For the purpose of calculating aggregate emissions from this emission category, it was conservatively assumed that all six generators each had a capacity of 2,500 kW and that each generator was tested for 1.6 hours per week for 52 weeks per year.

**Table 4.6-7 Offsite Vehicle Air Emissions During Operations**  
(Page 1 of 1)

<b>Estimated Vehicle Type</b>	<b>Emission Factor (g/mi)</b>	<b>Estimated Daily Number Of Vehicles</b>	<b>Estimated Daily Mileage km (mi)</b>	<b>Daily Work Day Emissions (g)</b>
<b>NONMETHANE HYDROCARBONS</b>				
Light Duty Vehicles (Gasoline)	1.219	550	80(50)	33,523
Heavy Duty Truck (Diesel)	0.506	36	805 (500)	9,108
Total				42,631
<b>Daily Emissions</b>				<b>4.3 E-02 metric tons (4.7 E-02 tons)</b>
<b>CARBON MONOXIDE</b>				
Light Duty Vehicles (Gasoline)	20.350	550	80 (50)	559,625
Heavy Duty Truck (Diesel)	2.560	36	805 (500)	46,080
Total				605,705
<b>Daily Emissions</b>				<b>6.1 E-01 metric tons (6.78 E-01 tons)</b>
<b>NITROGEN OXIDES</b>				
Light Duty Vehicles (Gasoline)	1.193	550	80 (50)	32,808
Heavy Duty Truck (Diesel)	10.292	36	805 (500)	185,256
Total				218,064
<b>Daily Emissions</b>				<b>2.2 E-01 metric tons (2.4 E-01 tons)</b>

**Table 4.6-8 Summary of Maximum Annual Average Atmospheric Dispersion and Deposition Factors**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Special Receptors	Sector Average Concentration, Undepleted, Undecayed $\chi/Q$ Values			Sector Average D/Q Values		
	$\chi/Q$ , (sec/m <sup>3</sup> )	Sector	Distance from Source, m (ft)	D/Q, (1/m <sup>2</sup> )	Sector	Distance from Source, m (ft)
<b>Site Boundary</b>	4.259 E-06	N	1,072.8 (3,520)	1.710 E-08	NNE	1,072.8 (3,520)
<b>Gardens</b>	3.029 E-07	SW	5,800 (19,029)	9.731 E-10	NE	6,000 (19,685)
<b>Meat Animals</b>	2.833 E-06	SSW	1,116 (3,661)	9.744 E-09	SSW	1,116 (3,661)
<b>Businesses</b>	4.079 E-07	SW	4,700 (15,420)	1.127 E-09	S	2,834 (9,298)

**Table 4.6-9 Sector Average Concentration, Undepleted, Undecayed  $\chi/Q$  Values (sec/m<sup>3</sup>)  
for Grid Receptors  
(Page 1 of 2)**

	<b>200m (0.12 mi)</b>	<b>400m (0.24 mi)</b>	<b>600m (0.37 mi)</b>	<b>805m (0.5 mi)</b>	<b>1000m (0.62 mi)</b>	<b>1200m (0.75 mi)</b>	<b>1400m (0.86 mi)</b>	<b>1610 m (1 mi)</b>
N	5.954E-05	2.135E-05	1.127E-05	6.962E-06	4.802E-06	3.528E-06	2.740E-06	2.192E-06
NNE	5.659E-05	2.019E-05	1.052E-05	6.457E-06	4.451E-06	3.264E-06	2.530E-06	2.019E-06
NE	4.384E-05	1.563E-05	8.022E-06	4.888E-06	3.365E-06	2.462E-06	1.903E-06	1.516E-06
ENE	2.441E-05	8.703E-06	4.441E-06	2.699E-06	1.858E-06	1.359E-06	1.050E-06	8.349E-07
E	1.296E-05	4.615E-06	2.353E-06	1.430E-06	9.837E-07	7.190E-07	5.552E-07	4.416E-07
ESE	1.292E-05	4.590E-06	2.340E-06	1.422E-06	9.788E-07	7.154E-07	5.524E-07	4.394E-07
SE	1.413E-05	5.021E-06	2.560E-06	1.556E-06	1.071E-06	7.829E-07	6.046E-07	4.810E-07
SSE	1.996E-05	7.085E-06	3.630E-06	2.211E-06	1.524E-06	1.115E-06	8.615E-07	6.859E-07
S	2.831E-05	9.988E-06	5.134E-06	3.133E-06	2.160E-06	1.580E-06	1.222E-06	9.735E-07
SSW	4.451E-05	1.581E-05	8.132E-06	4.964E-06	3.422E-06	2.505E-06	1.938E-06	1.544E-06
SW	5.690E-05	2.025E-05	1.058E-05	6.505E-06	4.485E-06	3.290E-06	2.551E-06	2.037E-06
WSW	5.670E-05	2.038E-05	1.083E-05	6.713E-06	4.630E-06	3.406E-06	2.648E-06	2.121E-06
W	3.624E-05	1.309E-05	6.986E-06	4.337E-06	2.990E-06	2.202E-06	1.713E-06	1.373E-06
WNW	1.947E-05	6.988E-06	3.704E-06	2.292E-06	1.581E-06	1.163E-06	9.037E-07	7.234E-07
NW	1.978E-05	7.097E-06	3.760E-06	2.326E-06	1.605E-06	1.180E-06	9.169E-07	7.339E-07
NNW	4.809E-05	1.730E-05	9.188E-06	5.691E-06	3.926E-06	2.888E-06	2.245E-06	1.797E-06
	<b>1800m (1.12 mi)</b>	<b>2000m (1.24 mi)</b>	<b>2200m (1.37 mi)</b>	<b>2415m (1.5 mi)</b>	<b>2600m (1.62 mi)</b>	<b>2800m (1.75 mi)</b>	<b>3000m (1.86 mi)</b>	<b>3220 m (2 mi)</b>
N	1.839E-06	1.562E-06	1.350E-06	1.173E-06	1.050E-06	9.405E-07	8.496E-07	7.664E-07
NNE	1.690E-06	1.433E-06	1.237E-06	1.072E-06	9.587E-07	8.575E-07	7.735E-07	6.967E-07
NE	1.266E-06	1.071E-06	9.220E-07	7.976E-07	7.117E-07	6.354E-07	5.721E-07	5.143E-07
ENE	6.967E-07	5.888E-07	5.064E-07	4.376E-07	3.902E-07	3.480E-07	3.131E-07	2.812E-07
E	3.685E-07	3.115E-07	2.679E-07	2.315E-07	2.065E-07	1.842E-07	1.657E-07	1.489E-07
ESE	3.666E-07	3.098E-07	2.665E-07	2.303E-07	2.054E-07	1.832E-07	1.648E-07	1.481E-07
SE	4.014E-07	3.392E-07	2.918E-07	2.522E-07	2.249E-07	2.006E-07	1.805E-07	1.622E-07
SSE	5.728E-07	4.844E-07	4.170E-07	3.607E-07	3.218E-07	2.873E-07	2.586E-07	2.325E-07
S	8.134E-07	6.884E-07	5.930E-07	5.132E-07	4.581E-07	4.091E-07	3.685E-07	3.314E-07
SSW	1.290E-06	1.092E-06	9.410E-07	8.145E-07	7.272E-07	6.495E-07	5.850E-07	5.262E-07
SW	1.707E-06	1.448E-06	1.250E-06	1.084E-06	9.699E-07	8.680E-07	7.833E-07	7.059E-07
WSW	1.781E-06	1.514E-06	1.310E-06	1.139E-06	1.020E-06	9.149E-07	8.270E-07	7.467E-07
W	1.153E-06	9.808E-07	8.490E-07	7.384E-07	6.619E-07	5.936E-07	5.368E-07	4.848E-07
WNW	6.071E-07	5.160E-07	4.463E-07	3.878E-07	3.474E-07	3.114E-07	2.814E-07	2.540E-07
NW	6.158E-07	5.234E-07	4.526E-07	3.933E-07	3.523E-07	3.157E-07	2.853E-07	2.575E-07
NNW	1.509E-06	1.283E-06	1.110E-06	9.645E-07	8.642E-07	7.746E-07	7.002E-07	6.320E-07



**Table 4.6-9 Sector Average Concentration, Undepleted, Undecayed  $\chi/Q$  Values (sec/m<sup>3</sup>)  
for Grid Receptors  
(Page 2 of 2)**

	<b>4025 m (2.5 mi)</b>	<b>4830 m (3 mi)</b>	<b>5630 m (3.5 mi)</b>	<b>6440 m (4 mi)</b>	<b>7240 m (4.5 mi)</b>	<b>8050 m (5 mi)</b>	<b>12070 m (7.5 mi)</b>	<b>16.1 km (10 mi)</b>
N	5.554E-07	4.288E-07	3.456E-07	2.873E-07	2.444E-07	2.117E-07	1.229E-07	8.411E-08
NNE	5.024E-07	3.863E-07	3.102E-07	2.571E-07	2.181E-07	1.885E-07	1.084E-07	7.374E-08
NE	3.686E-07	2.819E-07	2.254E-07	1.860E-07	1.573E-07	1.355E-07	7.702E-08	5.196E-08
ENE	2.010E-07	1.533E-07	1.223E-07	1.007E-07	8.500E-08	7.312E-08	4.131E-08	2.774E-08
E	1.064E-07	8.120E-08	6.479E-08	5.338E-08	4.506E-08	3.877E-08	2.192E-08	1.473E-08
ESE	1.058E-07	8.075E-08	6.442E-08	5.307E-08	4.479E-08	3.853E-08	2.178E-08	1.462E-08
SE	1.159E-07	8.845E-08	7.057E-08	5.814E-08	4.907E-08	4.222E-08	2.386E-08	1.602E-08
SSE	1.665E-07	1.273E-07	1.017E-07	8.388E-08	7.087E-08	6.103E-08	3.460E-08	2.329E-08
S	2.378E-07	1.821E-07	1.457E-07	1.203E-07	1.018E-07	8.771E-08	4.992E-08	3.370E-08
SSW	3.776E-07	2.892E-07	2.314E-07	1.911E-07	1.617E-07	1.394E-07	7.935E-08	5.358E-08
SW	5.098E-07	3.925E-07	3.156E-07	2.618E-07	2.223E-07	1.922E-07	1.109E-07	7.557E-08
WSW	5.424E-07	4.197E-07	3.389E-07	2.821E-07	2.403E-07	2.085E-07	1.216E-07	8.350E-08
W	3.526E-07	2.731E-07	2.207E-07	1.839E-07	1.567E-07	1.360E-07	7.951E-08	5.471E-08
WNW	1.843E-07	1.425E-07	1.150E-07	9.564E-08	8.143E-08	7.059E-08	4.107E-08	2.817E-08
NW	1.868E-07	1.444E-07	1.165E-07	9.686E-08	8.245E-08	7.146E-08	4.156E-08	2.849E-08
NNW	4.589E-07	3.550E-07	2.865E-07	2.385E-07	2.031E-07	1.761E-07	1.026E-07	7.042E-08
	<b>24.1 km (15 mi)</b>	<b>32.2 km (20 mi)</b>	<b>40.2 km (25 mi)</b>	<b>48.3 km (30 mi)</b>	<b>56.3 km (35 mi)</b>	<b>64.4 km (40 mi)</b>	<b>72.4 km (45 mi)</b>	<b>80.5 km (50 mi)</b>
N	4.974E-08	3.445E-08	2.598E-08	2.066E-08	1.704E-08	1.443E-08	1.247E-08	1.095E-08
NNE	4.323E-08	2.977E-08	2.235E-08	1.771E-08	1.457E-08	1.231E-08	1.061E-08	9.298E-09
NE	3.014E-08	2.061E-08	1.539E-08	1.215E-08	9.955E-09	8.385E-09	7.211E-09	6.304E-09
ENE	1.599E-08	1.089E-08	8.103E-09	6.377E-09	5.213E-09	4.382E-09	3.762E-09	3.284E-09
E	8.498E-09	5.790E-09	4.312E-09	3.394E-09	2.776E-09	2.334E-09	2.004E-09	1.749E-09
ESE	8.429E-09	5.739E-09	4.271E-09	3.361E-09	2.747E-09	2.309E-09	1.982E-09	1.729E-09
SE	9.233E-09	6.285E-09	4.677E-09	3.680E-09	3.008E-09	2.528E-09	2.169E-09	1.893E-09
SSE	1.346E-08	9.183E-09	6.843E-09	5.390E-09	4.410E-09	3.709E-09	3.186E-09	2.782E-09
S	1.955E-08	1.337E-08	9.978E-09	7.871E-09	6.448E-09	5.429E-09	4.667E-09	4.079E-09
SSW	3.110E-08	2.127E-08	1.588E-08	1.253E-08	1.027E-08	8.648E-09	7.437E-09	6.501E-09
SW	4.443E-08	3.065E-08	2.305E-08	1.829E-08	1.505E-08	1.273E-08	1.098E-08	9.632E-09
WSW	4.960E-08	3.446E-08	2.605E-08	2.076E-08	1.715E-08	1.455E-08	1.259E-08	1.106E-08
W	3.257E-08	2.267E-08	1.716E-08	1.369E-08	1.132E-08	9.606E-09	8.317E-09	7.315E-09
WNW	1.670E-08	1.158E-08	8.745E-09	6.962E-09	5.747E-09	4.871E-09	4.212E-09	3.700E-09
NW	1.687E-08	1.170E-08	8.829E-09	7.026E-09	5.799E-09	4.914E-09	4.248E-09	3.731E-09
NNW	4.179E-08	2.901E-08	2.192E-08	1.746E-08	1.442E-08	1.223E-08	1.058E-08	9.293E-09

**Table 4.6-10 Sector Average Concentration, Undepleted, Undecayed  $\chi/Q$  Values (sec/m<sup>3</sup>)  
for Special Receptors  
(Page 1 of 1)**

	<b>Site Boundary</b>	<b>Gardens</b>	<b>Meat Animals<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Businesses</b>
N	4.259E-06	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00
NNE	3.945E-06	1.748E-07	0.000E+00	0.000E+00
NE	2.583E-06	2.058E-07	0.000E+00	0.000E+00
ENE	1.411E-06	1.115E-07	1.203E-06	0.000E+00
E	9.823E-07	5.911E-08	7.001E-07	0.000E+00
ESE	9.775E-07	5.876E-08	0.000E+00	0.000E+00
SE	1.070E-06	1.314E-07	0.000E+00	0.000E+00
SSE	1.319E-06	2.723E-07	3.387E-07	0.000E+00
S	8.859E-07	0.000E+00	3.577E-07	4.017E-07
SSW	2.929E-06	0.000E+00	2.833E-06	0.000E+00
SW	3.842E-06	3.029E-07	0.000E+00	4.079E-07
WSW	3.972E-06	0.000E+00	1.026E-06	0.000E+00
W	9.585E-07	0.000E+00	8.252E-07	0.000E+00
WNW	7.809E-07	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00
NW	1.224E-06	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00
NNW	3.483E-06	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00

<sup>1</sup>Cattle will not be allowed to graze within the site boundary; therefore, the Meat Animals Receptors in the N, NNE, NE, ESE, SE, SW, WNW, NW and NNW sectors were ignored.

**Table 4.6-11 Sector Average Concentration, Depleted, Decayed  $\chi/Q$  Values (sec/m<sup>3</sup>) for  
Grid Receptors  
(Page 1 of 2)**

	<b>200m (0.12 mi)</b>	<b>400m (0.24 mi)</b>	<b>600m (0.37 mi)</b>	<b>805m (0.5 mi)</b>	<b>1000m (0.62 mi)</b>	<b>1200m (0.75 mi)</b>	<b>1400m (0.86 mi)</b>	<b>1610 m (1 mi)</b>
N	5.768E-05	2.020E-05	1.046E-05	6.354E-06	4.322E-06	3.143E-06	2.418E-06	1.917E-06
NNE	5.482E-05	1.911E-05	9.764E-06	5.894E-06	4.006E-06	2.908E-06	2.233E-06	1.766E-06
NE	4.248E-05	1.479E-05	7.447E-06	4.462E-06	3.029E-06	2.193E-06	1.680E-06	1.326E-06
ENE	2.365E-05	8.237E-06	4.122E-06	2.464E-06	1.673E-06	1.211E-06	9.264E-07	7.302E-07
E	1.256E-05	4.368E-06	2.184E-06	1.305E-06	8.852E-07	6.404E-07	4.899E-07	3.861E-07
ESE	1.251E-05	4.343E-06	2.172E-06	1.298E-06	8.808E-07	6.371E-07	4.874E-07	3.841E-07
SE	1.369E-05	4.751E-06	2.376E-06	1.420E-06	9.638E-07	6.972E-07	5.335E-07	4.205E-07
SSE	1.934E-05	6.705E-06	3.369E-06	2.018E-06	1.371E-06	9.927E-07	7.602E-07	5.997E-07
S	2.742E-05	9.453E-06	4.765E-06	2.859E-06	1.944E-06	1.408E-06	1.078E-06	8.512E-07
SSW	4.312E-05	1.496E-05	7.548E-06	4.531E-06	3.079E-06	2.231E-06	1.710E-06	1.350E-06
SW	5.512E-05	1.917E-05	9.822E-06	5.937E-06	4.036E-06	2.930E-06	2.251E-06	1.782E-06
WSW	5.493E-05	1.928E-05	1.006E-05	6.127E-06	4.167E-06	3.034E-06	2.337E-06	1.855E-06
W	3.510E-05	1.238E-05	6.484E-06	3.958E-06	2.691E-06	1.961E-06	1.511E-06	1.200E-06
WNW	1.886E-05	6.612E-06	3.438E-06	2.092E-06	1.423E-06	1.035E-06	7.972E-07	6.323E-07
NW	1.916E-05	6.716E-06	3.489E-06	2.123E-06	1.444E-06	1.051E-06	8.089E-07	6.416E-07
NNW	4.659E-05	1.637E-05	8.529E-06	5.195E-06	3.533E-06	2.572E-06	1.981E-06	1.572E-06
	<b>1800m (1.12 mi)</b>	<b>2000m (1.24 mi)</b>	<b>2200m (1.37 mi)</b>	<b>2415m (1.5 mi)</b>	<b>2600m (1.62 mi)</b>	<b>2800m (1.75 mi)</b>	<b>3000m (1.86 mi)</b>	<b>3220 m (2 mi)</b>
N	1.595E-06	1.344E-06	1.154E-06	9.943E-07	8.847E-07	7.874E-07	7.068E-07	6.334E-07
NNE	1.467E-06	1.234E-06	1.057E-06	9.095E-07	8.081E-07	7.181E-07	6.436E-07	5.759E-07
NE	1.099E-06	9.221E-07	7.881E-07	6.765E-07	6.000E-07	5.321E-07	4.761E-07	4.252E-07
ENE	6.045E-07	5.069E-07	4.328E-07	3.711E-07	3.289E-07	2.914E-07	2.605E-07	2.325E-07
E	3.197E-07	2.681E-07	2.289E-07	1.963E-07	1.739E-07	1.541E-07	1.378E-07	1.230E-07
ESE	3.180E-07	2.666E-07	2.276E-07	1.952E-07	1.730E-07	1.533E-07	1.370E-07	1.223E-07
SE	3.482E-07	2.920E-07	2.493E-07	2.138E-07	1.895E-07	1.679E-07	1.501E-07	1.339E-07
SSE	4.968E-07	4.169E-07	3.563E-07	3.058E-07	2.711E-07	2.404E-07	2.151E-07	1.920E-07
S	7.056E-07	5.925E-07	5.066E-07	4.351E-07	3.860E-07	3.424E-07	3.065E-07	2.738E-07
SSW	1.120E-06	9.403E-07	8.040E-07	6.906E-07	6.127E-07	5.437E-07	4.867E-07	4.348E-07
SW	1.481E-06	1.246E-06	1.068E-06	9.195E-07	8.173E-07	7.266E-07	6.516E-07	5.833E-07
WSW	1.545E-06	1.303E-06	1.119E-06	9.656E-07	8.599E-07	7.658E-07	6.880E-07	6.170E-07
W	1.000E-06	8.441E-07	7.252E-07	6.259E-07	5.576E-07	4.968E-07	4.464E-07	4.005E-07
WNW	5.264E-07	4.440E-07	3.811E-07	3.287E-07	2.926E-07	2.605E-07	2.339E-07	2.097E-07
NW	5.341E-07	4.504E-07	3.866E-07	3.333E-07	2.967E-07	2.641E-07	2.372E-07	2.126E-07
NNW	1.309E-06	1.104E-06	9.482E-07	8.180E-07	7.283E-07	6.486E-07	5.825E-07	5.224E-07

**Table 4.6-11 Sector Average Concentration, Depleted, Decayed  $\chi/Q$  Values (sec/m<sup>3</sup>) for  
Grid Receptors  
(Page 2 of 2)**

	<b>4025 m (2.5 mi)</b>	<b>4830 m (3 mi)</b>	<b>5630 m (3.5 mi)</b>	<b>6440 m (4 mi)</b>	<b>7240 m (4.5 mi)</b>	<b>8050 m (5 mi)</b>	<b>12070 m (7.5 mi)</b>	<b>16.1 km (10 mi)</b>
N	4.488E-07	3.396E-07	2.687E-07	2.196E-07	1.839E-07	1.570E-07	8.596E-08	5.594E-08
NNE	4.061E-07	3.061E-07	2.414E-07	1.967E-07	1.643E-07	1.399E-07	7.593E-08	4.911E-08
NE	2.980E-07	2.234E-07	1.754E-07	1.423E-07	1.185E-07	1.006E-07	5.398E-08	3.463E-08
ENE	1.624E-07	1.214E-07	9.511E-08	7.703E-08	6.400E-08	5.425E-08	2.891E-08	1.846E-08
E	8.593E-08	6.427E-08	5.035E-08	4.078E-08	3.389E-08	2.873E-08	1.532E-08	9.778E-09
ESE	8.544E-08	6.389E-08	5.004E-08	4.053E-08	3.367E-08	2.854E-08	1.520E-08	9.699E-09
SE	9.360E-08	7.000E-08	5.483E-08	4.441E-08	3.690E-08	3.127E-08	1.666E-08	1.063E-08
SSE	1.345E-07	1.007E-07	7.901E-08	6.408E-08	5.330E-08	4.522E-08	2.417E-08	1.546E-08
S	1.921E-07	1.441E-07	1.132E-07	9.193E-08	7.655E-08	6.501E-08	3.489E-08	2.238E-08
SSW	3.051E-07	2.290E-07	1.799E-07	1.461E-07	1.217E-07	1.033E-07	5.550E-08	3.562E-08
SW	4.119E-07	3.108E-07	2.454E-07	2.001E-07	1.673E-07	1.426E-07	7.756E-08	5.025E-08
WSW	4.382E-07	3.323E-07	2.635E-07	2.157E-07	1.809E-07	1.546E-07	8.503E-08	5.551E-08
W	2.848E-07	2.161E-07	1.715E-07	1.405E-07	1.179E-07	1.008E-07	5.553E-08	3.630E-08
WNW	1.488E-07	1.127E-07	8.925E-08	7.299E-08	6.116E-08	5.224E-08	2.864E-08	1.865E-08
NW	1.508E-07	1.142E-07	9.043E-08	7.395E-08	6.195E-08	5.290E-08	2.899E-08	1.887E-08
NNW	3.709E-07	2.812E-07	2.228E-07	1.824E-07	1.529E-07	1.307E-07	7.182E-08	4.687E-08
	<b>24.1 km (15 mi)</b>	<b>32.2 km (20 mi)</b>	<b>40.2 km (25 mi)</b>	<b>48.3 km (30 mi)</b>	<b>56.3 km (35 mi)</b>	<b>64.4 km (40 mi)</b>	<b>72.4 km (45 mi)</b>	<b>80.5 km (50 mi)</b>
N	3.046E-08	1.971E-08	1.401E-08	1.057E-08	8.303E-09	6.721E-09	5.565E-09	4.691E-09
NNE	2.653E-08	1.709E-08	1.210E-08	9.101E-09	7.134E-09	5.763E-09	4.765E-09	4.012E-09
NE	1.852E-08	1.185E-08	8.348E-09	6.254E-09	4.886E-09	3.937E-09	3.247E-09	2.728E-09
ENE	9.797E-09	6.235E-09	4.375E-09	3.266E-09	2.543E-09	2.043E-09	1.681E-09	1.409E-09
E	5.189E-09	3.300E-09	2.314E-09	1.726E-09	1.343E-09	1.077E-09	8.854E-10	7.413E-10
ESE	5.141E-09	3.266E-09	2.288E-09	1.705E-09	1.325E-09	1.063E-09	8.727E-10	7.301E-10
SE	5.634E-09	3.579E-09	2.507E-09	1.868E-09	1.453E-09	1.165E-09	9.567E-10	8.006E-10
SSE	8.222E-09	5.235E-09	3.674E-09	2.741E-09	2.134E-09	1.713E-09	1.409E-09	1.180E-09
S	1.195E-08	7.626E-09	5.363E-09	4.009E-09	3.125E-09	2.513E-09	2.068E-09	1.734E-09
SSW	1.903E-08	1.216E-08	8.556E-09	6.400E-09	4.993E-09	4.017E-09	3.309E-09	2.776E-09
SW	2.720E-08	1.753E-08	1.243E-08	9.349E-09	7.329E-09	5.921E-09	4.895E-09	4.120E-09
WSW	3.036E-08	1.971E-08	1.404E-08	1.061E-08	8.348E-09	6.765E-09	5.608E-09	4.732E-09
W	1.988E-08	1.291E-08	9.204E-09	6.955E-09	5.471E-09	4.433E-09	3.674E-09	3.099E-09
WNW	1.016E-08	6.570E-09	4.666E-09	3.515E-09	2.757E-09	2.228E-09	1.842E-09	1.550E-09
NW	1.028E-08	6.645E-09	4.719E-09	3.555E-09	2.789E-09	2.254E-09	1.864E-09	1.569E-09
NNW	2.563E-08	1.663E-08	1.185E-08	8.956E-09	7.048E-09	5.713E-09	4.737E-09	3.999E-09

**Table 4.6-12 Sector Average Concentration, Depleted, Decayed  $\chi/Q$  Values (sec/m<sup>3</sup>) for Special Receptors**  
(Page 1 of 1)

	<b>Site Boundary</b>	<b>Gardens</b>	<b>Meat Animals<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Businesses</b>
N	3.817E-06	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00
NNE	3.536E-06	1.287E-07	0.000E+00	0.000E+00
NE	2.305E-06	1.589E-07	0.000E+00	0.000E+00
ENE	1.259E-06	8.608E-08	1.067E-06	0.000E+00
E	8.836E-07	4.557E-08	6.230E-07	0.000E+00
ESE	8.792E-07	4.529E-08	0.000E+00	0.000E+00
SE	9.621E-07	1.070E-07	0.000E+00	0.000E+00
SSE	1.181E-06	2.271E-07	2.862E-07	0.000E+00
S	7.715E-07	0.000E+00	2.969E-07	3.358E-07
SSW	2.622E-06	0.000E+00	2.534E-06	0.000E+00
SW	3.440E-06	2.346E-07	0.000E+00	3.240E-07
WSW	3.557E-06	0.000E+00	8.645E-07	0.000E+00
W	8.240E-07	0.000E+00	7.038E-07	0.000E+00
WNW	6.848E-07	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00
NW	1.092E-06	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00
NNW	3.122E-06	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00

<sup>1</sup>Cattle will not be allowed to graze within the site boundary; therefore, the Meat Animals Receptors in the N, NNE, NE, ESE, SE, SW, WNW, NW and NNW sectors were ignored.

**Table 4.6-13 Sector Average D/Q Values (1/m<sup>2</sup>) for Grid Receptors**  
(Page 1 of 2)

	<b>200m (0.12 mi)</b>	<b>400m (0.24 mi)</b>	<b>600m (0.37 mi)</b>	<b>805m (0.5 mi)</b>	<b>1000m (0.62 mi)</b>	<b>1200m (0.75 mi)</b>	<b>1400m (0.86 mi)</b>	<b>1610 m (1 mi)</b>
N	1.518E-07	5.585E-08	2.996E-08	1.876E-08	1.316E-08	9.743E-09	7.511E-09	5.928E-09
NNE	2.193E-07	8.106E-08	4.352E-08	2.726E-08	1.913E-08	1.417E-08	1.092E-08	8.622E-09
NE	2.427E-07	9.009E-08	4.841E-08	3.034E-08	2.130E-08	1.577E-08	1.216E-08	9.605E-09
ENE	1.114E-07	4.121E-08	2.212E-08	1.385E-08	9.721E-09	7.197E-09	5.548E-09	4.379E-09
E	3.804E-08	1.410E-08	7.573E-09	4.744E-09	3.330E-09	2.466E-09	1.901E-09	1.501E-09
ESE	3.361E-08	1.243E-08	6.673E-09	4.179E-09	2.933E-09	2.171E-09	1.674E-09	1.321E-09
SE	3.699E-08	1.368E-08	7.346E-09	4.602E-09	3.230E-09	2.392E-09	1.844E-09	1.456E-09
SSE	4.992E-08	1.838E-08	9.862E-09	6.175E-09	4.333E-09	3.208E-09	2.473E-09	1.952E-09
S	7.580E-08	2.799E-08	1.503E-08	9.413E-09	6.607E-09	4.892E-09	3.772E-09	2.978E-09
SSW	1.333E-07	4.926E-08	2.646E-08	1.659E-08	1.165E-08	8.627E-09	6.654E-09	5.255E-09
SW	1.440E-07	5.329E-08	2.864E-08	1.795E-08	1.261E-08	9.341E-09	7.205E-09	5.690E-09
WSW	1.031E-07	3.786E-08	2.031E-08	1.272E-08	8.926E-09	6.608E-09	5.095E-09	4.022E-09
W	5.364E-08	1.970E-08	1.056E-08	6.614E-09	4.641E-09	3.435E-09	2.648E-09	2.090E-09
WNW	2.704E-08	9.933E-09	5.328E-09	3.336E-09	2.341E-09	1.733E-09	1.336E-09	1.054E-09
NW	3.067E-08	1.125E-08	6.032E-09	3.777E-09	2.650E-09	1.961E-09	1.512E-09	1.193E-09
NNW	1.095E-07	4.012E-08	2.150E-08	1.346E-08	9.438E-09	6.985E-09	5.383E-09	4.248E-09
	<b>1800m (1.12 mi)</b>	<b>2000m (1.24 mi)</b>	<b>2200m (1.37 mi)</b>	<b>2415m (1.5 mi)</b>	<b>2600m (1.62 mi)</b>	<b>2800m (1.75 mi)</b>	<b>3000m (1.86 mi)</b>	<b>3220 m (2 mi)</b>
N	4.898E-09	4.090E-09	3.472E-09	2.957E-09	2.602E-09	2.288E-09	2.030E-09	1.795E-09
NNE	7.125E-09	5.950E-09	5.052E-09	4.302E-09	3.787E-09	3.331E-09	2.954E-09	2.614E-09
NE	7.938E-09	6.630E-09	5.630E-09	4.795E-09	4.221E-09	3.713E-09	3.294E-09	2.914E-09
ENE	3.619E-09	3.022E-09	2.565E-09	2.184E-09	1.923E-09	1.691E-09	1.500E-09	1.327E-09
E	1.240E-09	1.036E-09	8.795E-10	7.490E-10	6.593E-10	5.798E-10	5.144E-10	4.550E-10
ESE	1.092E-09	9.118E-10	7.741E-10	6.592E-10	5.802E-10	5.103E-10	4.526E-10	4.004E-10
SE	1.203E-09	1.005E-09	8.530E-10	7.264E-10	6.394E-10	5.623E-10	4.988E-10	4.413E-10
SSE	1.613E-09	1.346E-09	1.143E-09	9.732E-10	8.566E-10	7.533E-10	6.681E-10	5.910E-10
S	2.461E-09	2.055E-09	1.745E-09	1.486E-09	1.308E-09	1.150E-09	1.021E-09	9.028E-10
SSW	4.343E-09	3.628E-09	3.081E-09	2.624E-09	2.310E-09	2.032E-09	1.803E-09	1.595E-09
SW	4.704E-09	3.929E-09	3.337E-09	2.842E-09	2.503E-09	2.201E-09	1.953E-09	1.728E-09
WSW	3.323E-09	2.775E-09	2.356E-09	2.006E-09	1.766E-09	1.553E-09	1.377E-09	1.218E-09
W	1.727E-09	1.442E-09	1.224E-09	1.042E-09	9.174E-10	8.067E-10	7.155E-10	6.329E-10
WNW	8.713E-10	7.275E-10	6.176E-10	5.259E-10	4.628E-10	4.070E-10	3.610E-10	3.193E-10
NW	9.858E-10	8.230E-10	6.986E-10	5.948E-10	5.235E-10	4.604E-10	4.083E-10	3.611E-10
NNW	3.509E-09	2.930E-09	2.487E-09	2.117E-09	1.863E-09	1.638E-09	1.453E-09	1.285E-09

**Table 4.6-13 Sector Average D/Q Values (1/m<sup>2</sup>) for Grid Receptors**  
(Page 2 of 2)

	<b>4025 m (2.5 mi)</b>	<b>4830 m (3 mi)</b>	<b>5630 m (3.5 mi)</b>	<b>6440 m (4 mi)</b>	<b>7240 m (4.5 mi)</b>	<b>8050 m (5 mi)</b>	<b>12070 m (7.5 mi)</b>	<b>16.1 km (10 mi)</b>
N	1.214E-09	8.803E-10	6.695E-10	5.275E-10	4.269E-10	3.531E-10	1.728E-10	1.082E-10
NNE	1.768E-09	1.282E-09	9.755E-10	7.687E-10	6.222E-10	5.146E-10	2.519E-10	1.579E-10
NE	1.973E-09	1.431E-09	1.089E-09	8.582E-10	6.946E-10	5.745E-10	2.813E-10	1.763E-10
ENE	8.976E-10	6.507E-10	4.949E-10	3.900E-10	3.157E-10	2.611E-10	1.278E-10	8.008E-11
E	3.079E-10	2.232E-10	1.698E-10	1.338E-10	1.083E-10	8.955E-11	4.380E-11	2.743E-11
ESE	2.708E-10	1.963E-10	1.493E-10	1.176E-10	9.520E-11	7.872E-11	3.850E-11	2.411E-11
SE	2.986E-10	2.165E-10	1.646E-10	1.297E-10	1.050E-10	8.681E-11	4.246E-11	2.658E-11
SSE	3.997E-10	2.897E-10	2.203E-10	1.736E-10	1.405E-10	1.161E-10	5.680E-11	3.557E-11
S	6.108E-10	4.429E-10	3.369E-10	2.655E-10	2.149E-10	1.777E-10	8.691E-11	5.443E-11
SSW	1.080E-09	7.832E-10	5.960E-10	4.698E-10	3.802E-10	3.144E-10	1.538E-10	9.635E-11
SW	1.170E-09	8.488E-10	6.459E-10	5.092E-10	4.121E-10	3.408E-10	1.667E-10	1.044E-10
WSW	8.242E-10	5.975E-10	4.544E-10	3.581E-10	2.898E-10	2.396E-10	1.172E-10	7.339E-11
W	4.280E-10	3.102E-10	2.359E-10	1.858E-10	1.504E-10	1.243E-10	6.080E-11	3.806E-11
WNW	2.160E-10	1.565E-10	1.190E-10	9.376E-11	7.587E-11	6.273E-11	3.066E-11	1.919E-11
NW	2.442E-10	1.770E-10	1.346E-10	1.060E-10	8.579E-11	7.093E-11	3.468E-11	2.171E-11
NNW	8.690E-10	6.297E-10	4.788E-10	3.772E-10	3.053E-10	2.524E-10	1.235E-10	7.738E-11
	<b>24.1 km (15 mi)</b>	<b>32.2 km (20 mi)</b>	<b>40.2 km (25 mi)</b>	<b>48.3 km (30 mi)</b>	<b>56.3 km (35 mi)</b>	<b>64.4 km (40 mi)</b>	<b>72.4 km (45 mi)</b>	<b>80.5 km (50 mi)</b>
N	5.455E-11	3.292E-11	2.201E-11	1.573E-11	1.177E-11	9.128E-12	7.271E-12	5.918E-12
NNE	7.962E-11	4.808E-11	3.216E-11	2.300E-11	1.723E-11	1.337E-11	1.065E-11	8.677E-12
NE	8.896E-11	5.374E-11	3.597E-11	2.572E-11	1.928E-11	1.496E-11	1.193E-11	9.721E-12
ENE	4.038E-11	2.438E-11	1.631E-11	1.166E-11	8.735E-12	6.775E-12	5.400E-12	4.397E-12
E	1.382E-11	8.331E-12	5.566E-12	3.974E-12	2.973E-12	2.303E-12	1.833E-12	1.491E-12
ESE	1.214E-11	7.315E-12	4.885E-12	3.486E-12	2.607E-12	2.019E-12	1.606E-12	1.306E-12
SE	1.338E-11	8.066E-12	5.386E-12	3.844E-12	2.875E-12	2.226E-12	1.771E-12	1.440E-12
SSE	1.791E-11	1.079E-11	7.208E-12	5.145E-12	3.848E-12	2.980E-12	2.371E-12	1.927E-12
S	2.741E-11	1.653E-11	1.104E-11	7.885E-12	5.899E-12	4.570E-12	3.638E-12	2.958E-12
SSW	4.854E-11	2.928E-11	1.957E-11	1.398E-11	1.046E-11	8.108E-12	6.456E-12	5.252E-12
SW	5.261E-11	3.174E-11	2.121E-11	1.515E-11	1.134E-11	8.785E-12	6.995E-12	5.690E-12
WSW	3.695E-11	2.228E-11	1.488E-11	1.062E-11	7.947E-12	6.155E-12	4.898E-12	3.983E-12
W	1.915E-11	1.154E-11	7.701E-12	5.493E-12	4.106E-12	3.178E-12	2.527E-12	2.054E-12
WNW	9.650E-12	5.811E-12	3.876E-12	2.763E-12	2.065E-12	1.597E-12	1.269E-12	1.031E-12
NW	1.092E-11	6.581E-12	4.392E-12	3.133E-12	2.342E-12	1.812E-12	1.441E-12	1.171E-12
NNW	3.899E-11	2.353E-11	1.573E-11	1.123E-11	8.410E-12	6.519E-12	5.192E-12	4.225E-12

**Table 4.6-14 Sector Average D/Q Values (1/m<sup>2</sup>) for Special Receptors**  
(Page 1 of 1)

	<b>Site Boundary</b>	<b>Gardens</b>	<b>Meat Animals<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Businesses</b>
N	1.176E-08	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00
NNE	1.710E-08	4.661E-10	0.000E+00	0.000E+00
NE	1.654E-08	9.731E-10	0.000E+00	0.000E+00
ENE	7.471E-09	4.423E-10	6.371E-09	0.000E+00
E	3.342E-09	1.518E-10	2.401E-09	0.000E+00
ESE	2.944E-09	1.334E-10	0.000E+00	0.000E+00
SE	3.242E-09	3.459E-10	0.000E+00	0.000E+00
SSE	3.786E-09	7.087E-10	9.073E-10	0.000E+00
S	2.696E-09	0.000E+00	9.860E-10	1.127E-09
SSW	1.007E-08	0.000E+00	9.744E-09	0.000E+00
SW	1.090E-08	6.132E-10	0.000E+00	8.901E-10
WSW	7.714E-09	0.000E+00	1.776E-09	0.000E+00
W	1.405E-09	0.000E+00	1.185E-09	0.000E+00
WNW	1.145E-09	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00
NW	2.036E-09	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00
NNW	8.433E-09	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00

<sup>1</sup>Cattle will not be allowed to graze within the site boundary; therefore, the Meat Animals Receptors in the N, NNE, NE, ESE, SE, SW, WNW, NW and NNW sectors were ignored.



**Table 4.6-15 Decommissioning Emission Types**  
(Page 1 of 1)

<b>Emission Type<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Source Location</b>	<b>Quantity</b>
Fugitive Dust Property Line Receptors PM <sub>10</sub> PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Onsite	13.7 g/s (108.9 lb/hr) 1.4 g/s (10.9 lb/hr)
Fugitive Dust U.S. Highway 20 Receptor Locations PM <sub>10</sub> PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Onsite	31.8 g/s (252.4 lb/hr) 3.2 g/s (25.2lb/hr)
Vehicle Exhaust	Onsite	4,045 kg/yr (4.5 tons/yr)
Portable Generator Exhaust	Onsite buildings	NA <sup>2</sup>
Cutting Torch Fumes	Onsite buildings	NA <sup>2</sup>
Solvent Fumes	NA <sup>2</sup>	NA <sup>2</sup>
Standby Diesel Generator Exhaust <sup>3</sup>	Electrical Services Building	61 kg/yr (0.067 ton/yr) of PM <sub>10</sub> 8,437 kg/yr (9.3 ton/yr) of NO <sub>x</sub> 726 kg/yr (0.80ton/yr) of CO 168 kg/yr (0.185ton/yr) of VOC
Air Compressors	Onsite buildings	NA <sup>2</sup>

Notes:

<sup>1</sup>Fugitive dust and vehicle exhaust during decommissioning are assumed to be bounded by the emissions during construction.

<sup>2</sup>Information is not available at this time.

<sup>3</sup>This emission category includes emissions from four (4) 2,500 kW standby diesel generators and two (2) smaller diesel generators (security diesel generator and fire pump diesel). For the purpose of calculating aggregate emissions from this emission category, it was conservatively assumed that all six generators each had a capacity of 2,500 kW and that each generator was tested for 1.6 hours per week for 52 weeks per year.

## **4.7      NOISE IMPACTS**

Noise is defined as "unwanted sound." At high levels noise can damage hearing, cause sleep deprivation, interfere with communication, and disrupt concentration. Even at low levels, noise can be a source of irritation, annoyance, and disturbance to people and communities when it significantly exceeds normal background sound levels. In the context of protecting the public health and welfare, noise implies adverse effects on people and the environment. A quantifiable demonstration of the range of noise levels and how humans subjectively perceive noise is presented in Figure 3.7-2, Sound Level Range Examples.

### **4.7.1      Predicted Noise Levels**

#### **4.7.1.1      Construction Impacts**

Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility (EREF) construction activities primarily would occur in an area centrally located on the proposed site (EREF footprint). Construction of the highway entrances, visitor center and portions of the access roads would be located at the southern boundary of the site near U.S. Highway 20. As shown on Figure 2.1-2, Site Area and Facility Layout Map 1.6 Kilometer (1 Mile) Radius, the closest site boundary (north) from the proposed EREF footprint would be about 762 m (2,500 ft). The proposed EREF footprint would be about 3,060 m (10,039 ft) north of U.S. Highway 20.

The construction of the proposed EREF would require equipment for excavation, such as pile drivers, backhoes, graders, front-end loaders, bulldozers, and dump trucks. Excavation would also require blasting (and the associated warning alarms). Equipment needed for construction and material handling would include cranes, cherry pickers, water trucks, concrete delivery trucks, concrete pump trucks, stake body trucks, compressors, generators, and pumps. Noise generated from these types of equipment, blasting, and alarms would range from 80 to 95 dBA at approximately 15 m (50 ft) (FHWA, 2006). Most of the construction activities would occur during weekday, daylight hours; however, construction may continue during nights and weekends, when necessary to maintain the construction schedule.

##### **4.7.1.1.1      Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility Footprint**

Noise levels up to 60 dBA are considered "clearly acceptable" under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Land Use Compatibility Guideline for residential, livestock, and farming land uses (HUD, 1985). Similarly, noise levels under 55 dBA would not exceed the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency- (EPA-) defined goal of 55 dBA for Day-Night Average Sound Level ( $L_{dn}$ ) for outdoor spaces (EPA, 1974). Noise levels from construction of the EREF would range from 80 to 95 dBA at approximately 15 m (50 ft). These noise levels would diminish to about 46 to 61 dBA at the nearest site boundary to the proposed EREF footprint (about 762 m (2,500 ft)). Maximum noise levels from construction of the proposed access roads will be about 89 dBA at the nearest site boundary about 37 m (120 ft) west of the proposed access roads. These noise levels will occur only during construction of the access road.

Maximum construction noise levels of about 95 dBA would diminish to about 61 dBA at the nearest site boundary. These levels are considered "clearly acceptable" for industrial facilities and only one dBA above the level considered "clearly acceptable" for farm, livestock, and residential land uses under the HUD Guideline (HUD, 1985). However, maximum construction noise would exceed the EPA-defined goal of 55 dBA for  $L_{dn}$  for outdoor spaces (EPA, 1974). Therefore, noise during construction of the proposed EREF footprint would be audible on

adjacent properties, primarily north, east, southeast, and southwest of the proposed EREF footprint. While construction would continue for about eleven years, the impacts would be small since nearby land use is limited to grazing; the nearest residence is approximately 7.7 km (4.8 mi) east of the proposed site; and noise levels would be within the sound levels identified by HUD as “clearly acceptable” or “normally acceptable.”

As discussed in Section 3.7, the Wasden Complex, a group of important archaeological sites, is about 1.0 km (0.6 mi) from the boundary of the proposed EREF site. It is about 2.3 km (1.4 mi) to the nearest portion of the proposed EREF footprint. Noise levels during construction would diminish from about 80 to 95 dBA in the proposed EREF footprint to about 37 to 52 dBA at the Wasden Complex. This noise level would be less than the 60 dBA, which is considered “clearly acceptable” under the HUD Land Use Compatibility Guideline for residential, livestock, and farming land uses (HUD, 1985) and less than the EPA-defined goal of 55 dBA for Day-Night Average Sound Level ( $L_{dn}$ ) for outdoor spaces (EPA, 1974). Therefore, the proposed EREF would have a small impact on the Wasden Complex.

#### 4.7.1.1.2 Highway Entrances, Access Roads, and Visitor Center

Noise levels during construction of the highway entrances, access roads, and visitor center would range from 80 to 95 dBA. One highway entrance and access road would be immediately adjacent to the Hell’s Half Acre Wilderness Study Area (WSA). However the nearest point of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) hiking trail associated with the WSA is about 0.5 km (0.3 mi) further southwest. The other highway entrance, access road and visitor center would be about 200 m (656 ft) from the WSA. Construction noise would diminish from about 80 to 95 dBA to 56 to 71 dBA at 200 m (656 ft) from the construction area and to about 51 to 66 dBA at the nearest BLM hiking trail point. These noise levels are considered “clearly acceptable” (< 60 dBA) or “normally acceptable” (60 to 75 dBA) for livestock and farming land uses (HUD, 1985). The BLM trailhead on the WSA is about 860 m (2821 ft) from the nearest highway entrance construction area and noise levels would diminish to about 45 to 60 dBA. These noise levels are considered “clearly acceptable” for residential, livestock, and farming land uses (HUD, 1985). Therefore, construction noise would be audible on portions of the WSA during construction of portions of the access roads, U.S. Highway 20 entrances, and the visitor center. Construction noise levels may be an irritation to some visitors. Construction near the WSA would be completed within 12 months, and therefore sound impacts would be temporary. Since there is already substantial traffic using U.S. Highway 20, the temporarily increased noise level impacts would be small from construction of the visitor center, highway entrances, and access roads.

Noise from construction traffic along U.S. Highway 20 would be similar as existing highway noise levels because construction activities largely would be during weekday daylight hours. Existing noise levels were recorded at the proposed site at 57 dBA 15 m (50 ft) from U.S. Highway 20, during peak commute times. This noise level likely would be similar during construction when construction traffic is included.

#### 4.7.1.2 Operational Impacts

The development of the proposed facility would generally increase noise levels, although the amount of the increase would depend on many factors, including the number of employees and the amount of increased vehicular traffic. Vehicular traffic would be increased on U.S. Highway 20 during operations, but due to the considerable vehicle traffic already present, maximum noise levels would not increase; however, the duration of these maximum noise levels would increase because of the increased duration of the peak commute.

An operational noise survey was performed at the Almelo Enrichment Plant in Almelo, Netherlands, at the border of the site boundary during a 24-hour period. The Almelo Enrichment Plant design is comparable to the design of the proposed facility. The noise results obtained during the survey ranged from 30 to 47 dBA, with an average of 39.7 dBA. The main sources of operational noise were from the cascade halls, the cooling fans, and the cooling towers. The minimum distance from the cascade halls to the site boundary was about 80 m (262 ft), while the cooling towers and cooling fans were about 120 m (394 ft) from the site boundary.

The Almelo Enrichment Plant site is much smaller compared to the proposed EREF site. Sound levels recorded at the Almelo Enrichment Plant boundary would represent a conservative upper noise levels for the proposed EREF. The estimated maximum noise levels during normal operations of the proposed EREF would be less than 47 dBA (recorded at the Almelo boundary) at the nearest boundary to the proposed EREF footprint. Therefore, the proposed EREF would be in compliance with the HUD guidelines of 60 dBA for residential use and the EPA criteria of 55 dBA. Although the noise from the plant and the additional traffic would generally be noticeable, the operational noise from the plant is not expected to have a significant impact on adjacent properties. The noise levels at the WSA (about 2.4 km (1.5 mi)) would be substantially lower due to noise attenuation over distances and would be near ambient and masked by noise from U.S. Highway 20 traffic. Similarly, noise levels from proposed EREF operations would be only about 4 dBA at the Wasden Complex and therefore near ambient noise levels. The nearest residence would not hear the operations noise since it is approximately 7.7 km (4.8 mi) east of the proposed site.

Noise from traffic on U.S. Highway 20 that is from delivery and worker vehicles during the operation of the proposed EREF would be heard on U.S. Highway 20 and, therefore, at the WSA and residences along U.S. Highway 20. There is considerable existing traffic already present on U.S. Highway 20. Therefore, maximum noise levels would not increase, although the duration of noise that is associated with peak commute traffic would increase.

#### **4.7.1.3 Decommissioning Impacts**

Noise levels during decommissioning would be similar to those during construction at the EREF footprint. Noise levels during decommissioning would be no greater than those generated during construction, and would therefore range from 80 to 95 dBA. These noise levels would diminish to about 46 to 61 dBA at the nearest site boundary to the proposed EREF footprint (about 762 m (2,500 ft)). Noise levels up to 60 dBA are considered “clearly acceptable” under HUD Land Use Compatibility Guideline for residential, livestock, and farming land uses (HUD, 1985). Similarly, noise levels under 55 dBA would not exceed the EPA-defined goal of 55 dBA for Day-Night Average Sound Level ( $L_{dn}$ ) for outdoor spaces (EPA, 1974).

Maximum decommissioning noise levels of about 95 dBA would diminish to about 61 dBA at the nearest site boundary. These levels are considered “clearly acceptable” for industrial facilities and only one dBA above the level considered “clearly acceptable” for farm, livestock, and residential land uses under the HUD Guideline (HUD, 1985). However, maximum decommissioning noise would exceed the EPA-defined goal of 55 dBA for  $L_{dn}$  for outdoor spaces (EPA, 1974). Therefore, noise during decommissioning of the proposed EREF footprint would be audible on adjacent properties, primarily north, east, southeast, and southwest of the proposed EREF footprint. While decommissioning would continue for about nine years, the impacts would be small since land use is limited to grazing; the nearest residence is approximately 7.7 km (4.8 mi) east of the proposed site; and noise levels would be within the sound levels identified by HUD as “clearly acceptable” or “normally acceptable.”

#### **4.7.2 Noise Sources**

Noise point sources for the proposed facility during operation would include cascade halls, coolers, rooftop fans, air conditioners, transformers, and traffic from delivery trucks, employee vehicles, and site vehicles. Noise line sources for the plant during operation would consist only of vehicular traffic entering and leaving the site. Ambient background noise sources in the area include vehicular traffic along U.S. Highway 20, nearby farming operations, and wind gusts.

#### **4.7.3 Noise Level Standards**

HUD guidelines, as detailed in Table 3.7-2, U.S. Department of Housing Urban Development Land Use Compatibility Guidelines, set the acceptable Day-Night Average Sound Level ( $L_{dn}$ ) for areas of industrial, manufacturing, and utilities at 70 to 80 dBA as “normally acceptable.” Additionally, under these guidelines, construction and operation of the facility would not result in a change to sound levels to the closest residence and would not exceed 65 dBA (HUD, 1985). The EPA has set a goal of 55 dBA for  $L_{dn}$  in outdoor spaces, as detailed in the EPA Levels Document (EPA, 1974). Background measurements were consistent with the guidance provided in American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM) Standard Guide E1686-03 (ASTM, 2003).

As indicated in Section 4.7.1, Predicted Noise Levels, the calculated construction noise levels at the nearest boundary of the proposed site from the construction areas would be at levels defined as “clearly acceptable” or “normally acceptable” by HUD (HUD, 1985) but would exceed the EPA goal of 55 dBA (EPA, 1974). Operational noise levels would be below both the HUD and EPA guidelines. There are no Bonneville County or state environmental noise ordinances or regulations applicable to the proposed EREF. Sound levels during construction and operation of the proposed EREF would not be harmful to the public's life and health nor a disturbance of public peace and welfare.

#### **4.7.4 Potential Impacts to Sensitive Receptors**

Potential impacts to local schools, churches, hospitals, and residences would be small. The nearest home is located approximately 7.7 km (4.8 mi) east of the proposed site. The nearest school, hospital, church, and other sensitive noise receptors are located in Idaho Falls. Therefore, noise from construction, operations, decontamination, and decommissioning would not affect these receptors. Homes located along U.S. Highway 20 would be affected by the vehicle noise, but due to existing heavy tractor-trailer vehicle traffic, the change should be minimal.

As discussed in Section 4.5.5, Expected to Impacts to Communities or Habitats, habitat adjacent to the proposed facility would be avoided or used less frequently due to noise, human presence, and night lighting. Noise during construction may affect the ability of female sage grouse near the proposed EREF site to hear male sage grouse at leks during breeding season. Maximum construction noise levels would be about 35 dBA at the nearest known lek, which is similar to ambient noise levels measured in June 2008. This lek is within 6.4 km (4 mi) from the proposed site. Therefore, breeding success at this lek may be affected because female sage grouse close to the proposed EREF may not consistently hear male sage grouse on the lek. However, all other known leks are over 16 km (10 mi) from the proposed EREF site and would not be affected. Therefore, impacts to greater sage grouse from the proposed EREF would be small.

#### **4.7.5 Mitigation**

Mitigation of operational noise sources would occur primarily from the plant design, as cooling systems, valves, transformers, pumps, generators, and other facility equipment would generally be located inside plant structures. The buildings themselves would absorb the majority of the noise generated within. Natural land contours, vegetation (such as scrub brush), and site buildings and structures would mitigate noise from equipment located outside of the site structures. Distance from the noise source is also a key factor in the control of noise levels to area receptors. It is generally true that the sound pressure level from an outdoor noise source decreases 6 dB per doubling of distance. Thus, a noise that measures 80 dBA at 15 m (50 ft) away from the source would measure 74 dB at 30.5 m (100 ft), 68 dB at 61 m (200 ft), and 62 dB at 122 m (400 ft). As noted above, the nearest home is located approximately 7.7 km (4.8 mi) east of the proposed site; and the WSA is located immediately south of the proposed site. Both the residence and the WSA are near U.S. Highway 20. To minimize noise impacts to the residence, most use of U.S. Highway 20 would be restricted after twilight through early morning hours. Similarly, heavy truck and earth moving equipment usage during construction of the access roads and highway entrances would be restricted after twilight through early morning hours to minimize noise impacts to the WSA.

AES will minimize and manage noise and vibration impacts during construction and decommissioning by:

1. Performing construction or decommissioning activities with the potential for noise or vibration at residential areas that could have a negative impact on the quality of life during the day-time hours (7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.). If it is necessary to perform an activity that could result in excessive noise or vibration in a residential area after hours, the community will be notified in accordance with the site procedures.
2. Engineered and administrative controls for equipment noise abatement, including the use of equipment and vehicle mufflers, acoustic baffles, shrouding, barriers and noise blankets.
3. Sequencing construction or decommissioning activities to minimize the overall noise and vibration impact (e.g., establishing the activities that can occur simultaneously or in succession).
4. Utilizing blast mats, if necessary.
5. Creating procedures for notifying State and local government agencies, residents, and businesses of construction or decommissioning activities that may produce high noise or vibration that could affect them.
6. Posting appropriate State highway signs warning of blasting.
7. Creating a Complaint Response Protocol for dealing with and responding to noise or vibration complaints, including entering the complaint into the site's Corrective Action Program.

#### **4.7.6 Cumulative Impacts**

Cumulative noise sources would include the proposed EREF, existing traffic along U.S. Highway 20, farm and ranch operations, infrequent small aircraft; and environmental noise (e.g., wind, thunder). AES does not know of any other Federal, State, or private development plans within 16 km (10 mi) of the EREF. Expected noise levels would mostly affect a 1.6-km (1-mi) radius. Much of the area within that radius is on the proposed EREF site. Offsite property is primarily grazing and agriculture land with the exception of portions of the WSA. Cumulative

impacts from all noise sources at the EREF footprint would generally remain at or below HUD guidelines of 60 dBA L<sub>dn</sub> (HUD, 1985), during construction and decommissioning, and below 60 dBA L<sub>dn</sub> (HUD, 1985) and the EPA guidelines of 55 dBA L<sub>dn</sub> (EPA, 1974) during operations.

The affected portion of the WSA is also near U.S. Highway 20 and would receive cumulative noise impacts from the highway and construction of the proposed EREF. Maximum cumulative noise levels near the WSA during construction of the highway entrances and visitor center would be in excess of 70 dBA but less than 75 dBA. The cumulative effects would be relatively temporary because construction of the highway entrances, visitor center and access roads would be completed within 12 months. Residences closest to the site boundary would also experience noise from traffic along U.S. Highway 20. The primary sources of cumulative noise would be from existing traffic (e.g., Idaho National Laboratory commuters). Overall noise levels are not likely to increase; however, the duration of peak noise levels associated with commuting may increase. Therefore, cumulative noise impacts from the EREF will be small.

#### **4.7.7 Comparative Noise Impacts of No Action Alternative Scenarios**

ER Chapter 2, Alternatives, provides a discussion of possible alternatives to the construction and operation of the EREF, including an alternative of "no action," i.e., not building the EREF. The following information provides comparative conclusions specific to the concerns addressed in this subsection for each of the two "no action" alternative scenarios addressed in Section 2.4, Table 2.4-2, Comparison of Environmental Impacts for the Proposed Action and the No-Action Alternative Scenarios.

**Alternative Scenario C** - No EREF; LES and USEC deploy gas centrifuge plants, USEC phases out the Paducah gaseous diffusion plant (GDP) and GEH deploys their plant using Silex enrichment technology: The noise impacts would be the same since three enrichment plants would be built.

**Alternative Scenario D** - No EREF; LES and USEC deploy gas centrifuge plants, USEC phases out the Paducah gaseous diffusion plant (GDP) and USEC increases its centrifuge plant capacity: The noise impacts would be the same or greater since there is additional concentration of activity at a single location.

## **4.8 HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCE IMPACTS**

### **4.8.1 Direct Impacts**

A pedestrian cultural resource survey was performed for the 381-hectare (941-acre) parcel of land where the proposed Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility (EREF) is to be located (WCRM, 2008). The survey resulted in the recording of 11 sites and 17 isolated occurrences (finds); there are three prehistoric, four historic, and four multi-component sites. The Idaho State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) determined that further investigation was needed to assess the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility for the prehistoric components of three sites (MW002, MW012, and MW015). The historic component of one site (MW004) is recommended as eligible. Seven sites (MW003, MW006, MW007, MW009, MW011, MW013, and MW014) are recommended not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. Subsurface evaluative testing was conducted from October 1 through October 4, 2008 on sites MW002, MW012, and MW015. The prehistoric components of these sites include a lithic scatter (MW002), a lithic scatter with an associated rock feature (MW012), and a prehistoric artifact in association with a rock feature (MW015). The results of the testing program found that the prehistoric components of each of these three sites will not yield further significant data; they have been recommended as not eligible. The historic component of the site (MW004) recommended as eligible consists of a historic homestead complex and a possible ranching field camp; this site will provide information regarding the historic ranching practices in the area. The isolates include lithic flakes, stone tool fragments, rock features, cans, galvanized tubs, a lard pail, agricultural machinery/implements, board fragments and wire nails. None of the isolated occurrences are recommended as eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. Any site recommended as eligible for inclusion in the NRHP will be avoided, or a mitigation plan will be developed and implemented if required. (See ER Section 4.8.6, Minimizing Adverse Impacts.)

Based on recommendations from the Idaho State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and standard practice, AREVA Enrichment Services (AES) has not identified the locations of the sites on a map so that the sites would not be disturbed by curiosity seekers or vandals.

### **4.8.2 Indirect Impacts**

Based on the survey results as stated in ER Section 4.8.1, one eligible site (MW004) is known to exist within the survey Area of Potential Effect (APE) of the proposed EREF. This site will be treated/mitigated to minimize the potential for indirect impacts. AES has knowledge of one act of unauthorized collection on a cultural site west of the EREF site. AES will provide the Idaho SHPO with the survey results in 2009 in lieu of providing the locations in the ER to further preclude the potential for vandalism. (See Section 4.8.6 on mitigative actions.)

### **4.8.3 Agency Consultation**

Consultation has been initiated with all appropriate state agencies. In addition, AES has consulted by letter with the Shoshone Bannock Tribe. Consultation letters are included in ER Appendix A.

At the request of the Idaho State SHPO, a visualization assessment of the Wasden Complex viewshed, relative to the EREF, was performed. The Wasden Complex represents a group of potential Paleo-Indian historical sites of significance. Results of the visualization assessment indicate that the impact on sightlines from the Wasden Complex is expected to be small due to an intervening ridgeline that obscures all but the very tops of the EREF buildings.



#### **4.8.4 Historic Preservation**

Site MW004, located within the APE, is recommended eligible for inclusion in to the NRHP. This site will either be avoided or a mitigation plan will be developed and implemented. No further action is required with regard to sites that are officially determined to be not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. The results of the survey will be submitted to the Idaho SHPO in 2009 for determination of eligibility. Based on the Idaho SHPO determination, AES will implement, if necessary, appropriate measures. Idaho implementation of the Federal National Historic Preservation Act is contained in Idaho State Statute Title 67, Chapter 41, State Historical Society (Idaho Statutes, 2008a) (See Section 4.8.6 on mitigative actions.)

#### **4.8.5 Potential for Human Remains**

Procedures to deal with unexpected discoveries will be prepared by AES in consultation with the Idaho SHPO. The procedures will provide the processes for dealing with discoveries of human remains or previously unidentified archeological materials. Although there is a low potential for human remains to be present on the EREF site, previous work in the region indicates that burials can occur in any location or setting. Should an inadvertent discovery of such remains be made during construction, AES, in accordance with Idaho State Law Section 27-501 through 27-504 (Idaho Statutes, 2008c), would stop construction activities immediately in the area of the discovery and notify the Director of the Idaho State Historical Society. The Director of the Idaho State Historical Society would determine the appropriate measures to identify, evaluate, and treat these discoveries. If the remains are potentially from Native American sites, AES would, in addition to the above actions, contact the federal agency that has primary management authority and the appropriate Native American tribe. AES would also make a reasonable effort to protect the items discovered before resuming the construction activities in the vicinity of the discovery. The construction activity would resume only after the appropriate consultations and notifications have occurred and guidance received.

#### **4.8.6 Minimizing Adverse Impacts**

Mitigation measures will be in place to minimize any potential impact on historical and cultural resources. In the event that any inadvertent discovery of human remains or other items of archeological significance is made during construction, the facility will cease construction activities in the area around the discovery and notify the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) to make the determination of appropriate measures to identify, evaluate, and treat these discoveries.

Mitigation of the impact to historical and cultural sites within the EREF project boundary can take a variety of forms. Avoidance and data collection are the two most common forms of mitigation recommended for sites considered eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) (USC, 2008i). Significance criteria (a-d) serve as the basis for a determination that a site is eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. When possible, avoidance is the preferred alternative because the site is preserved in place and mitigation costs are minimized. When avoidance is not possible, data collection becomes the preferred alternative.

Data collection can take place after sites recommended eligible in the field have been officially determined eligible by the SHPO and a treatment plan has been submitted and approved. The plan describes the expected data content of the sites and the methodology for collection, analysis and reporting. For the EREF, one site, MW004, has been recommended eligible for

inclusion in the NRHP under criteria a and d. A treatment/mitigation plan for MW004 will be developed by AES to recover significant information.

Procedures to deal with unexpected discoveries will be developed in a plan prepared by AES. The plan will set forth the process for dealing with discoveries of human remains or previously unidentified archaeological materials that are discovered during ground disturbing activities and will establish procedures for the evaluation and treatment of these resources.

Materials that may be recovered for analysis during discovery or data recovery activities include artifacts and samples (e.g., bone, charcoal, sediments). Certain types of samples, such as radiocarbon samples, are usually submitted to outside analytical laboratories. All resources within the EREF are located on private land.

Given the small number of archaeological sites and isolated occurrences located within the EREF and AES's ability to avoid or mitigate impacts to those sites, the EREF would not have a significant impact on archaeological and cultural resources.

#### **4.8.7 Cumulative Impacts**

The cumulative impacts to historic and cultural resources will be limited to those resulting from construction and operation of the EREF and existing development on surrounding properties, because AES does not know of any other Federal, State, or private development plans within 16 km (10 mi) of the EREF.

There are a small number of archaeological sites located in the area associated with the EREF. The cumulative impacts to cultural resources will be small.

#### **4.8.8 Comparative Historic and Cultural Resource Impacts of No Action Alternative Scenarios**

ER Chapter 2, Alternatives, provides a discussion of possible alternatives to the construction and operation of the EREF, including an alternative of "no action," i.e., not building the EREF. The following information provides comparative conclusions specific to the concerns addressed in this subsection for each of the two "no action" alternative scenarios addressed in ER Section 2.4, Table 2.4-2, Comparison of Environmental Impacts for the Proposed Action and the No-Action Alternative Scenarios.

**Alternative Scenario C** - No EREF; LES and USEC deploy gas centrifuge plants, USEC phases out the Paducah gaseous diffusion plant (GDP) and GEH deploys their plant using Silex enrichment technology: The historical and cultural impacts would be the same since three enrichment plants would be built.

**Alternative Scenario D** - No EREF; LES and USEC deploy gas centrifuge plants, USEC phases out the Paducah gaseous diffusion plant (GDP) and USEC increases its centrifuge plant capacity: The historical and cultural impacts would be the same or less since some land on the expanded site may already have been disturbed.

## **4.9 VISUAL/SCENIC RESOURCES IMPACT**

### **4.9.1 Photos**

The proposed Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility (EREF) site has limited development (refer to Section 3.9.2, Site Photographs). The few structures on the property include an irrigation well, six pivot irrigation systems, livestock handling pens, and barbed wire fences. In addition, there are two potato storage facilities and four grain bins on the property adjacent to U.S. Highway 20.

### **4.9.2 Aesthetic and Scenic Quality Rating**

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) visual resource inventory process provides a means for determining visual values (BLM, 1984a). The inventory consists of a scenic quality evaluation, sensitivity level analysis, and a delineation of distance zones. Based on these three factors, lands are placed into one of four visual resource inventory classes. These inventory classes represent the relative value of the visual resources as follows: Classes I and II are considered to have the highest value, Class III represents a moderate value, and Class IV is of least value. The inventory classes provide the basis for considering visual values in the BLM resource management planning (RMP) process. Visual resource management (VRM) classes are established through the RMP process. Scenic quality is a measure of the visual appeal of a tract of land that is given an A, B or C rating (A-highest, C-lowest) based on the apparent scenic quality. The proposed EREF site received a "B" rating (see Table 3.9-1, Scenic Quality Inventory and Evaluation Chart). This class is of moderate value and allows for manipulation or disturbance. While the proposed site falls within an area identified by the BLM as VRM Class II, this designation is for BLM lands.

Private lands and INL lands within this Class II area have some development, including potato cellars, equipment barns, and industrial facilities. In addition, the county has zoned this area G-1 which allows for industrial development along with agriculture and grazing. Therefore, the site could be considered a VRM Class III or IV area.

The proposed EREF would disturb about 240 hectares (592 acres), which represents about 14% of the 1700 hectares (4200 acres) site. In addition, it would consist of structures no higher than 20 m (65 ft) and would be centrally located on the property. Therefore it would not dominate the landscape and would be within the objectives for Class III and IV. Both Classes allow for management activities that require modifications of the existing character of the landscape (BLM, 1984a) (BLM, 1984b) (BLM, 1986) (BLM, 2008b).

### **4.9.3 Significant Visual Impacts**

Figure 4.9-1, Aerial View, is an artistic aerial view of the proposed EREF and surrounding area. The majority of the surrounding area is grazing land and seeded dryland pasture with limited development. Communication towers are located on Kettle Butte 1.6 km (1 mi) east of the proposed site and U.S. Highway 20 runs along the southern most boundary of the proposed site. There are potato storage facilities, stock handling areas, and irrigation systems within 3.2 km (2 mi) of the proposed site that can be seen from the proposed EREF footprint. A powerline runs from the east to a substation near the southeast boundary of the proposed site. In addition, the BLM Hell's Half Acre Wilderness Study Area (WSA) can be seen from the proposed EREF footprint; although no detail can be observed. No permanent structures are visible on the adjacent properties to the north or west.

#### 4.9.3.1 Potential Impacts from Construction

Construction equipment would be out of character with the current uses and features of the site and surrounding properties. Construction of the access roads, U.S. Highway 20 entrances, and Visitors Center near U.S. Highway 20 would be most visible to the public including traffic along U.S. Highway 20 and visitors to the WSA. Construction near the WSA would be completed within 12 months and therefore sound impacts would be temporary.

Construction on the EREF footprint would be less visible but would continue for about eleven years. Cranes would be visible from portions of U.S. Highway 20 and likely from locations on the WSA. However, U.S. Highway 20 and the closest portions of the WSA are at least 2.4 km (1.5 mi) away from the facility construction area. Therefore, detail of the cranes and other construction activity would not be observed. Construction on the EREF footprint would be visible from the nearest proposed site boundaries. It is unlikely that even the construction cranes would be easily observable on the west boundary of the property due to topography and distance. Construction of much of the site would be visible from adjacent properties north, east, southeast, and southwest of the proposed EREF footprint. These properties are open lands and used for grazing. While construction would continue for about eleven years, the impacts would be small since land use is limited primarily to grazing and few visitors. The impact to views from the WSA likely would be small due to the distance to the proposed EREF and the size of the proposed EREF in comparison to the entire viewshed from the WSA. In addition, construction of the proposed transmission line would be visible from U.S. Highway 20 and adjacent properties. However, the visual impacts will be short term and small.

None of the construction activities or proposed EREF structures would require removal of natural topographic elevations that would serve to partially screen the proposed EREF. Any changes in topography to construct the access roads would be minimal. Natural landscaping with indigenous vegetation is planned to provide additional screening measures that would improve aesthetics.

Noise and dust would be generated during construction. Construction of the access roads, U.S. Highway 20 entrances, and Visitors Center near U.S. Highway 20 would create temporary changes to the audible, atmospheric, and visual, elements at the northern portion of the WSA, which is south of the proposed site. Similarly, construction of the EREF main facility would create temporary changes to the audible, atmospheric, and visual, elements of properties to the north, east, and southwest of the facility. Normal noise levels during construction would be about 85 dBA at 15 m (50 ft) from the noise source. These noise levels would diminish to about 50 dBA at the nearest site boundary (see ER Section 4.7.1, Predicted Noise Levels). These levels are considered “clearly acceptable” under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Land Use Compatibility Guideline (HUD, 1985) and do not exceed the EPA-defined goal of 55 dBA for Ldn for outdoor spaces (EPA, 1973). Maximum construction noise levels of about 95 to 101 dBA at 15 m (50 ft) would occur intermittently during construction. These noise levels would diminish to about 60 to 65 dBA at the nearest site boundary (see ER Section 4.7.1, Predicted Noise Levels). These levels are considered “normally acceptable” under the HUD Guideline (HUD, 1985), but exceed the EPA-defined goal of 55 dBA for Ldn for outdoor spaces (EPA, 1973).

Construction noise would be audible on portions of the WSA, south of U.S. Highway 20, during construction of the access roads, U.S. Highway 20 entrances, and Visitors Center. Construction near the WSA would be completed within 12 months and therefore sound impacts would be temporary. The impacts would be small since the construction near the WSA would be relatively short-term and most visitors to the WSA would be further than 2 km (1.2 mi) away from the nearest construction area.

Noise during construction of the proposed EREF, centrally located on the proposed site, would be audible on adjacent properties, primarily north, east, southeast, and southwest of the proposed EREF footprint. These properties are open lands and used for grazing. While construction would continue for about eleven years, the impacts would be small since land use is limited to grazing and noise levels would be within the sound levels identified by HUD as “clearly acceptable” or “normally acceptable.”

Dust would be generated during construction. Dust suppression Best Management Practices (BMPs) would be used to minimize dust and disturbed areas would be stabilized as soon as practicable. Therefore, the visual impacts due to the construction of the EREF would be small.

#### **4.9.3.2 Potential Impacts from Operations**

The proposed EREF would be out of character with current uses and features because the proposed site and surrounding area is primarily used for farming, crop harvesting operations, and grazing. The size and industrial nature of this proposed facility would be new to the immediate area. However, similar sized industrial facilities (e.g., Materials and Fuels Complex) are located approximately 16 km (10 mi) west of the proposed site on the Idaho National Laboratory (INL).

The proposed EREF would create limited visual intrusions and would partially obstruct views of the nearby landscape. None of the proposed plant structures would be taller than 20 m (65 ft); the on-site transmission line structures will be about 20 m (65 ft) above ground. Most of the impact would be on views from private and BLM lands southwest, east, and southeast of the proposed footprint. These lands are used for grazing and important visual features for offsite observers such as mountains and buttes are in the far distance. Therefore the viewing locations do not represent high quality view areas.

Due to the relative flatness of the site and surrounding vicinity, portions of the proposed EREF structures would likely be observable from U.S. Highway 20 and the WSA. This would include taller facility buildings such as the Centrifuge Assembly Building and Separation Buildings and transmission line structures. U.S. Highway 20 and the WSA are about 2.4 km (1.5 mi) at the nearest point to the proposed EREF footprint. In addition, the trailhead on the WSA is about 3.9 km (2.4 mi) from the proposed footprint. Therefore, details of the structures would be difficult to observe. In addition, the buildings would be painted neutral colors and landscaping is planned to provide aesthetically pleasing screening measures that would add to the aesthetics.

Lighting would be limited to the EREF, U.S. Highway 20 entrances, and access roads. Lighting would be minimized and based on security and safety requirements. In addition, lighting would be directional to limit visibility.

None of the proposed EREF structures will require removal of natural topographic elevations that would serve to partially screen the proposed EREF.

Maximum noise levels during normal operations would be less than 50 dBA at the nearest site boundary.

No dust would be generated during operation of the facility. Accordingly, the visual impacts due to the operation of the EREF would be small.

#### **4.9.3.3 Potential Impacts from Decommissioning Activities**

Impacts to visual resources during decommissioning activities would be similar to those generated during construction. Accordingly, the visual impacts due to decommissioning of the EREF would be small.

#### **4.9.4 Altered Historical, Archaeological, or Cultural Properties**

Based on discussions with the county historian, local Indian tribe and the State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) and, as stated in ER Section 3.8, Historic and Cultural Resources, all cultural or archaeological sites that were identified during the Cultural Resources Inventory within the proposed EREF footprint will be either avoided or mitigated, as necessary to protect the resource. The results of the Cultural Resources Inventory will be submitted to the SHPO in 2009 for a determination of eligibility. Based on the SHPO determination, AREVA Enrichment Services, LLC. (AES) will implement, if required, appropriate measures. As a result, historical, archaeological or cultural resources will be identified and protected. These sites were unknown prior to the survey, are small, and are on private land. In addition, these sites cannot be seen from public lands. AES has also assessed the potential visual impact of the EREF on the Wasden Complex viewshed and has provided the assessment to the SHPO. AES is currently working with the SHPO to address their concern. Therefore, AES finds that the visual impacts from the proposed EREF would be small.

#### **4.9.5 Visual Compatibility and Compliance**

As noted in Section 3.9.9, Regulatory Information, discussions were held between AREVA and Bonneville County officials, to coordinate and discuss local area community planning issues. No county zoning, land use planning or associated review process requirements were identified. All applicable local ordinances and regulations will be followed during the construction and operation of the proposed EREF. In addition, development of the site will meet federal and state requirements for nuclear and radioactive material sites regarding design, siting, construction materials, and monitoring.

#### **4.9.6 Potential Mitigation Measures**

Mitigation measures will be in place to minimize the impact to visual and scenic resources. These include the following items:

- The use of accepted natural, low-water consumption landscaping techniques to limit any potential visual impacts. These techniques will incorporate, but not be limited to, the use of native landscape plantings and crushed stone pavements on difficult to reclaim areas.
- Aesthetically pleasing screening measures such as berms and earthen barriers, natural stone, and other physical means may be used to soften the buildings.
- Prompt revegetation or covering of bare areas with natural materials will be used to mitigate visual impacts due to construction activities.
- Use of neutral colors for structures.
- Limiting lighting to meet security requirements and focusing lighting toward the ground to reduce night lighting in the surrounding area.

#### 4.9.7 Cumulative Impacts to Visual/Scenic Quality

The cumulative impacts to the visual/scenic quality of the proposed EREF site were assessed by examining the proposed actions associated with construction of the proposed EREF and the development of surrounding properties. AES does not know of any other Federal, State, or private development plans within 16 ki (10 mi) of the EREF.

Proposed EREF site development potentially impacting the visual/scenic quality of the proposed site includes:

- Several buildings surrounded by chain link fencing;
- Large storage areas for feed, product and depleted uranium cylinders;
- Stormwater retention and detention basins and a Domestic SSTEP Basin;
- Equipment storage areas;
- Electrical substation and supply power line;
- Facility access and security roads; and
- Barbed wire fencing along property perimeters

Existing off site development on surrounding properties impacting the visual/scenic quality of the site and vicinity includes continuing use of:

- Farm buildings (e.g., potato sheds, equipment sheds);
- Center pivot irrigation systems;
- Dirt and gravel covered roadways;
- Power poles, a small substation, and a high-voltage utility line; and
- U.S. Highway 20

By considering both proposed onsite and nearby existing developments, modification to the proposed site would result in small visual impacts. Therefore, cumulative impacts will be small on the visual/scenic quality of the proposed site.

#### 4.9.8 Comparative Visual/Scenic Resources Impacts of the No Action Alternative

ER Chapter 2, Alternatives, provides a discussion of possible alternatives to the construction and operation of the EREF, including an alternative of "no action," i.e., not building the EREF. The following information provides comparative conclusions specific to the concerns addressed in this subsection for the two "no action" alternative scenarios addressed in ER Section 2.4, Table 2.4-2, Comparison of Environmental Impacts for the Proposed Action and the No-Action Alternative Scenarios.

**Alternative Scenario C** - No EREF; LES and USEC deploy gas centrifuge plants, USEC phases out the Paducah gaseous diffusion plant (GDP) and GEH deploys their plant using Silex enrichment technology: The visual/scenic resources impacts would be the same since three enrichment plants would be built.

**Alternative Scenario D** - No EREF; LES and USEC deploy gas centrifuge plants, USEC phases out the Paducah gaseous diffusion plant (GDP) and USEC increases its centrifuge plant

capacity: The visual/scenic resources impacts would be the same or less because although only two plants are constructed, the size of one plant would be larger.



## FIGURES



EREF

IDAHO HIGHWAY ROUTE 20

**NOTES:**

1. THE HIGHLIGHTED GREEN SHADING IS INDICATIVE OF NATURAL OR PROPOSED VEGETATION.
2. FIGURE NOT TO SCALE.

**FIGURE 4.9-1**

**Rev. 4**

**Aerial View**

**EAGLE ROCK ENRICHMENT FACILITY  
ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT**

## **4.10      SOCIOECONOMIC IMPACTS**

This section describes the socioeconomic impacts to the community surrounding the Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility (EREF), including impacts from the influx of the construction and operational workforces to schools, housing, and social services. Transportation impacts are described in Section 4.2, Transportation Impacts.

### **4.10.1      Facility Construction**

#### **4.10.1.1      Jobs, Income, and Worker Population**

Construction of the EREF site is scheduled for the beginning of 2011, with heavy construction continuing for seven years over a duration of eight calendar years (2011-2018). This will be followed by four years of assemblage and testing (2018-2022). The EREF is estimated to cost a total of \$4.1 billion to construct (in constant 2007 dollars; Table 4.10-1, Type of Construction Costs by Location).

An estimated [ \* ] would be spent within an 80-km (50-mi) radius (about [ \* ] of the total \$4.1 billion, [ \* ] would be spent elsewhere in the United States, and [ \* ] would be spent internationally).

Of the total cost, an estimated [ \* ] would be spent for buildings, [ \* ] would be spent for equipment, and [ \* ] would be expended for other construction costs. Of the [ \* ] to be spent for building construction alone, an estimated [ \* ] would be spent locally on craft labor, [ \* ] would be spent locally on construction materials, and the remaining [ \* ] would be spent on craft worker benefits and management salaries.

Table 4.10-2, Estimated Number of Construction Craft Workers by Annual Pay Ranges, lists the estimated average annual number of construction employees working on the EREF during construction and the estimated salary range. As shown in that table, a peak craft construction workforce of about 590 workers is anticipated in 2012. During early construction stages of the project, the workforce is expected to consist primarily of structural crafts, which should benefit the local area because this workforce is expected to come from the local area. As construction progresses, there would be a transition to predominantly mechanical and electrical crafts in the later stages. The bulk of this labor force is expected to come from the surrounding 120-km (75-mi) region due to the relatively low population of the local site area (Table 3.10-3, Labor Force and Employment). The available labor pool is expected to correlate with the required educational and skill levels needed for the construction workforce.

\* Proprietary Commercial Information withheld in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390

#### **4.10.1.2      Community Characteristic Impacts**

The major impact of facility construction on human activities is expected to be a result of the influx of labor into the area on a daily or semi-permanent basis. AREVA Enrichment Services LLC (AES) estimates that approximately 15% of the 590-person peak construction workforce (89 workers), including management, would move into the Idaho Falls vicinity as new residents. Previous experience regarding construction for nuclear industry projects suggests that, of those who move, approximately 65% (58 of the 89 workers) would bring their families, which on average would consist of the worker, a spouse, and one school-aged child (USCB, 2000c). The likely increase in area population during peak construction, therefore, would total 205 (31 workers without families, plus 58 workers with their families). This is less than 0.25% of the Bonneville County's population of 82,522 in 2000, and less than 0.15% of the three-county



region of influence (ROI) population of 143,412 in 2000 (Table 3.10-2, Racial Composition). This minimal increase and impact would be manageable, particularly considering the significant growth in Bonneville County and the ROI during the 1970-1980 period, low growth in the 1980-1990 period, and moderate growth in the 1990-2000 period (Table 3.10-1, Population Census and Projections). The overall change in population density and characteristics in Bonneville County due to construction of the EREF would be small.

AES estimated that 89 housing units would be needed to accommodate the new EREF construction workforce. In 2006, Bonneville County had 2,603 vacant housing units (7.2%) (estimates were not available for Bingham County and Jefferson County for 2006). In 2000, Bonneville County had 1,731 vacant units, Bingham County had 986 vacant units, and Jefferson County had 386 vacant units, for a total of 3,103 in the ROI (Table 3.10-8, Housing). Even if all of the in-migrating construction workforce were to reside in Bonneville County, it would only represent a 3.4% reduction in the number of vacant houses available in 2006. If they were to reside throughout the three-county region of influence, it would only represent a 2.9% reduction in the number of vacant houses available in 2000. Accordingly, there should be no measurable impact related to the need for EREF construction worker housing.

The increase in jobs and population also would lead to a need for increased use of community services, such as police and fire protection, medical services, and schools. Some of the departments that could be affected by the construction workforce in-migration have identified existing needs that are not met. These existing needs could potentially affect their ability to meet additional future service needs as a result of the EREF. A representative of the Bonneville County Sheriff's Department, stated that the Tri-County Sheriff's Association covers most of southeastern Idaho, including Bonneville County and the City of Idaho Falls. The cities and counties within the Tri-County Sheriff's Association have mutual aid agreements to assist each other when the need arises. The Bonneville County Sheriff's Department has indicated an existing need to have mobile data terminals (MDTs) installed in its patrol vehicles; need for sonar equipment for the dive team's boat; and need for additional traffic enforcement vehicles and officers, detectives, and narcotics officers. In addition, the department has a desire to move from the old main building into a new facility. The department stated that construction of the EREF would likely require additional traffic enforcement officers and units, beyond their existing needs, to meet the service use demands created by the construction workforce.

A representative of the Idaho Falls Police Department indicated an existing need for a more permanent or a new building (it shares existing facilities with Bonneville County and rents some space that might be sold), to install MDTs in its patrol vehicles, and to obtain additional rifles for its officers. The department stated that construction of the EREF would likely require additional enforcement officers, vehicles, and equipment beyond their existing needs, to meet the service use demands created by the construction workforce.

The Rigby Police Department in Jefferson County had few existing needs. A department representative indicated that they would like to upgrade patrol cars and equipment, such as radar. A long term desire is to replace the department office building. The representative stated that he did not anticipate additional needs if the construction workforce were to reside in Jefferson County. An increase in traffic may arise due to the commuting patterns of workers, which may have the potential to increase the number of traffic calls.

A representative of the City of Idaho Falls Fire Department indicated that they have an existing need for a new station in the downtown area and another station on the south side of Idaho Falls, storage units at the backs of its buildings, a heavy rescue truck, installation of MDTs in all of its units, and some additional firefighters. The representative stated that increased demands as a result of the construction workforce might require the addition of another ambulance and

EMT crew and a new fire station with associated vehicles, equipment, and staff on the west side of the city if population growth occurs there as a result of the EREF.

A representative of Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center stated that the hospital has interlocal agreements with other facilities in the region and no current needs. They do not anticipate having additional needs to meet the potential increased demand created by the construction workforce for the EREF.

The estimated peak increase in school-age children due to EREF construction worker families is 58, or less than 1% of Bonneville County's public enrollment of 14,254 students and the three-county ROI enrollment of 29,896 (Table 3.10-9, Public and Private Educational Facilities). Based on the local area teacher-student ratio of approximately 1:18, the midpoint of traditional schools in the counties, and assuming an even distribution of students among all grade levels, the increase in students represents four classrooms. A representative of the Bonneville Joint School District 93 stated that they currently need additional teachers and staff, and funds to increase salaries to retain staff. Most schools are operating at their designed capacity so they soon would need to add an elementary school, followed by a middle school and a high school. The representative stated that completing its existing expansion plans would result in the added capacity needed to meet the potential new demands created by an in-migrating construction workforce.

A representative of the Idaho Falls School District 91 stated that they currently need an additional four full-time equivalent teachers and they need to modernize facilities, even though recent declines in enrollment have left the district with excess space. They stated that they would need to increase teacher and staff levels slightly to meet the needs of the in-migrating construction workforce.

The superintendent of the Ririe Joint School District #252 had similar needs as the other school districts in the three-county ROI. He stated that the district needed additional teachers, especially in the areas of special education and mathematics, as well as paraprofessionals. The superintendent also suggested the need to remodel and upgrade the existing building interiors, including the carpeting in the hallways. The three schools in the District could accommodate another 200 students with the existing facilities, but the addition of numerous students would require the hiring of new staff. The superintendent also stressed the importance of bus service and the need for additional drivers and upgraded buses, because students rely on bus service in rural Jefferson County.

The superintendent of the Jefferson County Joint School District #251 also stated that the district was in need of special education teachers, math and science teachers, and a new high school building. Similar to the Ririe schools, the superintendent emphasized the importance of bus service and the need for new buses each year. The superintendent did not believe that the influx of new residents as a result of the construction and operation of the EREF would create additional needs for the school district, beyond the present needs.

Because the growth in jobs and population would occur over a period of several years, providers of the above services should be able to accommodate the projected population growth and demand for services. While additional investment in staff, facilities, and equipment may be necessary, local government revenues also would increase. As shown in Table 4.10-3, Estimated Annual Tax Payments, AES would pay an estimated [ \* ] in annual property taxes [ \* ] to Bonneville County during the last three full years of the seven-year heavy construction period for the EREF, ending in early 2018, representing an [ \* ] increase in annual county property tax revenues and a [ \* ] increase in total annual county revenues (see Table 3.10-6: Bonneville County Budget Ending September 30, 2007). AES also would pay an estimated [ \* ] in annual sales and use tax revenues (a total of [ \* ] over eight years) to the State of Idaho during

construction of the EREF. These payments would provide the source for additional government investment in facilities and equipment. That revenue increase may lag somewhat behind the need for new investment, but the incremental nature of the growth should allow local governments to more easily accommodate the increase. Consequently, the impacts on community services will be small.

\* Proprietary Commercial Information withheld in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390

## **4.10.2 Facility Operation**

### **4.10.2.1 Jobs, Income, and Worker Population**

Operation of the proposed EREF from 2014 through 2041 would lead to a permanent increase in employment, income, and population in the area. Employment at the EREF during operation would be up to 550 workers, which would be less than the size of the 590-person peak construction craft workforce. Even if all 550 operational workers came from outside the area, this would only represent a 0.9% increase in the total employed labor force of 64,439 in Bonneville, Bingham, and Jefferson Counties in 2000, and a 8.5% increase in the 6,479 manufacturing employment in the three counties (Table 3.10-3, Labor Force and Employment, and Table 3.10-4, Employment by Industry). A significant number of the remaining operational jobs are likely to be filled by local residents because roughly 57% of Bonneville County and the three-county ROI residents have obtained some college education, completed graduate degrees, or completed professional degrees in 2000 (Table 3.10-10, Educational Enrollment and Attainment). In addition, some of the in-migrating construction workers would likely stay to become part of the operational workforce of the EREF.

The EREF annual operating payroll would be approximately \$36.3 million for a workforce of 550, or about \$65,983 per worker per year (in constant 2007 dollars). This average salary is approximately 57.8% more than the \$41,805 median household income in Bonneville County in 2000 and about 45.6% higher than the \$45,325 median household income for 2006. Similarly, the average EREF salary would be about 81.2% higher than the \$36,423 median household income in Bingham County in 2000; the median household income in Bingham County in 2006 is not available. The average EREF salary would be about 74.8% higher than the \$37,737 median household income in Jefferson County in 2000; the median household income in Jefferson County in 2006 is not available (Table 3.10-5, Income Characteristics).

An increase in the area population is unlikely because most of the EREF workforce would likely come from the existing local workforce, including the proposed EREF construction workforce. But if it were to occur, Bonneville County probably would receive most of the new worker population. In particular, the region would not experience a boomtown effect, which generally describes the consequence of rapid increases in population (at least 5 to 10% per year) in small rural communities (i.e., communities with populations of a few thousand to a few tens of thousands and 48 to 80 km (30 to 50 mi) or more from a major city) undergoing rapid increases in economic activity (NRC, 1994). The overall change in population density and population characteristics in Bonneville County due to operation of the EREF would not be significant.

### **4.10.2.2 Community Characteristic Impacts**

The increase in population due to EREF operation may be less than anticipated, due to the employment of local residents and construction workers who remain to become part of the operational workforce. Based on the number of vacant housing units available in the area (Table 3.10-8, Housing), even under a worst-case scenario of full in-migration of the operational

workforce, the relatively small need for housing units (550 units or 17.7% of those vacant units in the three-county region of influence in 2000) needed would not likely burden or raise prices within the local real estate market.

As stated above, many operational workers are anticipated to be hired from the existing local workforce. Thus, it is anticipated that impacts to schools may be minimal, compared to impacts during construction. If most of the EREF operational workforce is hired from the existing local workforce, then the estimated four additional classrooms needed for the EREF construction workforce may be sufficient to meet the increase of the EREF operational workforce. However, under a worst-case scenario of 100% in-migration, a maximum increase of 550 school-aged children in local elementary and secondary school enrollment during operation could require the addition of 27 more classrooms in the three-county region of influence, above those required for the construction phase.

Area law enforcement, fire, and medical services would be minimally affected because of the similar operational workforce and the peak construction workforce levels, and potentially similar or less in-migration levels. As discussed in Section 4.10.1.2 (Community Characteristic Impacts), agreements exist among the cities in Bonneville County and other counties in southeastern Idaho for emergency services if adequate personnel and equipment are not available. Current available services should be able to absorb the service needs of new workers and residents. The development of new fire departments or police departments should not be necessary because EREF will maintain an on-site Fire Brigade/Emergency Response Team and Security Force. This on-site capability, in conjunction with response from agreement and supporting agencies from the county's mutual aid system, should be sufficient for response to the EREF.

### 4.10.3 Regional Impact Due to Construction and Operation

The impact estimates provided in Sections 4.10.1 and 4.10.2 are based on the populations of Bonneville County and the three-county ROI. The population in Idaho within 120 km (75 mi) of the site is larger than the combined population of Bonneville, Bingham, and Jefferson Counties. Therefore, the projected construction and operations impacts, discussed in Sections 4.10.1 and 4.10.2 for Bonneville County and the three-county ROI are a conservative upper estimate compared to if the impacts were spread across the 120 km (75 mi) area (which would result in a smaller impact). This minor increase in population from proposed EREF construction (205 new workers and family members) and operations would produce a small impact on population characteristics, economic trends, housing, community services (i.e., health, social, and educational resources), and the tax structure and distribution within 120 km (75 mi) of the site during the construction and operational periods.

As shown in Table 3.10-1, Population Census and Projections, the census year 2000 population in Bonneville County was 82,522, in Bingham County it was 41,735, and in Jefferson County it was 19,155, for a total of 143,412. The three closest, larger population centers to the site are Idaho Falls at 32 km (20 mi) in Bonneville County, Shelley at 45 km (28 mi) in Bingham County, and Blackfoot at 77 km (48 mi) in Bingham County. The populations of these three areas in 2000 were approximately 50,730, 3,813, and 10,419, respectively, providing a combined total population of approximately 64,962. If the entire construction phase population increase of 205 workers and family members, reported in Section 4.10.1.2, is assumed to relocate to these three cities, a total construction phase population increase of approximately 0.3% would result. This would have a small impact to the region.

Because most of the 550 operational jobs likely would be filled by residents already living in the region, the impact during the operational period of the EREF will be small.

While all cities within 80 km (50 mi) of the EREF could be affected by construction and operation, including Shelley and Blackfoot, Idaho Falls has the greatest potential to experience any in-migration and thus could be the most affected because it is the closest to the facility, is the largest city within that radius, and thus would likely have the most social amenities to attract potential workers and in-migrants. The minor increase in population would produce a small impact on population characteristics, economic trends, housing, community services (i.e., health, social, and educational resources), and the tax structure and tax distribution within Idaho Falls, Idaho, during both the construction and operational periods of the EREF.

The estimated tax revenue and estimated allocations to the State of Idaho and Bonneville County resulting from the construction and operation of the EREF are provided in Tables 4.10-3, Estimated Annual Tax Payments. Annual tax payments are estimated to range from [ \* ] (in constant 2007 dollars), for a total of \$323.6 million over the life of the facility. These payments would include [ \* ] in annual net sales and use taxes from 2012 through 2019, [ \* ] in annual net property taxes from 2015 through 2040, and [ \* ] in annual income taxes from 2027 through 2036.

The total socioeconomic impact due to the construction and operation of the EREF will be small.

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### 4.10.4 Decommissioning

Decontamination and decommissioning of the EREF is estimated to take about nine years to complete. This would provide ongoing employment opportunities for the operational workforce and additional employment opportunities for other county and regional residents. Expenditures



on salaries and materials would contribute to the area economy. In addition, the State of Idaho would continue to benefit from sales tax and income tax revenues.

A detailed description of the decommissioning process and costs including workforce sizes, salaries and other expenditures, is provided in SAR Chapter 10, Decommissioning. The socioeconomic impact of decommissioning activities will be small.

#### **4.10.5 Cumulative Impacts**

A number of other development projects have been proposed for the three-county ROI that could have cumulative effects with the EREF, depending upon their scope and schedules for development. In Bonneville County, these developments could include the Snake River Landing planned community, Taylor Crossing planned community, The Narrows mixed use office/residential development, the Central Valley development, the McNeil Development that includes a Marriott Hotel and condominiums, the Sleep Inn Hotel, and the West Broadway soccer complex now being constructed. In Bingham County, planned developments would be more dispersed and industrial with construction of a 150-unit windfarm development and several cell towers. According to a representative of the Jefferson County Planning and Zoning Department, little commercial and industrial development is anticipated for the county due to a lack of infrastructure. Most of the current and planned development includes custom, single-family homes.

These projects would provide additional employment opportunities for construction workers and would increase the economic activity in the region. Depending upon the timing of construction and operation of each of these projects, there could be competition between them to hire construction and operational employees. This competition could lead to some increase in salaries in the area. However, the labor pool is large enough within the immediate 80 km (50 mi), and the even greater 120-km (75-mi) surrounding region, that it should be a minor issue. They would also lead to additional, long-term operational employment opportunities for residents and might result in additional in-migration into the area.

Similar to labor, depending upon the timing of construction of each of these projects, and the types and amounts of construction materials needed, there could be a shortage in the supply of some materials and, thus, competition for obtaining those materials. This could lead to some increases in prices for materials that are in short supply. However, the impact would likely be small.

The cumulative socioeconomic impacts will be small.

#### **4.10.6 Comparative Socioeconomic Impacts of No Action Alternative Scenarios**

ER Chapter 2, Alternatives, provides a discussion of possible alternatives to the construction and operation of the EREF, including an alternative of "no action," i.e., not building the EREF. The following information provides comparative conclusions specific to the concerns addressed in this subsection for each of the two "no action" alternative scenarios addressed in ER Section 2.4, Table 2.4-2, Comparison of Environmental Impacts for the Proposed Action and the No-Action Alternative Scenarios.

**Alternative Scenario C** - No EREF; LES and USEC deploy gas centrifuge plants, USEC phases out the Paducah gaseous diffusion plant (GDP) and GEH deploys their plant using Silex enrichment technology: The positive socioeconomic impacts would be the same since three enrichment plants would be built.

**Alternative Scenario D** - No EREF; LES and USEC deploy gas centrifuge plants, USEC phases out the Paducah gaseous diffusion plant (GDP) and USEC increases its centrifuge plant capacity: The socioeconomic impacts would be about the same since overall SWU capacity would be about the same.

# TABLES

**Table 4.10-1 Type of Construction Costs by Location**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Type of Expenditure	Percentage of Expenditure by Location (and in million \$)			
	Local	National	Foreign	Total Construction Costs
Buildings	68%	30%	2%	100.0%
	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Equipment	1%	12%	87%	100.0%
	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Other	11%	63%	26%	100.0%
	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Total Locational Expenditures	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	4,095

Note: Estimates are calculated based upon approximate percentages, in million, 2007 dollars.  
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10 CFR 2.390

**Table 4.10-2 Estimated Number of Construction Craft Workers by Annual Pay Ranges**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Year	Annual Pay Ranges				Average Number of Workers/Year
	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	
2011	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
2012	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
2013	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
2014	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
2015	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
2016	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
2017	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
2018	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
2019	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
2020	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
2021	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
2022	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

Note: Annual pay ranges are based upon original pay ranges, in 2002 dollars, escalated to 2007 dollars using the U.S. Bureau of Labor's consumer price index (CPI) on-line inflation calculator, resulting in an increase of 15.254% over that period or a simple annual average of 3.051%.

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**Table 4.10-3 Estimated Annual Tax Payments**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Year	Estimated Tax Payments <sup>(1)</sup>			
	Income Tax	Net Property Tax	Net Sales and Use Tax	Total
2011	0	0	0	0
2012	0	0	0	0
2013	0	0	0	0
2014	0	0	0	0
2015	0	0	0	0
2016	0	0	0	0
2017	0	0	0	0
2018	0	0	0	0
2019	0	0	0	0
2020	0	0	0	0
2021	0	0	0	0
2022	0	0	0	0
2023	0	0	0	0
2024	0	0	0	0
2025	0	0	0	0
2026	0	0	0	0
2027	0	0	0	0
2028	0	0	0	0
2029	0	0	0	0
2030	0	0	0	0
2031	0	0	0	0
2032	0	0	0	0
2033	0	0	0	0
2034	0	0	0	0
2035	0	0	0	0
2036	0	0	0	0
2037	0	0	0	0
2038	0	0	0	0
2039	0	0	0	0
2040	0	0	0	0
Totals	0	0	0	323.6

<sup>(1)</sup> In millions, constant 2007 dollars

Information in “[ ]” is Proprietary Commercial Information withheld in accordance with 10CFR2.390

## **4.11 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE**

This section examines whether there are minority or low-income populations residing within a 6.4-km (4-mi) radius of the proposed Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility (EREF) for which further consideration of environmental impacts is warranted in order to determine the potential for environmental justice concerns. The evaluation was performed using the 2000 population and economic data available from the U.S. Census Bureau for that area, and was done in accordance with the procedures contained in NUREG-1748 (NRC, 2003a). This guidance was endorsed by the NRC Policy Statement on the Treatment of Environmental Justice Matters in NRC Regulatory and Licensing Actions (FR, 2004). As discussed below, no minority or low-income populations were identified that would require further analysis of environmental justice concerns under the criteria established by the NRC.

### **4.11.1 Census Block Group Procedure and Evaluation Criteria**

The nearest residence is approximately 7.7 km (4.8 mi) from the proposed site (see Section 3.1, Land Use). Because this is outside of the 6.4-km (4-mi) radius (130-km<sup>2</sup> [50-mi<sup>2</sup>] area) required to be examined by the NRC (NRC, 2003a), no environmental justice disproportionate adverse impacts would occur to minority or low-income populations. However, the proposed site does extend across four census block groups and to show additional compliance with the NRC requirements, a census block group analysis was conducted to determine whether the remainder of those census block groups (i.e., the portions lying outside of the 6.4-km [4-mi] radius) had potential minority or low-income populations.

The determination of whether the potential for environmental justice concerns exist was made in accordance with the detailed procedures set forth in Appendix C to NUREG-1748 (NRC, 2003a). Census block group (CBG) data from the 2000 decennial census were obtained from the U. S. Census Bureau for the minority and low-income populations within the four potentially affected CBGs. For minority populations, data were obtained about the number and percentage of individuals within each CBG for specific minority population group (i.e., Black or African-American, American Indian and Alaskan Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander, Hispanic or Latino, and other races) and for the aggregate minority populations. For low-income populations (defined in NUREG-1748 as those households falling below the U.S. Census Bureau-specified poverty level), the total number of individuals and the associated percentages living below the poverty level also were obtained. The low-income poverty data used in the evaluation was for 1999. More current information was not used to conduct this analysis because Appendix C of NUREG-1748 recommends using the U.S. Census Bureau's most recent decennial data, and also because the U.S. Census Bureau does not provide intercensal population estimates for geographic areas with populations of less than 85,000 people. In examining alternative areas for the proposed site, environmental justice was considered as part of the overall site selection process. However, the analysis process was not as detailed for the other sites as the process described in this section for the proposed site.

The above-described minority and low-income U.S. population percentage data were then compared to their counterparts for their respective county and state data. These comparisons were made pursuant to the "20%" and "50%" criteria contained in Appendix C to NUREG-1748 (NRC, 2003a), to determine: (1) if any CBG contained a minority population group, aggregate minority population, or low-income percentage that exceeded its county or state counterparts by more than 20 percentage points; and (2) if any CBG was comprised of more than 50% minority (either by individual group or in the aggregate) or low-income people.

Based on its comparison of the relevant CBG data to their county and state counterparts, as discussed below, it was determined that no further evaluation of potential environmental justice concerns was necessary, because no CBG within the 6.4-km (4-mi) radius of the proposed site contained a minority or low-income population exceeding the NUREG-1748 "20%" or "50%" criteria (NRC, 2003a).

#### **4.11.2 Census Block Group Results**

The 6.4-km (4-mi) radius around the proposed site includes parts of Bonneville, Bingham, and Jefferson Counties, Idaho (Figure 4.11-1, 6.4-km (4-mi) Radius and Census Block Groups). Within that area, there are three census tracts with a total of four census block groups:

- Bonneville County, Census Tract 9715, Census Block Groups 1 and 2;
- Bingham County, Census Tract 9503, Census Block Group 1; and
- Jefferson County, Census Tract 9601, Census Block Group 3.

The minority populations for each of the CBGs comprising the proposed site, as well as the total minority populations in the three corresponding counties and the state of Idaho, are enumerated in Table 4.11-1, Minority Populations, 2000.

Table 4.11-1 shows that the largest minority group in Idaho in 2000 was of Hispanic or Latino origin, accounting for 7.9% of the total population. This was also true for each county and all of the census block groups, ranging from 6.9% to 23.4%. The greatest Hispanic or Latino populations, within the 6.4-km (4-mi) radius of the proposed site, were found in Bonneville County, Census Tract 9715, CBG 1 – 23.4%; Jefferson County, Census Tract 9503, CBG 3 – 23.1%; and Bingham County, Census Tract 9503, CBG 1 – 18.2%. Similarly, the second largest minority group in all of these jurisdictions was classified as “other races,” comprising 4.2% of the State of Idaho population and 3.7% to 18.8% of the county or CBG populations. In addition, the aggregate percentage of minority populations in the State of Idaho in 2000 was 9.0%, with the counties and CBGs ranging from 7.2% to 21.5%. Thus, Table 4.11-1 demonstrates that no individual CBG covered by the proposed site was comprised of more than 50% of any individual or aggregate minority population. Moreover, none of these percentages exceeds the applicable state or county percentages for any individual or aggregate minority population by more than 20 percentage points.

Table 4.11-2, Poverty Status (Low-Income Population) and Income Levels, 1999, shows that 11.8% of individuals in the state of Idaho lived below the poverty level in 1999. In comparison, the percentage of individuals living below the poverty level ranged from 6.6% to 23.3% in the counties and CBGs. The greatest low-income populations, within the 6.4-km (4-mi) radius of the proposed site, were found in Jefferson County, Census Tract 9503, CBG 3 – 23.3%; Bonneville County, Census Tract 9715, CBG 1 – 15.8%; and Bingham County, Census Tract 9503, CBG 1 – 11.7%. Thus, Table 4.11-2 demonstrates that no individual CBG covered by the proposed site is comprised of more than 50% low-income minority populations. Moreover, none of these percentages exceeds the applicable state or county percentages for any low-income population by more than 20 percentage points.

In addition, AES has consulted by letter with the Shoshone-Bannock Tribe. A copy of the letter is included in ER Appendix A.

Agency representatives at the Bonneville County Social Services Department and the Bonneville County Health and Welfare Office were contacted and indicated that they did not collect data or other information about minority, low income, or other populations of concern.



They also indicated that if they did, this information would be kept confidential. Thus, information was not available about where such populations might reside, what their concerns might be, or how they might be affected by the EREF.

Based on this analysis of the above described data, performed in accordance with the criteria, guidelines, and procedures set forth in NUREG-1748, it is concluded that no minority or low income populations exist that would warrant further examination of environmental impacts upon such populations.

#### **4.11.3 Recreational/Subsistence Harvests**

Subsistence is the use of natural resources as food for consumption and for ceremonial and traditional cultural purposes. Often these types of activities are discussed for minority populations, but sometimes also for low-income populations. Common major classifications of subsistence uses include gathering plants for consumption for medicinal purposes, and use in ceremonial activities – fishing and hunting. These activities are in addition to or replace portions of the foods that might be brought from businesses, and thus can represent reduced costs of living. They also often represent an important part of the cultural identity or lifestyle of the participants.

The proposed EREF site is privately-owned land and, thus, collection of subsistence resources do not occur on the site. Any recreational activities are limited to those conducted by the property owner. For the broader 80 km (50 mi) and ROI study areas, subsistence and/or recreational activities might be occurring; but they do not seem very likely activities for the 6.4 km (4 mi) study area because it is also private land.

Subsistence information is often difficult to collect, partially because it is relatively site specific and because it is difficult to differentiate between a subsistence uses and recreational uses of natural resources. Often, a number of different informational sources have to be relied upon that collect data via different methods, for different classifications of groups, and for differing types of uses. For this description, general internet searches were conducted to attempt to identify subsistence agencies, studies, and informational sources. In addition, state and county agency websites were viewed to attempt to obtain subsistence information. However, none of these searches proved fruitful. Specific subsistence information for the 80 km (50 mi) and ROI study areas is not readily available. In an effort to provide some overview of the potential subsistence uses that are occurring in these areas, total recreational harvest levels are discussed below.

##### **4.11.3.1 Plant Gathering**

Although no information could be found, it is assumed that collection of plants for ceremonial and food purposes (i.e., culturally significant plants, berries, or other vegetation) could be occurring in the three county region of influence (ROI). Again, minority and low-income populations might be conducting these collection activities at a greater frequency, or could be harvesting greater quantities of plants, than the general population.

##### **4.11.3.2 Wildlife**

Only statewide recreational harvest information was available for some of the species. Thus, the figures presented here only act as indicators about what the potential greatest species of harvest might be in the ROI. As shown in Table 4.11-3, Statewide Recreational Harvest Data, 1991 to 2006, in 2006 the greatest statewide harvests of wildlife occurred for quail (157,200),

forest grouse (129,800), chukar partridge (108,900), pheasant (99,300), and gray partridge (55,000) (IDFG, 2008a-g, and j). Significantly smaller quantities of sage grouse, sharptail grouse, and turkey were harvested (IDFG, 2008a-g, and j).

For the purposes of managing and tracking deer, elk, and moose harvests, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) divides the state into a number of wildlife management units (WMUs). As shown in Table 4.11-4 (IDFG, 2008k), Deer Harvest by Wildlife Management Units, 2004 to 2007; Table 4.11-15 (IDFG, 2008l), Elk Harvest by Wildlife Management Units, 2004 to 2007; and Table 4.11-6 (IDFG, 2000i) Moose Harvest by Wildlife Management Units, 2000 to 2007, Bonneville, Bingham, and Jefferson Counties are covered by nine WMUs. In 2007, 8,223 hunters harvested 1,894 deer, 6,489 hunters harvested 858 elk, and 155 moose were harvested.

Table 4.11-7 (IDFG, 2008p), Pronghorn Antelope Harvest by Wildlife Management Units, 2004 to 2007, shows that pronghorn harvesting in WMUs 60A, 63, and 68 were also relatively low. In 2007, a total of 171 pronghorn antelope were harvested in the three WMUs, with 21 harvested in WMU 60A, 92 harvested in WMU 63, and 58 harvested in WMU 68.

The IDFG also divides the state into eight management regions. Two of these management regions, the Upper Snake Region and the Southeast Region, cover both Bonneville and Bingham counties. A majority of Bonneville County and the northern one-third of Bingham County are in the Upper Snake Region. The extreme southern sections of Bonneville County and the southern two-thirds of Bingham County are in the Southeast Region. Table 4.11-8 (IDFG, 2008m-o), Mountain Lion, River Otter and Bobcat Harvest Data by Region, 1996 to 2006, shows that bobcat, mountain lion, and river otter harvests were not very large within the Upper Snake and Southeast regions.

Mountain goat harvest figures were available for Game Management Unit 67 within the ROI. This unit covers the northeast corner of Bonneville County and small portions of Madison and Teton counties to the north. Annual harvest rates ranged from zero in 2003 and 2004 to nine in 2000, with typical harvest levels ranging from two to four annually (IDFG, 2008h).

#### **4.11.3.3 Fish**

Although no information was collected about the major waterbodies in the three county ROI, surrounding area, and the major types of fish that exist in them, no information could be readily found about the harvest rates within the counties. The major waterbodies within Bonneville County, located mainly within the Upper Snake Region, used to harvest fish include the Snake River, and the North and South Forks of the Snake River. Major creeks include Brockman Creek, Burns Creek, Cellars Creek, Hell Creek, Lava Creek, McCoy Creek, Pine Creek, and Willow Creek. Other waterbodies include the Gray's Lake National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), Palisades Reservoir, and Ririe Reservoir.

The major waterbodies within Jefferson County, also located in the Upper Snake Region, used to harvest fish include Mud Lake, Market Lake, and the South Fork of the Snake River. Major creeks include Camas Creek.

The IDFG's Upper Snake Region Map and Exceptions Fishing Seasons and Rules (IDFG, 2008q) list the following fish species as regulated in the region: largemouth and smallmouth bass, brook trout, bull trout (no take), cutthroat trout, sturgeon (no take), tiger muskie, trout (excluding brook or bull trout), whitefish, and protected nongame fish (e.g., leatherside chub). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) lists the bull trout as a threatened species (USFWS, 2008). The IDFG also identifies the fish species that may be encountered in the following waterbodies (IDFG, 2008r):

- the Palisades Reservoir covers ,474 ha (16,000 ac) and has brown trout, cutthroat trout (stocked), kokanee salmon (i.e., blueback), and lake trout;
- Mud Lake covers 2,833 ha (7,000 ac) and has cutthroat trout (stocked), largemouth bass, bullhead catfish, channel catfish (stocked), tiger muskie (stocked) and yellow perch;
- the South Fork Snake River which has brown trout, cutthroat trout, rainbow trout, hybrid trout (i.e., a rainbow/cutthroat trout hybrid), and whitefish;
- Willow Creek which has brook trout, brown trout, and cutthroat trout; and
- Camas Creek which has brook trout and brown trout.

Within Bingham County, located mainly within the Southeast Region, major waterbodies used to harvest fish include the Snake River, Blackfoot River, and the Portneuf River. Major creeks include Brush Creek, Cedar Creek, Cellars Creek, and Willow Creek. Other waterbodies include the American Falls Reservoir and Rose Pond.

The IDFG's Southeast Region Map and Exceptions Fishing Seasons and Rules (IDFG, 2008s) list the following fish species as regulated in the region: largemouth and smallmouth bass, brook trout, cutthroat trout, sturgeon (no take), tiger muskie, trout (excluding brook or bull trout), walleye, whitefish, and protected nongame fish (such as the leatherside chub and Bear Lake sculpin). The IDFG also identifies the fish species that may be encountered in the following waterbodies (IDFG, 2008t):

- the American Falls Reservoir covers 22,662 ha (56,000 ac) and has brown trout, cutthroat trout, rainbow trout (stocked), largemouth bass, and yellow perch;
- Rose Pond covers 8 ha (20 ac) and has rainbow trout (stocked) and yellow perch; and
- the Snake River, from the Tiden Bridge to the Bingham-Bonneville county line, has brown trout, cutthroat trout, rainbow trout (stocked), and whitefish.

#### **4.11.4 Comparative Environmental Justice Impacts of No Action Alternative Scenarios**

ER Chapter 2, Alternatives, provides a discussion of possible alternatives to the construction and operation of the EREF, including an alternative of "no action," i.e., not building the EREF. The following information provides comparative conclusions specific to the concerns addressed in this subsection for each of the two "no action" alternative scenarios addressed in ER Section 2.4, Table 2.4-2, Comparison of Environmental Impacts for the Proposed Action and the No-Action Alternative Scenarios.

**Alternative Scenario C** - No EREF; LES and USEC deploy gas centrifuge plants, USEC phases out the Paducah gaseous diffusion plant (GDP) and GEH deploys their plant using Silex enrichment technology: The environmental justice impacts would be the same since it is assumed there are no disproportionate impacts associated with this alternative scenario.

**Alternative Scenario D** - No EREF; LES and USEC deploy gas centrifuge plants, USEC phases out the Paducah gaseous diffusion plant (GDP) and USEC increases its centrifuge plant capacity: The environmental justice impacts would be the same since it is assumed that there are no disproportionate impacts associated with this alternative scenario.

**TABLES**

**Table 4.11-1 Minority Populations, 2000**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Year/Minority	Jurisdiction															
	Bonn. County		Bonn. - BG 1		Bonn. - BG 2		Bingham County		Bingham - BG 1		Jeff. County		Jeff. - BG 3		State of Idaho	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
<b>Total Population</b>	82,522	100	790	100	987	100	41,735	100	1,438	100	19,155	100	957	100	1,293,953	100
<b>Minority Population*</b>	5,948	7.2	170	21.5	74	7.5	7,332	17.6	234	16.3	1,749	9.1	202	21.1	116,649	9.0
One Race:	81,316	98.5	779	98.6	977	99.0	40,840	97.9	1,414	98.3	18,901	98.7	942	98.4	1,268,344	98.0
White	76,574	92.8	620	78.5	913	92.5	34,403	82.4	1,204	83.7	17,406	90.9	755	78.9	1,177,304	91.0
Black or African American	403	0.5	7	0.9	1	0.1	70	0.2	3	0.2	53	0.3	0	0.0	5,456	0.4
American Indian & Alaska Native	535	0.6	8	1.0	3	0.3	2,798	6.7	28	1.9	89	0.5	2	0.2	17,645	1.4
Asian	675	0.8	9	1.1	9	0.9	236	0.6	2	0.1	44	0.2	5	0.5	11,889	0.9
Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander	56	0.1	0	0.0	1	0.1	13	0.0	0	0.0	15	0.1	0	0.0	1,308	0.1
Some other race	3,073	3.7	135	17.1	50	5.1	3,320	8.0	177	12.3	1,294	6.8	180	18.8	54,742	4.2
Two or more races:	1,206	1.5	11	1.4	10	1.0	895	2.1	24	1.7	254	1.3	15	1.6	25,609	2.0
Hispanic or Latino**	5,703	6.9	185	23.4	81	8.2	5,550	13.3	261	18.2	1,907	10.0	221	23.1	101,690	7.9

Notes: BG = block group

Bonn. = Bonneville County

Jeff. = Jefferson County

\* Minority Population is the total of the population indicating that they are of one race or two or more races, excluding Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.

\*\* Those reporting to be of Hispanic or Latino Ethnicity can also be of any reported single or multiple races. These numbers are reported separately from Race to avoid double-counting people.

Sources: USCB, 2000a; USCB, 2000b; USCB, 2000c; USCB, 2000n; USCB, 2000o; USCB, 2000p; USCB, 2000w

**Table 4.11-2 Poverty Status (Low-Income Population) and Income Levels, 1999**  
**(Page 1 of 1)**

Poverty Status/Income Levels	Jurisdiction							
	Bonn. County	Bonn. - BG 1	Bonn. - BG 2	Bingham County	Bingham - BG 1	Jeff. County	Jeff. - BG 3	State of Idaho
Total Population	81,532	692	1,053	41,342	1,384	19,155	957	1,263,205
Number of Individuals Below the Poverty Level	8,260	109	69	5,137	162	1,984	223	148,732
Percent of Individuals Below the Poverty Level	10.1%	15.8%	6.6%	12.4%	11.7%	10.4%	23.3%	11.8%
Median Household Income	\$41,805	\$36,458	\$49,792	\$36,423	\$36,131	\$37,737	\$30,417	\$37,572
Per Capita Income	\$18,326	\$11,733	\$21,715	\$14,365	\$14,909	\$13,838	\$10,279	\$17,841

Notes: BG = block group  
 Bonn. = Bonneville County  
 Jeff. = Jefferson County  
 The Total Population numbers are based upon the USCB sample data set, and not the USCB total jurisdictional population levels from the 100% data set.

Sources: USCB, 2000q; USCB, 2000r; USCB, 2000s; USCB, 2000t; USCB, 2000u; USCB, 2000v; USCB, 2000w

**Table 4.11-3 Statewide Recreational Harvest Data, 1991 to 2006**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Year	Turkey	Chukar Partridge	Gray Partridge	Quail	Pheasant	Forest Grouse	Sage Grouse	Sharptail Grouse
2006	5,630	108,900	55,000	157,200	99,300	129,800	12,500	6,860
2005	6,463	104,069	44,400	178,730	97,569	95,147	n/a	n/a
2004	5,133	110,800	26,800	124,100	69,300	134,100	8,050	4,850
2003	6,377	130,759	52,500	140,400	77,469	182,800	n/a	n/a
2002	5,068	109,040	26,600	88,600	58,575	147,700	7,600	3,520
2001	4,394	89,342	41,800	119,600	87,110	149,400	7,247	5,820
2000	4,896	134,386	94,800	168,800	113,111	85,900	7,250	5,800
1999	5,458	96,800	103,100	114,900	110,100	80,600	4,700	12,400
1998	2,662	74,900	43,400	112,400	94,000	136,100	17,500	n/a
1997	2,703	37,300	32,100	87,200	63,300	43,900	16,000	10,300
1996	1,720	208,600	109,300	350,500	166,500	292,800	21,000	14,700
1995	1,526	125,200	42,500	175,300	114,600	252,600	27,500	7,900
1994	n/a	88,800	34,800	118,500	115,400	283,100	38,500	8,200
1993	n/a	72,800	39,000	117,200	129,100	190,600	37,400	14,400
1992	n/a	54,600	27,800	91,100	132,400	112,100	29,900	9,300
1991	n/a	72,700	32,400	73,300	117,700	103,400	39,500	6,000

Notes: n/a = not available

Sources: IDFG, 2008a-g, and j

**Table 4.11-4 Deer Harvest by Wildlife Management Units, 2004 to 2007**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Year	Wildlife Management Units									Totals
	60A	63	63A	66	66A	67	68	68A	69	
2007										
No. of Hunters	634	472	699	1,215	921	1,092	441	56	2,693	8,223
Total Harvest	185	87	211	225	231	257	102	17	579	1,894
% Harvest Success	29	18	30	19	25	24	23	31	21	23
Days/Hunter	4.7	4.4	8.2	4.5	4.9	4.4	4.1	13.5	4.6	n/a
2006										
No. of Hunters	412	503	420	957	685	751	379	28	2,363	6,498
Total Harvest	120	98	155	107	109	134	81	1	464	1,269
% Harvest Success	29	19	37	11	16	18	21	4	20	20
Days/Hunter	3.6	4.9	5.3	4.3	4.5	4.4	3.7	1.5	4.2	n/a
2005										
No. of Hunters	690	390	485	929	632	636	360	0	2,503	6,625
Total Harvest	119	75	96	145	144	151	106	0	542	1,378
% Harvest Success	17	19	20	16	23	24	29	0	22	21
Days/Hunter	4.0	3.0	5.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.0	3.0	4.0	n/a
2004										
No. of Hunters	454	534	601	1,048	658	630	345	68	2,291	6,629
Total Harvest	44	86	177	112	130	92	53	2	345	1,041
% Harvest Success	10	16	29	11	20	15	15	3	15	16
Days/Hunter	4.6	4.7	7.3	4.3	5.1	4.6	3.6	4.9	3.7	n/a

Note: n/a = not available  
Source: IDFG, 2008k



**Table 4.11-5 Elk Harvest by Wildlife Management Units, 2003 to 2007**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Year	Wildlife Management Units									Total
	60A	63	63A	66	66A	67	68	68A	69	
2007										
No. of Hunters	151	513	0	2,102	795	711	0	28	2,189	6,489
Total Harvest	16	121	0	287	85	112	0	1	236	858
% Harvest Success	11	24	0	14	11	16	0	4	11	13
Days/Hunter	6.8	6.5	0	4.7	8.2	5.4	0	12.6	5.1	n/a
2006										
No. of Hunters	83	327	81	1,720	26	506	0	46	2,056	4,845
Total Harvest	2	112	19	339	2	104	0	3	313	894
% Harvest Success	2	34	23	20	8	21	0	7	15	18
Days/Hunter	3.8	7.2	5.5	4.7	6.5	5	0	9.9	5.4	n/a
2005										
No. of Hunters	50	331	28	1,683	35	442	0	24	2,417	5,010
Total Harvest	3	79	1	365	4	101	0	1	434	988
% Harvest Success	6	24	4	22	12	23	0	4	18	20
Days/Hunter	4.5	5.5	5.2	4.4	5.6	4.2	0	3.9	5	n/a
2004										
No. of Hunters	173	473	71	1,699	722	549	8	34	2,116	5,845
Total Harvest	10	116	19	413	97	88	2	2	559	1,306
% Harvest Success	6	25	27	24	13	16	25	6	26	22
Days/Hunter	5.1	7.7	6.8	4.1	8.1	4.9	5.0	7.5	3.6	n/a
2003										
No. of Hunters	99	554	0	1,258	0	285	0	0	998	3,194
Total Harvest	3	109	0	235	0	37	0	0	173	557
% Harvest Success	3	20	0	19	0	13	0	0	17	17
Days/Hunter	3.8	7.5	0.0	3.9	0.0	3.9	0.0	0.0	4.0	n/a

Source: IDFG, 2008I

**Table 4.11-6 Moose Harvest by Wildlife Management Units, 2000 to 2007**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Year	Wildlife Management Units									Total
	60A	63	63A	66	66A	67	68	68A	69	
2007	11	8	14	29	19	24	0	0	50	155
2006	8	7	13	29	23	20	0	0	50	150
2005	8	9	16	35	23	22	0	0	49	162
2004	11	10	19	46	36	32	0	0	73	227
2003	10	10	17	40	40	25	0	0	70	212
2002	13	0	25	31	41	18	0	0	71	199
2001	21	0	24	40	40	26	0	0	71	222
2000	5	0	10	36	27	23	0	0	47	148

Source: IDFG, 2008i

**Table 4.11-7 Pronghorn Antelope Harvest by Wildlife Management Units, 2004 to 2007**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Year	Wildlife Management Unit									Totals
	60A			63			68			
	Archery	Controlled Hunt	Subtotal	Archery	Controlled Hunt*	Subtotal	Archery	Controlled Hunt	Subtotal	
2007										
No. of Hunters	17	24	41	75	140	215	78	48	126	382
Harvest	1	20	21	11	81	92	23	35	58	171
% Harvest Success	6	84	51	15	58	43	29	73	46	45
Days/Hunter	5.5	4.0	n/a	5.2	n/a	n/a	4.7	4.4	n/a	n/a
2006										
No. of Hunters	18	18	36	63	119	182	44	48	92	310
Harvest	4	17	21	8	74	82	12	29	41	144
% Harvest Success	22	94	58	13	62	45	27	60	45	46
Days/Hunter	4.9	2.8	n/a	4.7	n/a	n/a	3.8	5.2	n/a	n/a
2005										
No. of Hunters	10	22	32	30	114	144	36	49	85	373
Harvest	2	19	21	4	74	78	10	39	49	148
% Harvest Success	19	86	66	13	65	54	29	79	58	40
Days/Hunter	5.8	2.0	n/a	4.5	n/a	n/a	4.0	4.4	n/a	n/a
2004										
No. of Hunters	3	25	28	32	108	140	29	46	75	243
Harvest	1	22	23	4	63	67	3	28	31	121
% Harvest Success	33	88	82	13	58	48	10	61	41	50
Days/Hunter	2.0	2.8	n/a	5.2	n/a	n/a	4.2	3.3	n/a	n/a

Notes: n/a = not available

\* Controlled Hunt for Pronghorn Antelope was conducted in only sections of Wildlife Management Unit (WMU) 63.

Source: IDFG, 2008p

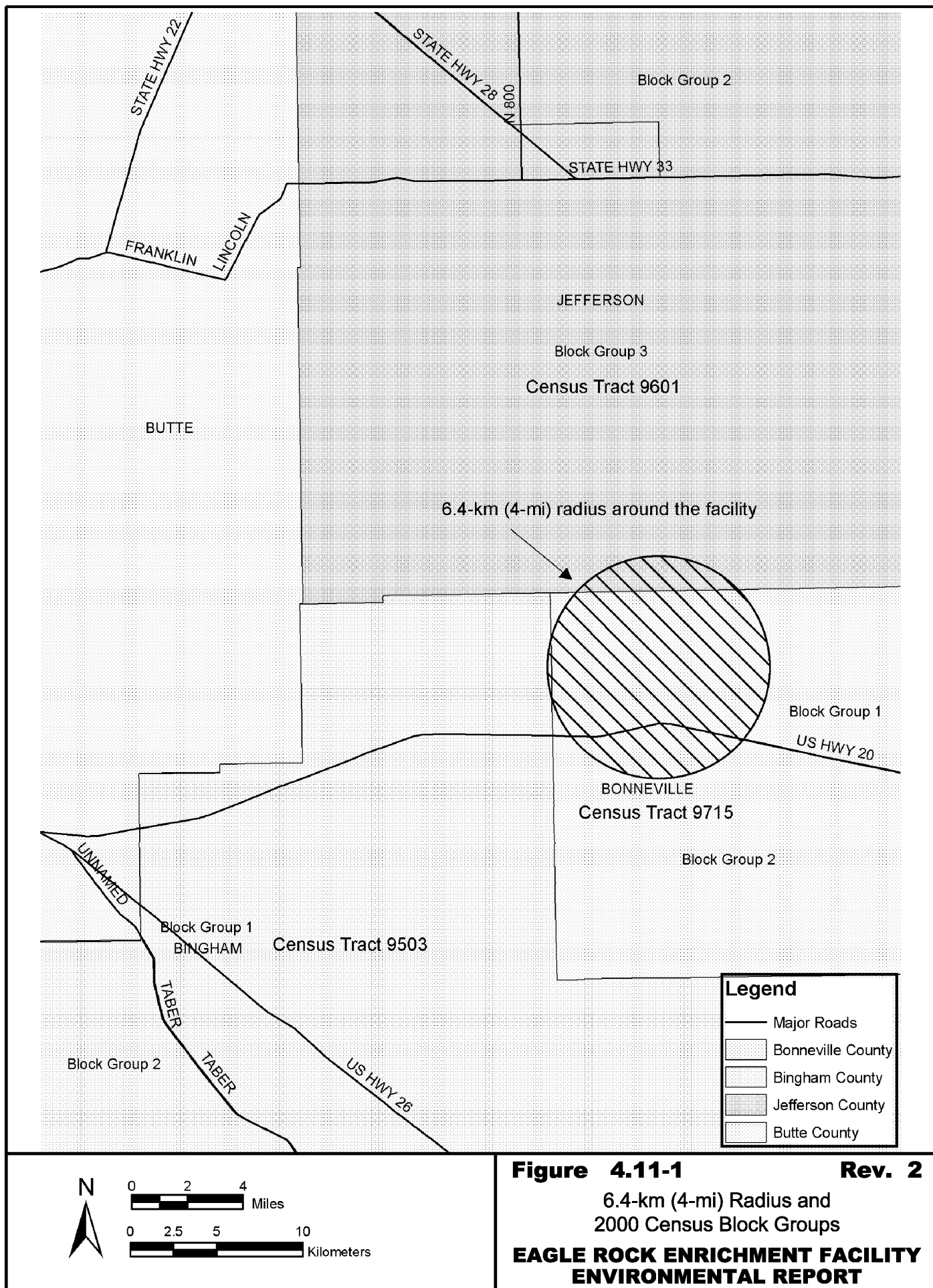
**Table 4.11-8 Mountain Lion, River Otter, and Bobcat Harvest Data by Region, 1996 to 2006**  
**(Page 1 of 1)**

Year	Region					
	Southeast			Upper Snake		
	Mountain Lion	River Otter	Bobcat	Mountain Lion	River Otter	Bobcat
2006	56	n/a	n/a	35	n/a	n/a
2005	73	2	125	32	11	179
2004	37	n/a	n/a	39	n/a	n/a
2003	47	n/a	n/a	35	n/a	n/a
2002	55	n/a	n/a	46	n/a	n/a
2001	25	n/a	n/a	45	n/a	n/a
2000	42	n/a	n/a	24	n/a	n/a
1999	37	n/a	n/a	18	n/a	n/a
1998	91	n/a	n/a	16	n/a	n/a
1997	42	n/a	n/a	22	n/a	n/a
1996	21	n/a	n/a	13	n/a	n/a

Note: n/a = not available

Sources: IDFG, 2008m-o

## FIGURES



## **4.12 PUBLIC AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH IMPACTS**

### **4.12.1 Nonradiological Impacts**

Sources of nonradiological exposure to the public and to facility workers are characterized below. Nonradiological effluents have been evaluated and do not exceed criteria in 40 CFR 50, 59, 60, 61, 122, 129, or 141 (CFR, 2008nn) (CFR, 2008rr) (CFR, 2008ss) (CFR, 2008tt) (CFR, 2008uu) (CFR, 2008vv) (CFR, 2008q). In addition, all regulated gaseous effluents will be below regulatory limits as specified by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

Radionuclides, hydrogen fluoride, and methylene chloride are governed as National Emission Standards Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) (CFR, 2008tt). Details of radiological gaseous effluent impacts and controls are described in Section 4.12.2, Radiological Impacts. A detailed list of the chemicals that will be used at the EREF, by building and exterior areas, is contained in Tables 2.1-2 through 2.1-6. ER Figure 2.1-4 indicates where these buildings and areas will be located on the EREF site.

#### **4.12.1.1 Routine Gaseous Effluent**

Routine gaseous effluents from the facility are listed in Table 3.12-3, Estimated Annual Gaseous Effluent. The primary material in use at the facility is uranium hexafluoride ( $\text{UF}_6$ ).  $\text{UF}_6$  is hygroscopic (moisture absorbing) and, in contact with water, will chemically break down into uranyl fluoride ( $\text{UO}_2\text{F}_2$ ) and hydrogen fluoride (HF). When released to the atmosphere, gaseous  $\text{UF}_6$  combines with humidity to form a cloud of particulate  $\text{UO}_2\text{F}_2$  and HF fumes. Inhalation of  $\text{UF}_6$  typically results in internal exposure to  $\text{UO}_2\text{F}_2$  and HF. In addition to a potential radiation dose, a worker would be subjected to two other primary toxic effects: (1) the uranium in the uranyl complex acts as a heavy metal poison that can affect the kidneys and (2) the HF can cause severe irritation to the skin and lungs at high concentrations.

Of primary importance to the EREF is the control of  $\text{UF}_6$ . The  $\text{UF}_6$  readily reacts with air, moisture, and some other materials. The most significant reaction products in this plant will be HF,  $\text{UO}_2\text{F}_2$ , and small amounts of uranium tetrafluoride ( $\text{UF}_4$ ). Of these, HF is the most significant hazard, being toxic to humans. Refer to ER Section 3.11.4, Public and Occupational Exposure Limits, for public and occupational exposure limits.

As described in ER Section 3.11.4 and shown in ER Table 3.11-7, Hydrogen Fluoride (HF) Regulations and Guidelines, there is a wide range of regulatory limits, which in turn depend on exposure (acute vs. chronic) and population (worker vs. public). The OSHA limit to worker exposure, for example, is  $2.0 \text{ mg/m}^3$  for an 8-hr workday (OSHA, 2008). The state of California has adopted a chronic Reference Exposure Level (REL) of  $14 \text{ }\mu\text{g/m}^3$  (CAO, 2003). A chronic REL is a dose or concentration at or below which adverse health effects are not likely to occur. The California REL is by far the most stringent of any state or federal agency for HF, regardless of exposure or population.

By comparison, the annual expected average HF concentration emission from a nominal 6 million SWU/yr centrifuge enrichment plant is calculated as  $7.7 \text{ }\mu\text{g/m}^3$  at the point of discharge (rooftop) without atmospheric dispersion taken into consideration. Referring to Table 3.12-3, based on the estimated annual HF gaseous effluent of  $<2.0 \text{ kg}$  ( $<4.4 \text{ lb}$ ), if standard dispersion modeling techniques are applied to estimate the exposure to the nearest public receptors under normal operating conditions from the EREF, the concentration is considerably lower. For instance, the concentration is calculated to be  $2.7 \times 10^{-4} \text{ }\mu\text{g/m}^3$  at the site boundary;  $1.9 \times 10^{-4} \text{ }\mu\text{g/m}^3$  at the nearest recreational area, a BLM hiking trail about 0.5 km (0.3 mi) south-southwest from the site boundary; and  $3.2 \times 10^{-5} \text{ }\mu\text{g/m}^3$  at the nearest business, located 4.7 km (2.9 mi)

southwest. At 8 km (5 mi), the concentration is calculated to be  $1.3 \times 10^{-5} \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ . The nearest resident to the site, or other sensitive receptor (e.g., schools and hospitals) is located beyond 8 km (5 mi) from the proposed EREF footprint.

These comparisons demonstrate that the Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility gaseous HF emissions (even at rooftop without dispersion considered) will be well below any existing standard and, as a result, will have a negligible environmental and public health impact.

Methylene chloride is used in small bench-top quantities to clean certain components. All chemicals at EREF will be used in accordance with the manufacturers recommendations, health and safety regulations and under formal procedures. AES will investigate the use of alternate solvents and/or apply control technologies as required. Mitigation measures to control methylene chloride release are described in Section 5.2.12.1. The remaining effluents listed in Table 3.12-4, Estimated Annual Liquid Effluent, will have no significant impact on the public because they will be used in de minimus levels or are nonhazardous by nature. All regulated gaseous effluents will be below regulatory limits as specified by the Idaho DEQ Air Quality Division.

Worker exposure to in-plant gaseous effluents listed in Table 3.12-3, Estimated Annual Gaseous Effluent, will be minimal. No exposures exceeding 29 CFR 1910, Subpart Z are anticipated (CFR, 2008n). Leaks in  $\text{UF}_6$  components and piping would cause air to leak into the system and would not release effluent. All maintenance activities utilize mitigative features including local flexible exhaust hoses connected to the Gaseous Effluent Vent System, thereby minimizing any potential for occupational exposure. Laboratory and maintenance operations activities involving hazardous gaseous or respirable effluents will be conducted with ventilation control (i.e., fume hoods, local exhaust or similar) and/or with the use of respiratory protection as required.

#### **4.12.1.2 Routine Liquid Effluent**

Routine liquid effluents are listed in Table 3.12-4, Estimated Annual Liquid Effluent. The facility does not discharge any industrial effluents to natural surface waters or grounds on site, and there is no facility tie-in to a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW). Liquid process effluents will be contained on the EREF site via collection tanks, sampled and analyzed to determine if treatment is required before release to the atmosphere by evaporation. See Section 2.1.2.3.3 for further discussion of the Liquid Effluent Collection and Treatment System.

There is no water intake from surface water systems in the region. Water supplies will be from on-site groundwater wells. Treated domestic sanitary effluents will flow to a Domestic SSTP Basin. Stormwater from the Cylinder Storage Pads will flow to lined retention basins to prevent infiltration. No public acute or chronic (cumulative) impact is expected from routine liquid effluents.

Worker exposure to liquid in-plant effluents shown in Tables 3.12-2, Estimated Annual Non-Radiological Wastes and 3.12-4, Estimated Annual Liquid Effluent will be minimal. No exposures exceeding 29 CFR 1910, Subpart Z are anticipated (CFR, 2008n). Additionally, handling of all chemicals and wastes will be conducted in accordance with the site Environment, Health, and Safety Program which will conform to 29 CFR 1910 and specify the use of appropriate engineered controls, including personnel protective equipment, to minimize potential chemical exposures. As a result, no worker acute or chronic (cumulative) impact is expected from routine liquid effluents.



#### 4.12.2 Radiological Impacts

Sources of radiation exposure incurred by the public generally fall into one of two major groupings, naturally-occurring radioactivity and man-made radioactivity. Naturally-occurring radioactivity includes primordial radionuclides (nuclides that existed or were created during the formation of the earth and have a sufficiently long half-life to be detected today) and their progeny nuclides, and nuclides that are continually produced by natural processes other than the decay of the primordial nuclides. These nuclides are ubiquitous in nature, and are responsible for a large fraction of radiation exposure referred to as background exposure. Uranium (U), the material used in the EREF operations, is included in this group. Man-made radioactivity, which includes radioactivity generated by human activities (e.g., fallout from weapons testing, medical treatments, and x-rays), also contributes to background radiation exposure. The combined relative concentrations of naturally-occurring radioactivity and man-made radioactivity in the environment vary extensively around the world, with variations seen between areas in close proximity. The concentration of radionuclides and radiation levels in an area are influenced by such factors as geology, precipitation, runoff, topsoil disturbances, solar activity, barometric pressure, and a host of other variables. The annual total effective dose equivalent from background radiation in the United States varies from 2.0 to 3.0 mSv (200 to 300 mrem) depending on the geographic region or locale and the prevalence of naturally-occurring radon and its decay products.

Workers at the EREF are subject to higher potential exposures than members of the public because they are involved directly with handling uranium cylinders, processes for the enrichment of uranium, and decontamination and maintenance of equipment. During routine operations, workers at the plant may potentially be exposed to radiation from uranium via inhalation of airborne particles and direct exposure to equipment and components containing uranic materials. The radiation protection program at the EREF requires routine radiation surveys and air sampling to assure that worker exposures are maintained as low as reasonably achievable (ALARA). In addition, exposure-monitoring techniques at the plant include use of personal dosimeters by workers, personnel breathing zone air sampling, and annual whole-body counting.

In addition to the radiological hazards associated with uranium, workers may be potentially exposed to the chemical hazards associated with uranium. The material,  $\text{UF}_6$ , is hygroscopic (moisture absorbing) and, in contact with water, will chemically breakdown into  $\text{UO}_2\text{F}_2$  and HF. When released to the atmosphere, gaseous  $\text{UF}_6$  combines with humidity to form a cloud of particulate  $\text{UO}_2\text{F}_2$  and HF fumes. The reaction is very fast and is dependent on the availability of water vapor. Consequently, an inhalation of  $\text{UF}_6$  is typically an internal exposure to HF and  $\text{UO}_2\text{F}_2$ . In addition to the radiation dose, a worker would be subjected to two other primary toxic effects: (1) the uranium in the uranyl complex acts as a heavy metal poison that can affect the kidneys and (2) the HF can cause acid burns to the skin and lungs if concentrated. Because of low specific activity values, the radiotoxicity of  $\text{UF}_6$  and its products is less than their chemical toxicity.

Both a radiation protection program and a health and safety program will protect workers at the EREF. The Radiation Protection Program will comply with all applicable NRC requirements established in 10 CFR 20 (CFR, 2008x), Subpart B. Similarly, the Health and Safety Program at the EREF will comply with all applicable OSHA requirements established in 29 CFR 1910 (CFR, 2008n).

The general public and the environment may be impacted by radiation and radioactive material from the EREF in two primary ways. Potential radiological impacts may occur from (1) gaseous and liquid effluent discharges associated with controlled releases from the uranium enrichment

process lines during routine operations and from decontamination and maintenance of equipment, and (2) direct radiation exposure associated with transportation and storage of UF<sub>6</sub> feed cylinders, product cylinders, depleted uranium or tails cylinders and empty cylinders with heels or residual uranic materials and progeny decay products.

The potential radiological impacts to the public from operations at the EREF are those associated with chronic exposure to low levels of radiation, not the immediate health effects associated with acute radiation exposure. The major sources of potential radiation exposure are the effluent from the Separations Building Modules, Technical Support Building (TSB) and direct radiation from the Northern Cylinder Storage Pads and, to a lesser degree, the Full Product Cylinder Storage Pad. The Centrifuge Assembly Building is a potential minor source of radiation exposure. It is anticipated that the total amount of uranium released to the environment via airborne effluent discharges from the EREF will be less than 20 grams (0.71 ounces) (0.506 MBq or 13.7  $\mu$ Ci) per year. Due to the anticipated low volume of contaminated liquid waste and the effectiveness of treatment processes, no waste in the form of liquid effluent discharges are expected. Water vapor from liquid processing that is released to the atmosphere is not expected to have a significant radiological impact to the public or the environment. In addition, the radiological impacts associated with direct radiation from indoor operations from a relatively small number of UF<sub>6</sub> cylinders at any time are not expected to be a significant contributor because the low-energy gamma-rays associated with the uranium will be absorbed almost completely by the process lines, equipment, and building structures at the EREF. However, the outdoor accumulation of full feed, full tails, full product and empty cylinders with heels on all the cylinder storage pads may present the highest potential for direct radiation impact to the public at or beyond the plant fence line. The combined potential radiological impacts associated with the small quantity of uranium in effluent discharges and direct radiation exposure due to stored feed, product, tails and empty UF<sub>6</sub> cylinders are expected to be a small fraction of the general public dose limits established in 10 CFR 20 (CFR, 2008x) and within the uranium fuel cycle standards established in 40 CFR (CFR, 2008f). The site area itself is very sparsely populated with no permanent residences within 5 miles of the center of the facility complex. Figures 4.12-1 and 4.12-2 show the site plan and facility layout for the EREF.

The principle isotopes of uranium, <sup>238</sup>U, <sup>236</sup>U, <sup>235</sup>U, and <sup>234</sup>U, are expected to be the primary nuclides of concern in effluent waste discharged from the plant. However, their concentrations in waste released to the atmosphere are expected to be very low because of engineered controls and treatment processes prior to discharge. In addition, a combination of the effluent monitoring and environmental monitoring/sampling programs will provide data to identify and assess plant's contribution to environmental uranium at the EREF site. Both monitoring programs have been designed to provide comprehensive data to demonstrate that plant operations have no adverse impact on the environment. Section 6.1, Radiological Monitoring, provides detailed descriptions of the two monitoring programs.

The enrichment process system operates sub-atmospherically such that any air leaks are into the equipment and not into the building environment. There are ten Gaseous Effluent Ventilation Systems for the plant: (1) the Separations Building Modules (SBM) GEVS with Passive IROFS that Contain Safe-by-Design Component Attributes (one in each of the four modules), (2) the Separations Building Modules Local Extraction GEVS (one in each of the four modules), (3) the Technical Support Building (TSB) GEVS and (4) the Centrifuge Test and Post Mortem Facilities GEVS within the Centrifuge Assembly Building (CAB). In addition, the TSB, the Blending, Sampling & Preparation Building (BSPB), and the Centrifuge Test and Post Mortem Facilities have HVAC systems that function to maintain negative pressure and exhaust filtration for rooms served by these systems.

The SBM GEVS with Passive IROFS that Contain Safe-by-Design Component Attributes sub-atmospheric duct system transports potentially contaminated gases to a set of redundant filters (pre-filter, high efficiency particulate air filter, potassium carbonate impregnated activated carbon filter, a final high efficiency particulate air filter) and fans. The cleaned gases are discharged via SBM rooftop exhaust vents to the atmosphere. The SBM Local Extraction GEVS collects potentially contaminated gaseous effluent from local flexible hose connections that are used during cylinder connection and disconnection and maintenance activities. The cleaned gases are discharged via SBM rooftop exhaust vents to the atmosphere.

The TSB GEVS transports potentially contaminated gases to a set of redundant filters (pre-filter, high efficiency particulate air filter, potassium carbonate impregnated activated carbon filter, a final high efficiency particulate air filter) and fans. The Centrifuge Test and Post Mortem Facilities GEVS has one set of filters (pre-filter, high efficiency particulate air filter, potassium carbonate impregnated activated carbon filter, a final high efficiency particulate air filter) and a single fan. The TSB Contaminated Area HVAC system has two active sets of filters (roughing filter, high efficiency particulate air filter, potassium carbonate impregnated activated carbon filter, a final high efficiency particulate air filter) and fans. The Ventilated Room HVAC System in the BSPB and Centrifuge Test and Post Mortem Facilities Exhaust Filtration (HVAC) System each have one set of filters (roughing filter, high efficiency particulate air filter, potassium carbonate impregnated activated carbon filter, a final high efficiency particulate air filter) and one fan. The TSB GEVS and TSB Contaminated Area HVAC System discharge cleaned gases via exhaust vents on the roof of the TSB. The Ventilated Room HVAC System discharges cleaned gases via an exhaust vent on the roof of the BSPB. The Centrifuge Test and Post Mortem Facilities GEVS and Exhaust Filtration System discharge cleaned gases via exhaust vents on the roof of the CAB.

Discharges of gaseous effluent from all GEVS and negative pressure HVAC units result in effectively ground-level plumes because the release points are at roof top level or slightly above the SBMs, TSB, and CAB roofs (Figure 6.1-1, Effluent Release Points and Meteorological Tower, identifies the location of effluent release points from the facility complex to the environment). Consequently, airborne concentrations of uranium present in gaseous effluent continually decrease with distance from the release point. Therefore, the greatest off-site radiological impact is expected at or near the site boundary locations in each sector. Site boundary distances have been determined for each sector (refer to Section 4.6.2, Air Quality Impacts from Operation, for details). There are no residents within 8 km (5 miles). It is assumed that a residence is located at 8 km (5 mi) in the sector of most limiting atmospheric dispersion and deposition for purposes of dose analysis. Other important receptor locations, such as local businesses or temporarily occupied structures, such as potato storage facilities, have also been identified within an 8 km (5 mi) radius of the EREF site (refer to Section 3.1, Land Use). With respect to ingestion pathways, there are no residential gardens within an 8 km (5 miles) radius. Commercial irrigated crop fields are situated in the site area as described in Section 3.1, Land Use. Cattle grazing across the open range has also been observed in the vicinity of the site (refer to Section 3.1). The radiological impacts on members of the public and the environment at these potential receptor locations are expected to be only small fractions of the radiological impacts that have been estimated for the site boundary locations because of the low initial concentrations in gaseous effluent and the high degree of dispersion that takes place as the gaseous effluent is transported.

The potential off-site radiological impacts to members of the general public from routine operations at the EREF were assessed through calculations designed to estimate the annual committed effective dose equivalent (CEDE) and annual committed dose equivalent to organs from effluent releases. The calculations also assessed impacts from direct radiation from stored

uranium in feed, product, depleted uranium or tails cylinders, and empty cylinders containing heels. The term “dose equivalent” as described throughout this section refers to a 50-year committed dose equivalent. The addition of the effluent related doses and direct dose equivalent from fixed sources provides an estimate of the total effective dose equivalent (TEDE) associated with plant operations. The calculated annual dose equivalents were then compared to regulatory (NRC and EPA) radiation exposure standards as a way of illustrating the magnitude of potential impacts.

#### **4.12.2.1 Pathway Assessment**

##### **4.12.2.1.1 Routine Gaseous Effluent**

Most of the airborne uranium is removed through filtration prior to the discharge of gaseous effluent to the atmosphere. However, the release of uranium in extremely low concentrations is expected and raises the potential for radiological impacts to the general public and the environment. The total annual discharge of uranium in routine gaseous effluent from a similar designed 1.5 million SWU uranium enrichment facility (about one-quarter the size of the EREF) was estimated to be less than 30 g (1.1 oz) (NRC, 1994). The uranium source term applied in the assessment of radiological impacts for routine gaseous effluent from that plant was 4.4 MBq (120  $\mu$ Ci) per year. The NRC noted that actual uranium discharges in gaseous effluent for European facilities with similar design and throughput were significantly lower (i.e., < 1 MBq (28  $\mu$ Ci) per year) (NRC, 1994).

The EREF is modeled for dose purposes as a 6.6 million SWU facility. As mentioned previously, the annual discharge of uranium in routine gaseous effluent discharged from the EREF is expected to be less than 20 g (0.71 oz). This corresponds to less than 0.506 MBq (13.7  $\mu$ Ci) per year. This uranium release is based on the actual operating experience gained from European plants of similar design and capacity. As a conservative assumption for assessment of potential radiological impacts to the general public, the uranium source term used in the assessment of radiological impacts for routine gaseous effluent releases from the EREF was taken as 19.5 MBq (528  $\mu$ Ci) per year, which is equal to the source term applied to the 1.5 million SWU plant described in NUREG-1484 (NRC, 1994) times the ratio of the plant capacities between the two different sized enrichment facilities (i.e., 6.6 million SWU / 1.5 million SWU).

There are several exposure pathways to members of the public that can be associated with plant effluent, including: (1) direct radiation due to deposited radioactivity on the ground surface (ground plane exposure), (2) direct exposure from suspended material in a passing airborne cloud, (3) inhalation of airborne radioactivity from a passing effluent plume, and (4) ingestion of food products that were contaminated by plant effluent radioactivity. Of these exposure pathways, inhalation exposure is expected to be the predominant pathway at site boundary locations and also at off-site locations that are relatively close to the site boundary. The reason for this is that the discharge point for gaseous effluent from the plant, roof-top exhaust vents, result in ground level effluent plumes. For a ground level plume, the airborne concentration(s) within the plume decreases with the distance from the discharge point. Consequently, for gaseous effluent from the EREF, the highest off-site airborne concentrations (and, hence, the greatest radiological impacts) are expected at locations close to the site boundary. Beyond these locations, the concentration of airborne radioactive material decreases continually as it is transported because of dispersion and depletion processes. For example, based on a comparison of the atmospheric dispersion factors for a ground level effluent release from the EREF calculated for the site boundary, at 2,030 m (6,660 ft), and for the 3.2 km (2.0 mi)

distance in the west sector, the concentration at the 3.2 km (2.0 mi) distance is approximately 2.1 times lower than at the site boundary. Although radiological impacts via the ingestion exposure pathways come into play for distances beyond the site boundary, the concentrations of radioactive material will have been greatly reduced by the time effluent plumes reach those locations.

The radiological impacts from routine gaseous effluents were estimated for all exposure pathways including inhalation and immersion in the effluent plume, direct dose from ground plane deposition, and ingestion of food products (stored and fresh vegetables, milk and meat) assumed to be grown or raised at the nearest resident location. For both the inhalation and ingestion exposure pathways, the Exposure-to-Dose conversion factors (DCFs) were taken from Federal Guidance Report 11 (EPA, 1988) and were applied for both the committed organ dose equivalent and the committed effective dose equivalent. No assumptions were made concerning the chemical form of the uranic material deposited by the plume. As a consequence, the most conservative parameters applicable to inhalation and ingestion were assumed in the selection of dose factors from Federal Guidance Report 11 (EPA, 1988). The effective dose equivalent was calculated for the ingestion and inhalation pathways. In addition, the dose equivalent was calculated for seven organs (gonads, breast, lung, red bone marrow, bone surface, thyroid, and the remainder organs).

For direct dose from material deposited on the ground plane or from the passing cloud, the DCFs from Federal Guidance Report No.12 (EPA, 1993) have been applied. For ground plane exposures, it is assumed that the material deposited from the passing cloud remains on the ground surface as an infinite source plane (i.e., no mixing with soil). This provides the most conservative assumption for direct ground plane exposure. The dose from ground plane deposition was evaluated after 30 years (end of expected license period) to account for the maximum buildup of released activity, including the in-growth of radionuclide progeny from the primary uranium isotopes that make up the expected release from the plant. This provides the upper bound on any single year of projected plant impacts. For external exposures from plume immersion and ground plane exposure, the skin is added to those organs that were evaluated for internal exposures (inhalation and ingestion).

The dose factors in the Federal Guidance Report -11 (EPA, 1988) are derived for adults. In order to estimate the impact to other age groups, the doses calculated to adults were adjusted for difference in food consumption or inhalation rates as taken from NRC Regulatory Guide 1.109 (NRC, 1977b) and then multiplied by the relative age dependent dose factor for the effective dose equivalent as found for the different ages in the International Commission of Radiological Protection (ICRP) Report No.72 (ICRP, 1995). With respect to the DCF's for adults, the relative ingestion dose commitment multiplier by age group for the four isotopes of uranium of concern averaged 1.0 (adults), 1.5 (teens), 1.8 (children), and 7.5 (infants). For the inhalation pathway, these relative dose commitment multipliers are 1.0 (adult), 1.2 (teens), 2.02 (children), and 4.25 (infants).

The ingestion pathway models for locally grown or raised food products were taken from NRC Regulatory Guide 1.109 (NRC, 1977b). The models project isotopic concentrations in vegetation, milk, and meat products based on the annual quantity of uranium material assumed to be released to the air and the atmospheric dispersion and deposition factors at key receptor locations of interest. These food product concentrations were then used to determine the ingestion committed effective dose equivalent and organ doses by multiplying the individual organ and effective dose conversion factors by the food product concentrations and the annual individual usage factors from the NRC Regulatory Guide 1.109 (NRC, 1977b).

The key receptor locations (critical populations) for determining dose impacts included the site boundary with the most restrictive atmospheric dispersion factors (depleted  $\chi/Q$  and deposition factor,  $D/Q$ ) as well as boundary locations where direct doses from fixed sources are predicted to be the highest. Also included as key locations of interest are nearby private businesses or locations that have intermittent occupancy by members of the public, such as agricultural workers at potato storage facilities. A resident was also assumed to be present full time in the sectors with the most limiting dispersion factors at an 8 kilometer (5 mile) distance. A site area land use census indicated no residences within 8 kilometers (5 miles) of the center of the EREF facilities. Section 3.1.2, Local and Regional Setting, indicates that the closest residence as measured from the edge of the EREF facility footprint is approximately 7.7 km (4.8 mi) to the east.

The annual average atmospheric dispersion factors used in the radiological impacts assessment were calculated as described in Section 4.6, Air Quality Impacts and are provided in Table 4.6-12, Sector Average Concentration, Depleted, Decayed,  $\chi/Q$  Values ( $\text{sec}/\text{m}^3$ ) for Special Receptors are from Table 4.6-14, Sector Average  $D/Q$  Values ( $1/\text{m}^2$ ) for Special Receptors. The meteorological data was taken from the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory (INEL) reservation which is adjacent to the EREF and includes meteorological data covering the years from 2003 through 2007.

Three groups of individuals (members of the public) or exposure scenarios were evaluated for both potential and real receptors located at or beyond the site boundary. For the first group, the dose impact to the nearest (and highest potentially impacted) residence (assumed at 8 km (5 mi) NE for deposition pathways and north for inhalation and cloud exposures) was evaluated for all exposure pathways (inhalation and plume immersion, direct dose from ground plane deposition, and ingestion of food products which include fresh and stored vegetables, milk and meat postulated to be grown or raised at this location). The analysis included dose equivalent assessments for all four age groups (adults, teens, children, and infants) for these pathways. The occupancy time was assumed to be continuous for a full year, along with a conservative residential shielding factor of 1.0 for direct radiation exposures. This location provides for an assessment of doses to real members of the public.

The second group of individuals (critical populations) are those associated with local businesses (temporary occupancy of potato storage facilities) situated near the plant site in the South (S) and Southwest (SW) sectors. For this group, the location of maximum potential impact was determined. The location, which bounds both of the identified potato storage facilities, is at 4.0 km (2.5 miles) in the SW sector. This is the location for the most limiting dispersion for a non-EREF worker (i.e., local business). At this distance, the direct dose contribution from fixed radiation sources, i.e., all outdoor  $\text{UF}_6$  cylinder storage pads, is not a significant contributor to the total dose when compared to the gaseous effluent pathways. Since these are outdoor businesses, the annual occupancy is taken as 2,000 hours, along with a residential shielding factor of 1.0 (i.e., no shielding credit). In addition, only the inhalation and plume immersion pathways along with direct dose equivalent from ground plane deposition are applied (no food product consumption - gardens or animals - is associated with the performance of the business activity). The age group of interest, is taken as adults (>17 years) as the only significant age group assumed to spend substantial time at any work location.

The third group of postulated individuals (critical populations) is associated with transient populations who come right up to the site boundary, and are assumed to stay for the equivalent of a standard work year (2,000 hours). This high occupancy time maximizes the dose impacts for activity on land bordering the site boundary. This also provides an estimate for on-site dose equivalents (EREF occupational dose equivalents) for that portion of the EREF staff whose jobs

take them into the general area of the plant property away from the buildings. As with the group of local area businesses noted above, the residential shielding factor is set at 1.0 (no shielding credit) since any activity is assumed to take place outdoors. In addition, only the gaseous release exposure pathways of inhalation and plume immersion along with direct dose equivalent from ground plane deposition are applied (no food product ingestion pathways are expected to exist along the site boundary line). The total impact for the site boundary also includes direct radiation from the Full Product Cylinder Storage Pad and the Northern Cylinder Storage Pads on-site. The age group of interest is taken as adults as these locations are associated with worker related activities.

In addition to the above noted critical groups for members of the public, a bounding assessment was performed by assuming a hypothetical residence was located at the highest impacted site boundary (North (N) to Northeast (NE)). All the potential exposure pathways including direct radiation from cylinder storage pads, plume inhalation, and plume immersion, direct dose from ground plane deposition (30 year build-up of deposited material), and ingestion of food products (made up of fresh and stored vegetables, milk, and meat postulated to be grown or raised at the maximally impacted site boundary location) were assumed. The analysis included dose equivalent assessments for all four age groups (adults, teens, children, and infants) for these pathways, and 100% occupancy time for a full year, along with a conservative residential shielding factor of 1.0 for direct radiation exposures. The use of a hypothetical residence for all pathways and age groups places an upper bound on the dose impact that might be associated with changes in land use around the facility over its operating life.

Transit time for an accidental gaseous release (involving uranic or HF materials) ranges from a few minutes (to the boundary) to hours (to the nearest resident) for the critical populations discussed above. The nearest known location from which a member of the public can obtain drinking water is associated with irrigated crop lands that fall within an 8 km (5 mi) radius of the site, where transit times for gaseous releases are on the order of tens of minutes. Other than walking trails within 8 km (5 mi) of the site, there are no recreational facilities, schools or hospitals within 8 km (5 mi) of the EREF.

Projected annual average air concentrations of uranic material assumed to be released (19.5 MBq/yr (528  $\mu$ Ci/yr) are also estimated at critical receptor group locations. Table 4.12-26, Annual Average Effluent Air Concentrations at Critical Receptors, provides the calculated air concentrations at the maximum site boundary, nearest resident and off-site business location. Table 4.12-27, 30 Years Accumulation Soil Concentrations at Critical Receptors, provides estimates of surface soil concentrations at the same critical receptor group locations assuming 30 years of gaseous effluent accumulation.

#### 4.12.2.1.2 Routine Liquid Effluent

The design of the EREF includes liquid waste processing to remove uranic material from the waste stream by precipitation, filtration and evaporation. Section 2.1.2, Proposed Action, provides an overview of the liquid effluent treatment system. From an effluent standpoint, an important design feature of the liquid effluent treatment system is that there is no direct discharge of liquid effluents off-site.

The Liquid Effluent Collection and Treatment System for the EREF includes two stages of precipitation and filtration to remove uranic material contained in liquid effluents collected from plant processes. The final process stage of evaporation releases the resulting distillate steam directly to the atmosphere without condensing vapor out of the air stream.

The liquid waste system collects liquid effluents including citric acid and degreasing water used in the decontamination of plant components, and miscellaneous effluents from laboratory operation, system condensates, and floor washings for treatment and removal of any uranic content before release to the environment. The first processing or treatment stage (KDU Recovery Stage) takes the collected waste liquids and adds a precipitating agent (KOH) to recover solids that can be removed in this form. The supernatant from this stage is passed through a micro filtration unit to clarify the liquid stream before passing it on to the second stage (Fluoride Recovery Stage) of precipitation. In this second stage,  $\text{Ca}(\text{OH})_2$  is added to form a fluoride precipitate. This waste stream is then passed through a filter to remove any solids remaining from the precipitation step. The remaining liquid stream is then collected and fed to a waste evaporator which releases the distillate steam to the atmosphere. As a result of these multiple stages of precipitation, filtration and evaporation, no significant amount of uranic material is expected to be released to the environment.

The Liquid Effluent Collection and Treatment System is designed for a uranium concentration of 0.5 mg/liter in the waste fed to the evaporator. From NUREG-0017 (PWR-GALE code) (NRC, 1985a), the decontamination factor (DF) between the feed liquid and the distillate for evaporators is assumed to be 1,000. This factor can be applied to the feed concentration in order to estimate the carryover to the distillate. It is also estimated that the processing of liquid effluent will generate approximately 59,240 L/yr (15,650 gal/yr) of distillate released to the atmosphere from the evaporator. By multiplying the volume of distillate released by the estimated distillate concentration of uranic material, the annual release of uranium can be estimated. An additional margin of 20% is added to the resulting estimates to cover uncertainties in the estimates as the following shows.

Atmospheric distillate release:

$$0.50 \text{ mg/L} \times 10^{-3} \text{ (DF)} = 5.0 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mg/L in evaporator distillate.}$$

Next:

$$59,240 \text{ L/yr distillate release} \times 5.0 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mg/L} = 29.6 \text{ mg/yr of uranic material released}$$

Plus margin (20%):

$$29.6 \text{ mg/yr of uranic material released} \times 1.2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ g/mg} = 0.0355 \text{ g/yr total U}$$

Assuming natural uranium, this mass is equivalent to 900 Bq ( $2.43 \times 10^{-2} \text{ } \mu\text{Ci}$ ).

This release via the distillate is only 0.0046% of the bounding source term of 19.5 MBq/yr (528  $\mu\text{Ci/yr}$ ) assumed for plant gaseous effluent releases. Therefore, the source term for gaseous releases bounds the liquid pathway as well.

#### 4.12.2.1.3 Direct Radiation Impacts

Storage of feed, product, and depleted and empty uranium cylinders at the EREF may have an impact due to direct and scatter (sky shine) radiation to the site boundary, and to lesser extents, off-site locations. The Northern Cylinder Storage Pads are the most significant portion of the total direct dose equivalent to areas at the site boundary and beyond.

The MCNP5 computer code (LANL, 2003) was used to calculate the direct dose equivalent from the full cylinder storage pads. A conservative maximum number of full tails cylinders



accumulated after 30 years of operations (25,718 cylinders) at the EREF was used in this calculation. Also included in the analysis were full feed cylinders (712), empty feed cylinders (712), empty product cylinders (516), and empty cylinders waiting to be filled with tails (612). The empty feed cylinders were included because they contain radioactively decaying residual material. These empty cylinders produce a higher dose equivalent than full cylinders due to the absence of self-shielding from the  $\text{UF}_6$  feed material. The empty cylinders waiting to be filled with tails were conservatively treated as empty feed cylinders with regards to the decaying residual materials. Direct dose from product cylinders stored on the Full Product Cylinder Storage Pad (1,032 cylinders) were also included in the analysis. Values used for full tails cylinders and empty tails cylinders waiting to be filled are greater than the calculated number of cylinders, therefore, the environmental impact due to direct radiation is conservative. The location of the cylinder storage pads are shown in Figures 4.12-1 and 4.12-2.

The photon source intensity and spectrum were calculated using the ORIGEN-2 computer code (NRC, 2000). The generation of photons in  $\text{UF}_6$  from beta particles emitted by the decay of uranium (i.e., Bremsstrahlung) is conservatively treated as if the material was  $\text{UO}_2$  by the ORIGEN-2 code based on density differences between  $\text{UO}_2$  and  $\text{UF}_6$ .

In addition to the photon source term, there is a two-component neutron source term from the cylinders. The first component of the neutron source term is due to spontaneous fission by uranium. For this component a fission spectrum for  $^{252}\text{Cf}$ , as taken from the Monte Carlo N-particle (MCNP) manual (LANL, 2000), is assumed. The second component is due to neutron emission by fluorine after alpha particle capture ("alpha-n reaction"). ORIGIN-S from the SCALE 5.1 package was used to determine the neutron spectrum from the alpha-n reaction. ORIGEN-S also provided the source intensity for both components of the neutron source term.

The regulatory dose equivalent limit to members of the public for areas beyond the EREF fence boundary is 0.25 mSv (25 mrem) per year (including direct and effluent contributions) (CFR, 2008x) (CFR, 2008f). The evaluation of the combined Northern Cylinder Storage Pads and Full Product Cylinder Storage Pad contribution to the off-site dose equivalent was based upon a site design criterion of no more than 0.20 mSv (20 mrem) at the site boundary to account for uncertainties in the calculation and to provide conservatism. The annual off-site dose equivalent was calculated at the EREF site boundary assuming 2,000 hours per year occupancy. Implicit in the use of 2,000 hours is the assumption that the dose equivalent is calculated to a non-resident (i.e., a worker at an unrelated business or someone engaged in outdoor farming, ranching, or recreational activities). The annual dose equivalents for the actual nearest off-site work location and at the nearest real residence were also calculated.

The dose equivalent at the maximum impacted EREF site boundary (North) is 0.0142 mSv/yr (1.42 mrem/yr) assuming 2,000 hours per year occupancy. The dose equivalent at the nearest actual off-site work location, Southwest, 4.7 km (2.9 mi) is less than  $1\text{E-}12$  mSv/yr (less than  $1\text{E-}10$  mrem/yr). The dose equivalent at the nearest real residence, which lies beyond 8 km (5 mi) of the facility structures, is estimated to be less than  $1\text{E-}12$  mSv/yr (less than  $1\text{E-}10$  mrem/yr). In the latter case, full-time occupancy (i.e., 8,766 hours per year) is assumed. Figure 4.12-3, Combined Cylinder Storage Pad Dose Equivalent Isopleths (mSv/2,000 hrs), and Figure 4.12 4, Combined Cylinder Storage Pad Dose Equivalent Isopleths (mrem/2000 hrs), show the on-site dose equivalent contours for the summed contributions from the combined Northern Cylinder Storage Pads and the Full Product Cylinder Storage Pad for 2,000 hours per year occupancy. Figure 4.12-5, Combined Cylinder Storage Pad Annual Dose Equivalent Isopleths (mSv/8,766 hrs), and Figure 4.12.2-6, Combined Cylinder Storage Pad Annual Dose Equivalent Isopleths (mrem/8,766 hrs), show the dose equivalent contours assuming full-time occupancy (8,766 hrs per yr). Table 4.12-1, Direct Radiation Annual Dose Equivalent by Source,

summarizes the annual dose equivalents from fixed radiation sources at different locations of interest.

Although the size of the cylinder storage pads have been revised to reflect the detailed design, the maximum number of cylinders stored on the pads has not changed. Therefore, the dose equivalent isopleths remain representative of the cylinder direct radiation annual dose equivalents.

The annual dose equivalent from exposure to the Cylinder Storage Pads, 0.0142 mSv/yr (1.42 mrem/yr), is lower than that calculated for the smaller 3.3M SWU facility, 0.0171 mSv/yr (1.71 mrem/yr). This is primarily due to the modified configuration of the Cylinder Storage Pads for the 6.6M SWU facility, whereby the empty cylinders are distributed among the cylinder rows of the Northern Cylinder Storage Pads. With this configuration, the empty cylinders are shielded by the full tails and full feed cylinders on these pads, i.e., relative to the northern site boundary.

#### 4.12.2.1.4 Population Dose Equivalents

The local area population distribution was derived based on the four most recent U.S. Census Bureau decennial census data (1970 – 2000) for the twelve counties in Idaho (Bannock, Bingham, Blaine, Bonneville, Butte, Caribou, Clark, Fremont, Jefferson, Lemhi, Madison, and Power) that fall within (entirely or in part) the 80 km (50 mi) radius of the EREF site (USCB, 2008b; USCB, 2008d). Additional annual county population projections were obtained for 2001 to 2004 (USCB, 2008c). Quadratic or linear equations were fit to trend lines to calculate population projections for each county for the period 2010 through 2050 to estimate the population close to the end of plant operating life. The population distribution was projected within SECPOP 2000 population rosette and tables (NRC, 2003e) in 10 concentric bands at 0 to 1.6 km (0 to 1 mi), 1.6 to 3.2 km (1 to 2 mi), 3.2 to 4.8 km (2 to 3 mi), 4.8 to 6.4 km (3 to 4 mi), 6.4 to 8.0 km (4 to 5 mi), 8.0 to 16 km (5 to 10 mi), 16 to 32 km (10 to 20 mi), 32 to 48 km (20 to 30 mi), 48 to 64 km (30 to 40 mi), and 64 to 80 km (40 to 50 mi), and 16 directional sectors, each consisting of 22 ½ degrees, centered on the EREF site. The resident populations have been projected by calculating a decadal growth rate using county population projections. Decadal growth rate projections were entered into SECPOP 2000 (NRC, 2003e) population multiplier for the time period of interest. Table 4.12-2, Population Data for the Year 2050, provides the resulting 80 km (50 mi) population distribution for the year 2050. The age distribution (adults-71%, teens-11%, children-18%, infants-2%) from Regulatory Guide 1.109 (NRC 1977b) was applied to the total population for all exposure pathways including the determination of annual committed dose equivalent from ingestion and inhalation where age also affects the amount of annual intake (air and food).

The collective dose equivalent from gaseous effluents from all Separation Building GEVS, the TSB GEVS, TSB liquid waste evaporator distillate, and the Centrifuge Test and Post Mortem GEVS, and negative pressure HVAC units servicing those areas of the facilities which could contain contaminated exhaust room air, are calculated for the 80 km (50 mi) population based on all pathways calculated for the nearest resident, applied to the general population. For the ingestion of food products, it was assumed that the 80 km (50 mi) area produced sufficient volume to supply the entire population with their needs. This is supported by the regional food production (vegetables, milk and meat) data shown on Tables 4.12-3 thru 4.12-8 where the total area production exceeds the amount that the same region's population could consume based on annual average usage factors for the general population (NRC, 1977b). Individual total effective dose equivalents were calculated for each age group by sector and then multiplied by the estimated age-dependent population for that sector to obtain the collective dose equivalent. The collective dose equivalents for each age group were then added to provide the total

population collective dose equivalents. Table 4.12-9, Collective Population Effective Dose Equivalents to All Ages (Person-Sieverts), and Table 4.12-10, Collective Population Effective Dose Equivalents to All Ages (Person-Rem) summarize the total collective dose for the entire population within the 80 km (50 i) radius of the EREF site in units of Person-Sieverts and Person-rem, respectively. Table 4.12-11, Summary of 50 Mile Population for All Age Groups – All Airborne Pathways, provides a summary of the various organ dose equivalents to the same 80 km (50 mi) population from all airborne release pathways of exposure.

#### 4.12.2.1.5 Mitigation Measures

Although routine operations at the EREF may create the potential for radiological and non-radiological impacts on the environment and members of the public, the plant design incorporates features to minimize gaseous and liquid effluent releases and to keep them well below regulatory limits. These features include:

- Process systems that handle  $\text{UF}_6$  operate at sub-atmospheric pressure, which minimizes outward leakage of  $\text{UF}_6$ .
- $\text{UF}_6$  cylinders are moved only when cool and when  $\text{UF}_6$  is in solid form, which minimizes the risk of inadvertent release due to mishandling.
- Process off-gas from  $\text{UF}_6$  purification and other operations passes through desublimers to solidify and reclaim as much  $\text{UF}_6$  as possible. Remaining gases pass through high-efficiency filters and chemical absorbers, which remove HF and uranium compounds.
- Wastes generated by decontamination of equipment and systems are subjected to processes that separate uranium compounds and various other heavy metals in the waste material.
- Liquid and solid waste handling systems and techniques are used to control wastes and effluent concentrations.
- Gaseous effluent passes through pre-filters, HEPA filters, and activated carbon filters, all of which greatly reduce the radioactive material in the final discharged effluent to very low concentrations.
- Liquid waste is routed to collection tanks, and treated through a combination of precipitation, filtration and evaporation to remove radioactive material prior to release of the distillate vapors to the atmosphere.
- Effluent paths are monitored and sampled to assure compliance with regulatory discharge limits.

During routine operations, the potential for radioactivity from the combined Northern Cylinder Storage Pads and the Full Product Cylinder Storage Pad impacting the public is low because all cylinders are surveyed for external contamination before they are placed on the storage pads. Therefore, runoff from the pads during rainfall is not expected to be a significant exposure pathway. Runoff water from the cylinder storage pads is directed to the Cylinder Storage Pads Stormwater Retention Basins for evaporation of the collected water. Periodic sampling of the soil from these basins is performed to identify the accumulation or buildup of residual uranic material due to surface contamination washed off by rainwater to the basins (see ER Section 6.1, Radiological Monitoring). No liquids from these retention basins are discharged directly off-site. In addition, direct radiation from all cylinder storage pads is monitored on a quarterly basis using thermoluminescent dosimeters (TLDs) or by pressurized ion chamber measurements.

#### 4.12.2.2 Public and Occupational Exposure Impacts

The assessment of the dose impacts resulting from the annual airborne liquid and gaseous effluents for the EREF site indicate that the principal radionuclides with respect to the dose equivalent contribution to individuals are  $^{234}\text{U}$  and  $^{238}\text{U}$ . Each of these nuclides contributes about the same level of committed dose. The critical organ for all receptor locations and age groups was found to be the lung as a result of the inhalation pathway. This committed dose equivalent to the lung dominated all other exposure pathways by an order of magnitude or more.

In addition to the 80 km (50 mi) cumulative population dose impacts, four critical individual groups were evaluated. These include (1) transient individuals engaged in non-EREF related activities which bring them close to the site boundary for a portion of the year, (2) the nearest real or existing residence to the EREF site, (3) local business operations which bring members of the public in the vicinity of the EREF site for a portion of the year, and (4) a hypothetical bounding individual assumed to be located as a residence at the most limiting site boundary. This individual is exposed to all potential pathways and has a 100% occupancy factor.

For the first critical group of transient individuals, the location of highest calculated off-site dose occurs at the NNE site boundary for the ground plane exposure pathway which is controlled by atmospheric deposition (D/Q). For the exposure pathways of cloud immersion and inhalation, the N site boundary was limiting based on maximum sector annual average depleted  $\chi/\text{Q}$ . No food product intake is included since transients would not be expected to be involved with the consumption of any such products raised next to the property boundary. The assumed combination of these limiting site boundary sectors lead to an annual effective dose equivalent of  $1.5\text{E-}04$  mSv ( $1.5\text{E-}02$  mrem), with a maximum annual organ (lung) committed dose of  $1.2\text{E-}03$  mSv ( $1.2\text{E-}01$  mrem). Table 4.12-17, Annual Dose Equivalents to Maximum Site Boundary, provides a summary of all organ and effective dose equivalents by exposure pathway at the limiting site boundary for individual members of the public engaged in such outdoor activities not associated with EREF operations. The dose estimates assume 2000 hours per year of occupancy time.

The second critical group of members of the public relates to the nearest resident. Based on a 2008 land use census of the site area, there are no residences located within 8 km (5 mi) in any direction. For purposes of analysis, a residence at 8 km (5 mi) was assumed in the most limiting sector with respect to atmospheric deposition (NE for D/Q) and dispersion (N for depleted  $\chi/\text{Q}$ ). The maximum annual effective dose equivalent (to the teenager) is  $3.5\text{E-}05$  mSv ( $3.5\text{E-}03$  mrem), or approximately a factor of 4 lower than the site boundary transient critical group. The maximum annual organ (lung) dose at this nearest residence was estimated to be  $2.6\text{E-}04$  mSv ( $2.6\text{E-}02$  mrem) to the teenage age group. Tables 4.12-12 through 4.12-15 provides a summary of all organ and effective dose equivalents by exposure pathway (cloud immersion, ground plane, inhalation, and ingestion of vegetables, milk, and meat) for airborne releases at the limiting existing residence for individual members (adults, teens, children, and infants) of the public.

The third critical group includes those individuals associated with nearby businesses. The business locations identified by land use census are potato storage facilities. A location which bounds the dose impact to the existing work locations is in the SW direction, approximately 4 km (2.5 mi) from the facility. The annual effective dose equivalent for this location from all airborne releases is  $1.6\text{E-}05$  mSv ( $1.6\text{E-}03$  mrem). The maximum organ (lung) committed dose for a receptor at this location was estimated at  $1.3\text{E-}04$  mSv ( $1.3\text{E-}02$  mrem) from one year's exposure (2000 hours occupancy) for the assumed pathways of cloud immersion, ground plane

direct radiation and inhalation. No local produced food ingestion pathways are included for worker (adults) related activities. Table 4.12-16, Annual Dose Equivalents to Nearby Business (Adult), summarizes the airborne release dose impacts by organ and pathway to the nearest business.

The fourth category of members of the public assessed for potential exposures from routine operations is the postulated hypothetical residence situated at the site boundary where the maximum dose impact could occur. The exposure of this group of individuals would include all airborne exposure pathways (cloud immersion, ground plane direct, inhalation and ingestion of food products such as vegetables, milk (cow), and meat grown or raised at the boundary line). Full time occupancy is assumed and no residential shielding is applied. This category of individuals represents an upper bound for exposures that should not be exceeded over the operating life of EREF. The hypothetical residence is assumed to be at the NNE boundary line, 1.1 km (0.67 mi) where maximum ground deposition is key (ground plane exposure and food production). For the exposure pathways limited by air concentrations, i.e., inhalation and cloud exposure, the maximum annual average depleted  $\chi/Q$  location of the N boundary at 1.1 km (0.67 mi) is assumed. The maximum annual effective dose equivalent to the teenager is  $8.8\text{E-}04$  mSv ( $8.8\text{E-}02$  mrem). The maximum annual organ dose (lung) at this hypothetical residence was estimated to be  $6.4\text{E-}03$  mSv ( $6.4\text{E-}01$  mrem) to the teenage age group. Tables 4.12-18 through 4.12-21 provides a summary of all organ and effective dose equivalents by exposure pathway (cloud immersion, ground plane, inhalation and ingestion of vegetables, milk, and meat) for airborne releases at the bounding hypothetical residence for individual members (adults, teens, children and infants) of the public.

In summary, the combination of liquid and gaseous related annual effluent dose impacts are summarized in Table 4.12-22, Maximum Annual Liquid and Gas Radiological Impacts. As shown on Table 4.12-23, Annual Effective Total Dose Equivalent (All Sources), the dominant source of off-site radiation exposure is from direct (and scatter) radiation from the cylinder storage pads (fixed sources). Table 4.12-1, Maximum Annual Gaseous & Liquid Radiological Impacts, provides a listing of direct radiation exposures at key locations of critical receptor groups assuming all cylinder storage pads were at design capacity.

The maximum annual dose equivalent from fixed sources of radiation was found along the north site boundary with an estimated impact of  $0.0142$  mSv /yr ( $1.42$  mrem/yr) for 2000 hours per year occupancy. Table 4.12-23, Annual Total Effective Dose Equivalent (All Sources), provides the combined impact from liquid, gases and fixed radiation sources. The annual total effective dose equivalent (TEDE) at the maximum exposure point (northern site boundary) is estimated to be  $0.632$  mSv ( $6.32$  mrem) assuming full cylinder storage pads and full time occupancy for the hypothetical residence. The calculated dose equivalents are all below the  $1$  mSv ( $100$  mrem/yr) TEDE requirement per 10 CFR 20.1301 (CFR, 2008x), and also within the  $0.25$  mSv ( $25$  mrem/yr) dose equivalent to the whole body and any organ as indicated in 40 CFR 190 (CFR, 2008f). It is therefore concluded that the operation of the EREF will not exceed the dose equivalent criteria for members of the public as stipulated in Federal regulations.

Table 4.12-9, Collective Population Effective Dose Equivalents to All Ages Population (Person-Sieverts), and Table 4.12-10, Collective Population Effective Dose Equivalents to All Ages Population (Person-rem), provide the estimated collective effective dose equivalent to the 80 km (50 mi) population (all age and exposure pathways). Table 4.12-11, Summary of 50 Mile Population for All Age Groups – All Airborne Pathways, summarizes the population dose impacts by organ. The estimated effective dose equivalent for the total population is  $1.5\text{E-}04$  Person-Sv ( $1.5\text{E-}02$  Person-rem). This is a small fraction of the collective dose from natural background for the same population.

In addition to members of the public along the site boundary and beyond, estimates of annual facility area radiation dose rates have been made along with projections of occupational (EREF worker) personnel exposures during normal operations. Table 4.12-24, Estimated EREF Occupational Dose Equivalent Rates, and Table 4.12-25, Estimated EREF Occupational (Individual) Exposures, summarize the annual dose equivalent rates and projected dose impacts for different areas of the plant, and for different employee work functions. Section 4.1 of the EREF Safety Analysis Report (SAR) provides a detailed description of the EREF radiation protection program for controlling and limiting occupational exposures for plant workers.

### **4.12.3 Environmental Effects of Accidents**

#### **4.12.3.1 Accident Scenarios**

All credible accident sequences were considered during the Integrated Safety Analysis (ISA) performed for the facility. Accidents evaluated fell into two general types: criticality events and  $\text{UF}_6$  releases. Criticality events and some  $\text{UF}_6$  release scenarios were shown to result in potential radiological and HF chemical exposures, respectively, to the public. Gaseous releases of  $\text{UF}_6$  react quickly with moisture in the air to form HF and  $\text{UO}_2\text{F}_2$ . Consequence analyses showed that HF was the bounding consequence for all gaseous  $\text{UF}_6$  releases to the environment. For some fire cases, uranic material in waste form or in chemical traps provided the bounding case. Accidents that produced unacceptable consequences to the public resulted in the identification of various design bases, design features and administrative controls.

During the ISA process, evaluation of most accident sequences resulted in identification of design bases and design features that prevent a criticality event or chemical release to the environment. Table 4.12-28, Accident Criteria Chemical Exposure Limits by Category, lists the accident criteria chemical exposure limits by category for intermediate consequence and high consequence categories. Examples of preventive controls for criticality events include limits on  $\text{UF}_6$  quantities or equipment geometry for  $\text{UF}_6$  vessels that eliminate the potential for a criticality event. Examples of preventive controls for  $\text{UF}_6$  releases include highly reliable protection features to prevent overheating of  $\text{UF}_6$  cylinders and explicit design basis such as that for seismic events.

These preventive controls reduce the likelihood of the accident (criticality events and HF release scenarios) such that the risk is reduced to acceptable levels as defined in 10 CFR 70.61 (CFR, 2008oo). All HF release scenarios with the exception of those caused by one fire case are controlled through design features or by administrative procedural control measures.

The seismic accident scenario considers an earthquake event of sufficient magnitude to fail the  $\text{UF}_6$  process piping and some  $\text{UF}_6$  components resulting in a large gaseous  $\text{UF}_6$  release inside the buildings housing  $\text{UF}_6$  process systems. The HVAC system then provides a pathway for the release to exit the building. Several accident sequences involving HF releases to the environment due to seismic events were prevented using design features to preclude the release of  $\text{UF}_6$  from process piping and components. These preventive features reduce the dose equivalent consequences to the public for these accident sequences to below an intermediate consequence as defined in 10 CFR 70.61 (CFR, 2008oo).

The fire accident scenario considers a fire within the Technical Support Building (TSB) that causes the release of uranic material from open waste containers and chemical traps during waste drum filling operations in the Chemical Trap Workshop. The mitigation feature is the automatic shutoff of room HVAC system during a fire event to limit room release to the outside environment. With mitigation, the dose equivalent consequences to the public for this accident

sequence has been reduced to below an intermediate consequence as defined in 10 CFR 70.61 (CFR, 2008oo).

Without prevention, the bounding seismic scenario results in a 30-minute radiological dose equivalent of 0.019 mSv (1.9 mrem) TEDE, a 30-minute uranium inhalation intake of 0.30 mg, a 24-hour airborne uranium concentration of 0.021 mg U/m<sup>3</sup>, and a 30-minute HF chemical exposure to 3.22 mg HF/m<sup>3</sup>. The controlling dose is for the HF chemical exposure, which is an intermediate consequence as defined in 10 CFR 70.61 (CFR, 2008oo). With prevention, the bounding seismic scenario is completely prevented since the release is precluded by design features of the UF<sub>6</sub> process systems.

Without mitigation, the bounding fire scenario results in a 30-minute radiological dose equivalent of 0.015 mSv (1.5 mrem) TEDE, a 30-minute uranium inhalation intake of 0.25 mg, a 24-hour airborne uranium concentration of 0.0096 mg U/m<sup>3</sup>, and a 30-minute HF chemical exposure to 1.33 mg HF/m<sup>3</sup>. The controlling dose is for the HF chemical exposure, which is an intermediate consequence as defined in 10 CFR 70.61 (CFR, 2008oo).

With mitigation, the bounding fire scenario results in a 30-minute radiological dose equivalent of < 0.0092 mSv (< 0.92 mrem) TEDE, a 30-minute uranium inhalation intake of < 0.15 mg, a 24-hour airborne uranium concentration of < 0.0096 mg U/m<sup>3</sup>, and a 30-minute HF chemical exposure to < 0.80 mg HF/m<sup>3</sup>. The controlling dose is for the HF chemical exposure, which is a below an intermediate consequence as defined in 10 CFR 70.61 (CFR, 2008oo).

#### **4.12.3.2 Accident Mitigation Measures**

Potential adverse impacts for accident conditions are described in ER Section 4.12.3.1 above. One accident sequence involving HF release to the environment due to a fire event was mitigated using design features to delay and reduce the UF<sub>6</sub> release inside the building from reaching the outside environment. This mitigative feature is the automatic shutoff of room HVAC system during a fire event. With mitigation, the dose equivalent consequences to the public for this accident sequence has been reduced to below an intermediate consequence as defined in 10 CFR 70.61 (CFR, 2008oo).

#### **4.12.3.3 Non-Radiological Accidents**

A review of non-radiological accident injury reports for the Capenhurst facility was conducted for the period 2003-2007 (Urenco, 2003; Urenco, 2004; Urenco, 2005; Urenco, 2006; Urenco, 2007). No injuries involving the public were reported. Injuries to workers occurred due to accidents in parking lots and offices as well as in the plant. The typical causes of injuries sustained at the Capenhurst facility are summarized in Table 4.12-29, Causes of Injuries at Capenhurst (2003-2007). Non-radiological accidents to equipment that did not result in injury to workers are not reported by Capenhurst.

#### **4.12.4 Comparative Public and Occupational Exposure Impacts of No Action Alternative Scenarios**

Chapter 2, Alternatives, provides a discussion of possible alternatives to the construction and operation of the EREF, including an alternative of "no action" (i.e., not building the EREF). The following information provides comparative conclusions specific to the concerns addressed in this subsection for each of the two "no action" alternative scenarios addressed in ER Section 2.4, Table 2.4-2, Comparison of Environmental Impacts for the Proposed Action and the No-Action Alternative Scenarios.

**Alternative Scenario C** - No EREF; LES and USEC deploy gas centrifuge plants, USEC phases out the Paducah gaseous diffusion plant (GDP) and GEH deploys their plant using Sillex enrichment technology: The public and occupational exposure impacts would be the same since three enrichment plants would be built and the SWU capacity would be about the same.

**Alternative Scenario D** - No EREF; LES and USEC deploy gas centrifuge plants, USEC phases out the Paducah gaseous diffusion plant (GDP) and USEC increases its centrifuge plant capacity: The public and occupational exposure impacts would be about the same since overall SWU capacity would be about the same.



## TABLES

**Table 4.12-1 Direct Radiation Annual Dose Equivalent by Source**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Location	Annual Occupancy (hrs/yr)	Main <sup>+</sup> & Product Cylinder Storage Pads mSv/yr	Main <sup>+</sup> & Product Cylinder Storage Pads mrem/yr
Site Fence, N-NE <sup>+</sup> 762 m (2500 ft)	2,000	1.42E-02	1.42E+00
Nearest Actual Business, SW 4.0 km ( 2.5mi)**	2,000	<1E-12	<1E-10
Nearest Actual Residence, >8 km (>5 mi)***	8,766	<1E-12	<1E-10

Notes:

+ Main Cylinder Storage Pad refers to the Northern Cylinder Storage Pads located on the north side of the facility complex.

\* Distance from the nearest edge of the Northern Cylinder Storage Pads.

\*\* Nearest off-site location (potato storage facilities) from edge of facility footprint.

\*\*\* No resident within 5 miles (8 km) from edge of facility footprint.

**Table 4.12-2 Population Data for the Year 2050**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Population (All Ages) Distribution within  
80 km (50 mi)

Sector	0-1.6 km (0-1 mi)	1.6-3.2 km (1-2 mi)	3.2-4.8 km (2-3 mi)	4.8-6.4 km (3-4 mi)	6.4-8.0 km (4-5 mi)	8.0-16 km (5-10 mi)	16-32 km (10-20 mi)	32-48 km (20-30 mi)	48-64 km (30-40 mi)	64-80 km (40-50 mi)	Totals
N	0	0	0	0	0	0	921	223	146	70	1,360
NNE	0	0	0	0	0	0	290	559	157	831	1,837
NE	0	0	0	0	0	3	193	8	1,365	4,882	6,451
ENE	0	0	0	0	0	3	1,561	9,655	29,946	4,229	45,394
E	0	0	0	0	0	17	1,004	13,654	3,436	37	18,148
ESE	0	0	0	0	0	14	12,744	68,188	421	0	81,367
SE	0	0	0	0	0	0	741	10,303	21	2	11,067
SSE	0	0	0	0	0	75	142	6,214	78	114	6,623
S	0	0	0	0	0	0	169	20,589	3,835	61,264	85,857
SSW	0	0	0	0	0	0	49	757	1,172	3,477	5,455
SW	0	0	0	0	0	0	49	55	5	38	147
WSW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	33	9	6	48
W	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	2,142	2,152
WNW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	56	220	562	838
NW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	84	84
NNW	0	0	0	0	0	0	53	299	58	18	428
Ring Totals=	0	0	0	0	0	112	17,916	130,593	40,879	77,756	267,256
Cum. Totals =	0	0	0	0	0	112	18,028	148,621	189,500	267,256	

**Table 4.12-3 Estimated Vegetable (Below Ground) Production (Kg/yr)**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Distribution within 80 km (50 mi)

Sector	0-1.6 km (0-1 mi)	1.6-3.2 km (1-2 mi)	3.2-4.8 km (2-3 mi)	4.8-6.4 km (3-4 mi)	6.4-8.0 km (4-5 mi)	8.0-16 km (5-10 mi)	16-32 km (10-20 mi)	32-48 km (20-30 mi)	48-64 km (30-40 mi)	64-80 km (40-50 mi)	Totals
N	0	0	0	0	0	0	34,950,000	38,830,000	54,360,000	0	128,140,000
NNE	0	0	0	0	0	1,456,000	17,470,000	48,540,000	108,900,000	0	176,366,000
NE	105,500	0	0	0	0	10,190,000	29,120,000	0	87,150,000	56,010,000	182,575,500
ENE	105,500	189,800	0	369,100	1,898,000	15,820,000	63,270,000	207,500,000	290,500,000	298,800,000	878,452,400
E	126,500	126,500	0	0	1,139,000	15,820,000	63,270,000	84,360,000	58,100,000	112,100,000	335,042,000
ESE	105,500	0	0	590,500	1,898,000	15,820,000	44,290,000	187,100,000	149,700,000	0	399,504,000
SE	105,500	0	0	73,820	189,800	1,582,000	80,190,000	187,100,000	0	0	269,241,120
SSE	0	0	527,300	0	0	0	64,150,000	213,800,000	18,710,000	0	297,187,300
S	0	0	0	0	0	0	48,110,000	240,600,000	187,100,000	193,700,000	669,510,000
SSW	0	0	0	0	0	0	16,040,000	213,800,000	187,100,000	303,600,000	720,540,000
SW	0	0	0	295,300	949,100	0	16,040,000	26,730,000	0	25,300,000	69,314,400
WSW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
W	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,249,000	5,249,000
WNW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,944,000	2,722,000	3,499,000	8,165,000
NW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,658,000	3,658,000
NNW	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,912,000	38,830,000	27,180,000	0	68,922,000
totals	548,500	316,300	527,300	1,328,720	6,073,900	60,688,000	479,812,000	1,489,134,000	1,171,522,000	1,001,916,000	4,211,866,720

Note: Annual growing period for food products estimated to be 6 months long.

**Table 4.12-4 Estimated Vegetable (Below Ground) Production (lbs/yr)**  
**(Page 1 of 1)**

Distribution within 80 km (50 mi)

Sector	0-1.6 km (0-1 mi)	1.6-3.2 km (1-2 mi)	3.2-4.8 km (2-3 mi)	4.8-6.4 km (3-4 mi)	6.4-8.0 km (4-5 mi)	8.0-16 km (5-10 mi)	16-32 km (10-20 mi)	32-48 km (20-30 mi)	48-64 km (30-40 mi)	64-80 km (40-50 mi)	Totals
N	0	0	0	0	0	0	77,050,000	85,610,000	119,900,000	0	282,560,000
NNE	0	0	0	0	0	3,210,000	38,520,000	107,000,000	240,100,000	0	388,830,000
NE	232,500	0	0	0	0	22,470,000	64,210,000	0	192,100,000	123,500,000	402,512,500
ENE	232,500	418,500	0	813,700	4,185,000	34,870,000	139,500,000	457,500,000	640,500,000	658,800,000	1,936,819,700
E	279,000	279,000	0	0	2,511,000	34,870,000	139,500,000	186,000,000	128,100,000	247,000,000	738,539,000
ESE	232,500	0	0	1,302,000	4,185,000	34,870,000	97,640,000	412,500,000	330,000,000	0	880,729,500
SE	232,500	0	0	162,700	418,500	3,487,000	176,800,000	412,500,000	0	0	593,600,700
SSE	0	0	1,162,000	0	0	0	141,400,000	471,400,000	41,250,000	0	655,212,000
S	0	0	0	0	0	0	106,100,000	530,300,000	412,500,000	427,100,000	1,476,000,000
SSW	0	0	0	0	0	0	35,360,000	471,400,000	412,500,000	669,300,000	1,588,560,000
SW	0	0	0	651,000	2,092,000	0	35,360,000	58,930,000	0	55,780,000	152,813,000
WSW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
W	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11,570,000	11,570,000
WNW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,286,000	6,000,000	7,715,000	18,001,000
NW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8,064,000	8,064,000
NNW	0	0	0	0	0	0	6,421,000	85,610,000	59,930,000	0	151,961,000
totals	1,209,000	697,500	1,162,000	2,929,400	13,391,500	133,777,000	1,057,861,000	3,283,036,000	2,582,880,000	2,208,829,000	9,285,772,400

Note: Annual growing period for food products estimated to be 6 months long.

**Table 4.12-5 Estimated Milk Production (Liters/yr)**  
**(Page 1 of 1)**

Distribution within 80 km (50 mi)

Sector	0-1.6 km (0-1 mi)	1.6-3.2 km (1-2 mi)	3.2-4.8 km (2-3 mi)	4.8-6.4 km (3-4 mi)	6.4-8.0 km (4-5 mi)	8.0-16 km (5-10 mi)	16-32 km (10-20 mi)	32-48 km (20-30 mi)	48-64 km (30-40 mi)	64-80 km (40-50 mi)	Totals
N	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,970,000	5,522,000	7,731,000	0	18,223,000
NNE	0	0	0	0	0	207,100	2,485,000	6,903,000	9,664,000	0	19,259,100
NE	2,965	0	0	0	0	1,450,000	4,142,000	0	5,798,000	1,084,000	12,476,965
ENE	2,965	5,337	0	10,380	53,370	2,071,000	8,283,000	13,810,000	19,330,000	4,352,000	47,918,052
E	3,558	3,558	0	0	32,020	444,800	8,283,000	11,040,000	3,865,000	1,601,000	25,272,936
ESE	2,965	0	0	16,610	53,370	444,800	1,245,000	15,240,000	12,190,000	0	29,192,745
SE	2,965	0	0	2,076	5,337	44,480	6,532,000	15,240,000	0	0	21,826,858
SSE	0	0	14,830	0	0	0	5,226,000	17,420,000	1,524,000	0	24,184,830
S	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,919,000	19,600,000	15,300,000	4,678,000	43,497,000
SSW	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,306,000	17,420,000	15,240,000	23,610,000	57,576,000
SW	0	0	0	8,303	26,690	0	1,306,000	2,177,000	0	1,960,000	5,477,993
WSW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
W	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,843,000	3,843,000
WNW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,423,000	1,992,000	2,562,000	5,977,000
NW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,281,000	1,281,000
NNW	0	0	0	0	0	0	414,200	5,526,000	3,868,000	0	9,808,200
totals	15,418	8,895	14,830	37,369	170,787	4,662,180	48,111,200	131,321,000	96,502,000	44,971,000	325,814,679

**Table 4.12-6 Estimated Milk Production (gallons/yr)**  
**(Page 1 of 1)**

Distribution within 80 km (50 mi)

Sector	0-1.6 km (0-1 mi)	1.6-3.2 km (1-2 mi)	3.2-4.8 km (2-3 mi)	4.8-6.4 km (3-4 mi)	6.4-8.0 km (4-5 mi)	8.0-16 km (5-10 mi)	16-32 km (10-20 mi)	32-48 km (20-30 mi)	48-64 km (30-40 mi)	64-80 km (40-50 mi)	Totals
N	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,313,000	1,459,000	2,042,000	0	4,814,000
NNE	0	0	0	0	0	54,700	656,500	1,823,000	2,553,000	0	5,087,200
NE	783	0	0	0	0	382,900	1,094,000	0	1,532,000	286,400	3,296,083
ENE	783	1,410	0	2,742	14,100	547,000	2,188,000	3,647,000	5,106,000	1,150,000	12,657,035
E	940	940	0	0	8,460	117,500	2,188,000	2,918,000	1,021,000	423,000	6,677,840
ESE	783	0	0	4,387	14,100	117,500	329,000	4,026,000	3,221,000	0	7,712,770
SE	783	0	0	548	1,410	11,750	1,726,000	4,026,000	0	0	5,766,491
SSE	0	0	3,917	0	0	0	1,380,000	4,602,000	402,600	0	6,388,517
S	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,035,000	5,177,000	4,042,000	1,236,000	11,490,000
SSW	0	0	0	0	0	0	345,100	4,602,000	4,026,000	6,236,000	15,209,100
SW	0	0	0	2,193	7,050	0	345,100	575,200	0	517,700	1,447,243
WSW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
W	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,015,000	1,015,000
WNW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	376,000	526,300	676,700	1,579,000
NW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	338,400	338,400
NNW	0	0	0	0	0	0	109,400	1,460,000	1,022,000	0	2,591,400
totals	4,072	2,350	3,917	9,870	45,120	1,231,350	12,709,100	34,691,200	25,493,900	11,879,200	86,070,079

**Table 4.12-7 Estimated Meat Production (Kg/yr)**  
**(Page 1 of 1)**

Distribution within 80 km (50 mi)

Sector	0-1.6 km (0-1 mi)	1.6-3.2 km (1-2 mi)	3.2-4.8 km (2-3 mi)	4.8-6.4 km (3-4 mi)	6.4-8.0 km (4-5 mi)	8.0-16 km (5-10 mi)	16-32 km (10-20 mi)	32-48 km (20-30 mi)	48-64 km (30-40 mi)	64-80 km (40-50 mi)	Totals
N	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,449,000	1,610,000	2,254,000	0	5,313,000
NNE	0	0	0	0	0	60,370	724,500	2,012,000	2,829,000	0	5,625,870
NE	2,001	0	0	0	0	422,600	1,207,000	0	1,697,000	248,000	3,576,601
ENE	2,001	3,601	0	7,002	36,010	605,100	2,420,000	4,025,000	5,635,000	1,062,000	13,795,714
E	2,401	2,401	0	0	21,610	300,100	2,420,000	3,227,000	1,130,000	1,080,000	8,183,512
ESE	2,001	0	0	11,200	36,010	300,100	840,300	2,506,000	2,005,000	0	5,700,611
SE	2,001	0	0	1,400	3,601	30,010	1,074,000	2,506,000	0	0	3,617,012
SSE	0	0	10,000	0	0	0	859,100	2,864,000	250,600	0	3,983,700
S	0	0	0	0	0	0	644,300	3,222,000	2,506,000	1,055,000	7,427,300
SSW	0	0	0	0	0	0	214,800	2,864,000	2,506,000	3,866,000	9,450,800
SW	0	0	0	5,602	18,010	0	214,800	358,000	0	381,200	977,612
WSW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
W	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,120,000	2,120,000
WNW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	785,100	1,099,000	1,413,000	3,297,100
NW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	706,600	706,600
NNW	0	0	0	0	0	0	120,700	1,612,000	1,128,000	0	2,860,700
totals	10,405	6,002	10,000	25,204	115,241	1,718,280	12,188,500	27,591,100	23,039,600	11,931,800	76,636,132



**Table 4.12-8 Estimated Meat Production (lbs/yr)**  
**(Page 1 of 1)**

Distribution within 80 km (50 mi)

Sector	0-1.6 km (0-1 mi)	1.6-3.2 km (1-2 mi)	3.2-4.8 km (2-3 mi)	4.8-6.4 km (3-4 mi)	6.4-8.0 km (4-5 mi)	8.0-16 km (5-10 mi)	16-32 km (10-20 mi)	32-48 km (20-30 mi)	48-64 km (30-40 mi)	64-80 km (40-50 mi)	Totals
N	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,194,000	3,549,000	4,969,000	0	11,712,000
NNE	0	0	0	0	0	133,100	1,597,000	4,437,000	6,237,000	0	12,404,100
NE	4,411	0	0	0	0	931,700	2,662,000	0	3,742,000	546,700	7,886,811
ENE	4,411	7,939	0	15,440	79,390	1,334,000	5,336,000	8,874,000	12,420,000	2,341,000	30,412,180
E	5,293	5,293	0	0	47,640	661,600	5,336,000	7,115,000	2,490,000	2,382,000	18,042,826
ESE	4,411	0	0	24,700	79,390	661,600	1,853,000	5,524,000	4,419,000	0	12,566,101
SE	4,411	0	0	3,088	7,939	66,160	2,367,000	5,524,000	0	0	7,972,598
SSE	0	0	22,050	0	0	0	1,894,000	6,313,000	552,400	0	8,781,450
S	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,420,000	7,102,000	5,524,000	2,326,000	16,372,000
SSW	0	0	0	0	0	0	473,500	6,313,000	5,524,000	8,523,000	20,833,500
SW	0	0	0	12,350	39,700	0	473,500	789,200	0	840,400	2,155,150
WSW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
W	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,673,000	4,673,000
WNW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,731,000	2,423,000	3,115,000	7,269,000
NW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,558,000	1,558,000
NNW	0	0	0	0	0	0	266,200	3,553,000	2,487,000	0	6,306,200
totals	22,937	13,232	22,050	55,578	254,059	3,788,160	26,872,200	60,824,200	50,787,400	26,305,100	168,944,916

**Table 4.12-9 Collective Population Effective Dose Equivalents to All Ages (Person-Sieverts)**  
(Page 1 of 1)

(Liquid And Gas Release Pathways) Annual Population Dose Equivalent (All Ages - All Pathways) Within 80 km (50 mi) (Person-Sievert)											
Sector	0-1.6 km (0-1 mi)	1.6-3.2 km (1-2 mi)	3.2-4.8 km (2-3 mi)	4.8-6.4 km (3-4 mi)	6.4-8.0 km (4-5 mi)	8.0-16 km (5-10 mi)	16-32 km (10-20 mi)	32-48 km (20-30 mi)	48-64 km (30-40 mi)	64-80 km (40-50 mi)	Totals
N	0	0	0	0	0	0	4.79E-06	5.35E-07	2.09E-07	6.77E-08	5.60E-06
NNE	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.32E-06	1.16E-06	1.94E-07	6.92E-07	3.37E-06
NE	0	0	0	0	0	2.77E-08	6.15E-07	1.16E-08	1.17E-06	2.81E-06	4.63E-06
ENE	0	0	0	0	0	1.49E-08	2.64E-06	7.42E-06	1.36E-05	1.30E-06	2.50E-05
E	0	0	0	0	0	4.47E-08	9.09E-07	5.86E-06	8.61E-07	6.39E-09	7.50E-06
ESE	0	0	0	0	0	3.65E-08	1.14E-05	2.80E-05	1.04E-07	0	3.96E-05
SE	0	0	0	0	0	0	7.26E-07	4.62E-06	5.65E-09	3.70E-10	5.35E-06
SSE	0	0	0	0	0	3.10E-07	2.02E-07	4.02E-06	3.00E-08	2.98E-08	4.59E-06
S	0	0	0	0	0	0	3.47E-07	1.92E-05	2.12E-06	2.29E-05	4.46E-05
SSW	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.60E-07	1.12E-06	1.02E-06	2.03E-06	4.33E-06
SW	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.28E-07	1.17E-07	6.33E-09	3.24E-08	3.84E-07
WSW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7.93E-08	1.29E-08	5.84E-09	9.81E-08
W	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9.50E-09	1.38E-06	1.39E-06
WNW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4.56E-08	1.08E-07	1.88E-07	3.41E-07
NW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.84E-08	2.84E-08
NNW	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.32E-07	6.08E-07	7.07E-08	1.49E-08	9.25E-07
Ring Totals=	0	0	0	0	0	4.34E-07	2.36E-05	7.27E-05	1.96E-05	3.15E-05	1.48E-04
Cum. Totals =	0	0	0	0	0	4.34E-07	2.40E-05	9.67E-05	1.16E-04	1.48E-04	

**Table 4.12-10 Collective Population Effective Dose Equivalents to All Ages (Person-Rem)**  
**(Page 1 of 1)**

(Liquid And Gas Release Pathways)

Annual Population Dose Equivalent (All Ages - All Pathways) Within 80 km (50 mi) (Person-Rem)

Sector	0-1.6 km (0-1 mi)	1.6-3.2 km (1-2 mi)	3.2-4.8 km (2-3 mi)	4.8-6.4 km (3-4 mi)	6.4-8.0 km (4-5 mi)	8.0-16 km (5-10 mi)	16-32 km (10-20 mi)	32-48 km (20-30 mi)	48-64 km (30-40 mi)	64-80 km (40-50 mi)	Totals
N	0	0	0	0	0	0	4.79E-04	5.35E-05	2.09E-05	6.77E-06	5.60E-04
NNE	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.32E-04	1.16E-04	1.94E-05	6.92E-05	3.37E-04
NE	0	0	0	0	0	2.77E-06	6.15E-05	1.16E-06	1.17E-04	2.81E-04	4.63E-04
ENE	0	0	0	0	0	1.49E-06	2.64E-04	7.42E-04	1.36E-03	1.30E-04	2.50E-03
E	0	0	0	0	0	4.47E-06	9.09E-05	5.68E-04	8.61E-05	6.39E-07	7.50E-04
ESE	0	0	0	0	0	3.65E-06	1.14E-03	2.80E-03	1.04E-05	0	3.96E-03
SE	0	0	0	0	0	0	7.26E-05	4.62E-04	5.65E-07	3.70E-08	5.35E-04
SSE	0	0	0	0	0	3.10E-05	2.02E-05	4.02E-04	3.00E-06	2.98E-06	4.59E-04
S	0	0	0	0	0	0	3.47E-05	1.92E-03	2.12E-04	2.29E-03	4.46E-03
SSW	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.60E-05	1.12E-04	1.02E-04	2.03E-04	4.33E-04
SW	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.28E-05	1.17E-05	6.33E-07	3.24E-06	3.84E-05
WSW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7.93E-06	1.29E-06	5.84E-07	9.81E-06
W	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00E+00	9.50E-07	1.38E-04	1.39E-04
WNW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4.56E-06	1.08E-05	1.88E-05	3.41E-05
NW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.84E-06	2.84E-06
NNW	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.32E-05	6.08E-05	7.07E-06	1.49E-06	9.25E-05
			0	0							
Ring Totals=	0	0	0	0	0	4.34E-05	2.36E-03	7.27E-03	1.96E-03	3.15E-03	1.48E-02
Cum. Totals =	0	0	0	0	0	4.34E-05	2.40E-03	9.67E-03	1.16E-02	1.48E-02	

**Table 4.12-11 Summary of 50 Mile Population for All Age Groups –All Airborne Pathways**  
**(Page 1 of 1)**

<b>Skin</b>	<b>Gonads</b>	<b>Breast</b>	<b>Lung</b>	<b>Red Bone Marrow</b>	<b>Bone Surface</b>	<b>Thyroid</b>	<b>Effective Dose Equivalent</b>
<b>Person-Sv (Person-Rem)</b>	<b>Person-Sv (Person-Rem)</b>	<b>Person-Sv (Person-Rem)</b>	<b>Person-Sv (Person-Rem)</b>	<b>Person-Sv (Person-Rem)</b>	<b>Person-Sv (Person-Rem)</b>	<b>Person-Sv (Person-Rem)</b>	<b>Person-Sv (Person-Rem)</b>
1.64E-04	8.74E-07	8.82E-07	1.18E-03	6.55E-06	9.33E-05	7.68E-07	1.48E-04
(1.64E-02)	(8.74E-05)	(8.82E-05)	(1.18E-01)	(6.55E-04)	(9.33E-03)	(7.68E-05)	(1.48E-02)

**Table 4.12-12 Annual Dose Equivalents to Nearest Resident (Adult)**  
**(Page 1 of 1)**

(Annual Liquid & Gaseous Effluents with 30 Years Soil Deposition; Full Year Occupancy)

Source		Skin	Gonads	Breast	Lung	Red Bone Marrow	Bone Surface	Thyroid	Effective Dose Equivalent
Cloud Immersion	(mSv)	7.03E-13	5.06E-13	5.93E-13	4.73E-13	4.32E-13	1.31E-12	5.00E-13	5.13E-13
	(mrem)	7.03E-11	5.06E-11	5.93E-11	4.73E-11	4.32E-11	1.31E-10	5.00E-11	5.13E-11
Grd. Plane direct	(mSv)	4.79E-05	1.93E-07	1.95E-07	1.56E-07	1.54E-07	3.74E-07	1.62E-07	1.78E-07
	(mrem)	4.79E-03	1.93E-05	1.95E-05	1.56E-05	1.54E-05	3.74E-05	1.62E-05	1.78E-05
Inhalation	(mSv)	0	1.98E-09	2.22E-09	2.20E-04	5.49E-08	8.33E-07	2.12E-09	2.64E-05
	(mrem)	0	1.98E-07	2.22E-07	2.20E-02	5.49E-06	8.33E-05	2.12E-07	2.64E-03
Ingestion -Vegetables	(mSv)	0	5.97E-08	5.95E-08	5.94E-08	1.71E-06	2.60E-05	5.94E-08	1.77E-06
	(mrem)	0	5.97E-06	5.95E-06	5.94E-06	1.71E-04	2.60E-03	5.94E-06	1.77E-04
- Leafy Vegetables	(mSv)	0	9.67E-09	9.64E-09	9.62E-09	2.76E-07	4.22E-06	9.62E-09	2.86E-07
	(mrem)	0	9.67E-07	9.64E-07	9.62E-07	2.76E-05	4.22E-04	9.62E-07	2.86E-05
- Milk	(mSv)	0	1.91E-09	1.91E-09	1.90E-09	5.46E-08	8.33E-07	1.90E-09	5.66E-08
	(mrem)	0	1.91E-07	1.91E-07	1.90E-07	5.46E-06	8.33E-05	1.90E-07	5.66E-06
- Meat	(mSv)	0	4.61E-10	4.60E-10	4.59E-10	1.32E-08	2.01E-07	4.59E-10	1.37E-08
	(mrem)	0	4.61E-08	4.60E-08	4.59E-08	1.32E-06	2.01E-05	4.59E-08	1.37E-06
Sum Total	(mSv)	4.79E-05	2.67E-07	2.69E-07	2.20E-04	2.26E-06	3.25E-05	2.35E-07	2.87E-05
	(mrem)	4.79E-03	2.67E-05	2.69E-05	2.20E-02	2.26E-04	3.25E-03	2.35E-05	2.87E-03

**Table 4.12-13 Annual Dose Equivalents to Nearest Resident (Teen)**  
**(Page 1 of 1)**

(Annual Liquid & Gaseous Effluents with 30 Years Soil Deposition; Full Year Occupancy)

Source		Skin	Gonads	Breast	Lung	Red Bone Marrow	Bone Surface	Thyroid	Effective Dose Equivalent
Cloud Immersion	(mSv)	7.03E-13	5.06E-13	5.93E-13	4.73E-13	4.32E-13	1.31E-12	5.00E-13	5.13E-13
	(mrem)	7.03E-11	5.06E-11	5.93E-11	4.73E-11	4.32E-11	1.31E-10	5.00E-11	5.13E-11
Grd. Plane direct	(mSv)	4.79E-05	1.93E-07	1.95E-07	1.56E-07	1.54E-07	3.74E-07	1.62E-07	1.78E-07
	(mrem)	4.79E-03	1.93E-05	1.95E-05	1.56E-05	1.54E-05	3.74E-05	1.62E-05	1.78E-05
Inhalation	(mSv)	0	2.37E-09	2.65E-09	2.61E-04	6.56E-08	9.94E-07	2.53E-09	3.15E-05
	(mrem)	0	2.37E-07	2.65E-07	2.61E-02	6.56E-06	9.94E-05	2.53E-07	3.15E-03
Ingestion -Vegetables	(mSv)	0	1.09E-07	1.08E-07	1.08E-07	3.10E-06	4.74E-05	1.08E-07	3.22E-06
	(mrem)	0	1.09E-05	1.08E-05	1.08E-05	3.10E-04	4.74E-03	1.08E-05	3.22E-04
- Leafy Vegetables	(mSv)	0	9.56E-09	9.51E-09	9.51E-09	2.72E-07	4.16E-06	9.50E-09	2.83E-07
	(mrem)	0	9.56E-07	9.51E-07	9.51E-07	2.72E-05	4.16E-04	9.50E-07	2.83E-05
- Milk	(mSv)	0	3.71E-09	3.70E-09	3.69E-09	1.06E-07	1.62E-06	3.69E-09	1.10E-07
	(mrem)	0	3.71E-07	3.70E-07	3.69E-07	1.06E-05	1.62E-04	3.69E-07	1.10E-05
- Meat	(mSv)	0	4.10E-10	4.08E-10	4.08E-10	1.17E-08	1.79E-07	4.08E-10	1.21E-08
	(mrem)	0	4.10E-08	4.08E-08	4.08E-08	1.17E-06	1.79E-05	4.08E-08	1.21E-06
Sum Total	(mSv)	4.79E-05	3.18E-07	3.19E-07	2.61E-04	3.71E-06	5.47E-05	2.86E-07	3.53E-05
	(mrem)	4.79E-03	3.18E-05	3.19E-05	2.61E-02	3.71E-04	5.47E-03	2.86E-05	3.53E-03

**Table 4.12-14 Annual Dose Equivalents to Nearest Resident (Child)**  
**(Page 1 of 1)**

(Annual Liquid & Gaseous Effluents with 30 Years Soil Deposition; Full Year Occupancy)

Source		Skin	Gonads	Breast	Lung	Red Bone Marrow	Bone Surface	Thyroid	Effective Dose Equivalent
Cloud Immersion	(mSv)	7.03E-13	5.06E-13	5.93E-13	4.73E-13	4.32E-13	1.31E-12	5.00E-13	5.13E-13
	(mrem)	7.03E-11	5.06E-11	5.93E-11	4.73E-11	4.32E-11	1.31E-10	5.00E-11	5.13E-11
Grd. Plane direct	(mSv)	4.79E-05	1.93E-07	1.95E-07	1.56E-07	1.54E-07	3.74E-07	1.62E-07	1.78E-07
	(mrem)	4.79E-03	1.93E-05	1.95E-05	1.56E-05	1.54E-05	3.74E-05	1.62E-05	1.78E-05
Inhalation	(mSv)	0	1.86E-09	2.09E-09	2.07E-04	5.17E-08	7.84E-07	1.99E-09	2.49E-05
	(mrem)	0	1.86E-07	2.09E-07	2.07E-02	5.17E-06	7.84E-05	1.99E-07	2.49E-03
Ingestion -Vegetables	(mSv)	0	1.07E-07	1.07E-07	1.06E-07	3.05E-06	4.66E-05	1.06E-07	3.16E-06
	(mrem)	0	1.07E-05	1.07E-05	1.06E-05	3.05E-04	4.66E-03	1.06E-05	3.16E-04
- Leafy Vegetables	(mSv)	0	7.05E-09	7.01E-09	6.99E-09	2.01E-07	3.07E-06	6.99E-09	2.08E-07
	(mrem)	0	7.05E-07	7.01E-07	6.99E-07	2.01E-05	3.07E-04	6.99E-07	2.08E-05
- Milk	(mSv)	0	3.65E-09	3.63E-09	3.62E-09	1.04E-07	1.59E-06	3.62E-09	1.08E-07
	(mrem)	0	3.65E-07	3.63E-07	3.62E-07	1.04E-05	1.59E-04	3.62E-07	1.08E-05
- Meat	(mSv)	0	3.08E-10	3.07E-10	3.06E-10	8.78E-09	1.34E-07	3.06E-10	9.11E-09
	(mrem)	0	3.08E-08	3.07E-08	3.06E-08	8.78E-07	1.34E-05	3.06E-08	9.11E-07
Sum Total	(mSv)	4.79E-05	3.13E-07	3.15E-07	2.07E-04	3.57E-06	5.26E-05	2.81E-07	2.86E-05
	(mrem)	4.79E-03	3.13E-05	3.15E-05	2.07E-02	3.57E-04	5.26E-03	2.81E-05	2.86E-03

**Table 4.12-15 Annual Dose Equivalents to Nearest Resident (Infant)**  
**(Page 1 of 1)**

(Annual Liquid & Gaseous Effluents with 30 Years Soil Deposition; Full Year Occupancy)

Source		Skin	Gonads	Breast	Lung	Red Bone Marrow	Bone Surface	Thyroid	Effective Dose Equivalent
Cloud Immersion	(mSv)	7.03E-13	5.06E-13	5.93E-13	4.73E-13	4.32E-13	1.31E-12	5.00E-13	5.13E-13
	(mrem)	7.03E-11	5.06E-11	5.93E-11	4.73E-11	4.32E-11	1.31E-10	5.00E-11	5.13E-11
Grd. Plane direct	(mSv)	4.79E-05	1.93E-07	1.95E-07	1.56E-07	1.54E-07	3.74E-07	1.62E-07	1.78E-07
	(mrem)	4.79E-03	1.93E-05	1.95E-05	1.56E-05	1.54E-05	3.74E-05	1.62E-05	1.78E-05
Inhalation	(mSv)	0	1.46E-09	1.64E-09	1.62E-04	4.04E-08	6.14E-07	1.56E-09	1.95E-05
	(mrem)	0	1.46E-07	1.64E-07	1.62E-02	4.04E-06	6.14E-05	1.56E-07	1.95E-03
Ingestion -Vegetables	(mSv)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	(mrem)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
- Leafy Vegetables	(mSv)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	(mrem)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
- Milk	(mSv)	0	1.52E-08	1.52E-08	1.51E-08	4.34E-07	6.63E-06	1.51E-08	4.50E-07
	(mrem)	0	1.52E-06	1.52E-06	1.51E-06	4.34E-05	6.63E-04	1.51E-06	4.50E-05
- Meat	(mSv)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	(mrem)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sum Total	(mSv)	4.79E-05	2.10E-07	2.12E-07	1.62E-04	6.28E-07	7.62E-06	1.79E-07	2.01E-05
	(mrem)	4.79E-03	2.10E-05	2.12E-05	1.62E-02	6.28E-05	7.62E-04	1.79E-05	2.01E-03



**Table 4.12-16 Annual Dose Equivalents to Nearby Business (Adult)**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Location: Nearby Business [Potato Storage Facility– SW, assumed 4 km (2.5 mi)]  
(Annual Liquid & Gaseous Effluents with 30 Years Soil Deposition; 2000 hrs /yr Occupancy)

Source		Skin	Gonads	Breast	Lung	Red Bone Marrow	Bone Surface	Thyroid	Effective Dose Equivalent
Cloud Immersion	(mSv)	4.20E-13	3.03E-13	3.56E-13	2.83E-13	2.58E-13	7.84E-13	2.99E-13	3.08E-13
	(mrem)	4.20E-11	3.03E-11	3.56E-11	2.83E-11	2.58E-11	7.84E-11	2.99E-11	3.08E-11
Grd. Plane direct	(mSv)	2.22E-05	8.94E-08	9.03E-08	7.25E-08	7.14E-08	1.74E-07	7.52E-08	8.25E-08
	(mrem)	2.22E-03	8.94E-06	9.03E-06	7.25E-06	7.14E-06	1.74E-05	7.52E-06	8.25E-06
Inhalation	(mSv)	0.00E+00	1.19E-09	1.33E-09	1.31E-04	3.28E-08	4.99E-07	1.27E-09	1.58E-05
	(mrem)	0.00E+00	1.19E-07	1.33E-07	1.31E-02	3.28E-06	4.99E-05	1.27E-07	1.58E-03
Ingestion -Vegetables	(mSv)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	(mrem)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Leafy Vegetables	(mSv)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	(mrem)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Milk	(mSv)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	(mrem)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Meat	(mSv)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	(mrem)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sum Total	(mSv)	2.22E-05	9.06E-08	9.16E-08	1.31E-04	1.04E-07	6.73E-07	7.65E-08	1.59E-05
	(mrem)	2.22E-03	9.06E-06	9.16E-06	1.31E-02	1.04E-05	6.73E-05	7.65E-06	1.59E-03

-- No exposure pathway assumed for receptor group.

**Table 4.12-17 Annual Dose Equivalents to Maximum Site Boundary (Adult)**  
**(Page 1 of 1)**

Location: Maximum Site Boundaries – NNE at 1.1 km (0.67 mi) based on D/Q; N at 1.1 km (0.67 mi) based on depleted  $\chi/Q$ .  
(Annual Liquid & Gaseous Effluents with 30 Years Soil Deposition; 2000 hrs /yr Occupancy)

Source		Skin	Gonads	Breast	Lung	Red Bone Marrow	Bone Surface	Thyroid	Effective Dose Equivalent
Cloud Immersion	(mSv)	3.90E-12	2.80E-12	3.28E-12	2.62E-12	2.39E-12	7.27E-12	2.78E-12	2.85E-12
	(mrem)	3.90E-10	2.80E-10	3.28E-10	2.62E-10	2.39E-10	7.27E-10	2.78E-10	2.85E-10
Grd. Plane direct	(mSv)	3.24E-04	1.31E-06	1.32E-06	1.06E-06	1.04E-06	2.53E-06	1.10E-06	1.21E-06
	(mrem)	3.24E-02	1.31E-04	1.32E-04	1.06E-04	1.04E-04	2.53E-04	1.10E-04	1.21E-04
Inhalation	(mSv)	0	1.10E-08	1.23E-08	1.22E-03	3.06E-07	4.63E-06	1.18E-08	1.46E-04
	(mrem)	0	1.10E-06	1.23E-06	1.22E-01	3.06E-05	4.63E-04	1.18E-06	1.46E-02
Ingestion -Vegetables	(mSv)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	(mrem)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Leafy Vegetables	(mSv)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	(mrem)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Milk	(mSv)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	(mrem)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Meat	(mSv)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	(mrem)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sum Total	(mSv)	3.24E-04	1.32E-06	1.33E-06	1.22E-03	1.35E-06	7.16E-06	1.11E-06	1.48E-04
	(mrem)	3.24E-02	1.32E-04	1.33E-04	1.22E-01	1.35E-04	7.16E-04	1.11E-04	1.48E-02

-- No exposure pathway assumed for receptor group.

**Table 4.12-18 Annual Dose Equivalents to Maximum Hypothetical Resident (Adult)**  
**(Page 1 of 1)**

Location: Maximum Site Boundaries – NNE at 1.1 km (0.67 mi) based on D/Q; N at 1.1 km (0.67 mi) based on depleted  $\chi/Q$ .  
(Annual Liquid & Gaseous Effluents with 30 Years Soil Deposition, Full Year Occupancy)

Source		Skin	Gonads	Breast	Lung	Red Bone Marrow	Bone Surface	Thyroid	Effective Dose Equivalent
Cloud Immersion	(mSv)	1.71E-11	1.23E-11	1.44E-11	1.15E-11	1.05E-11	3.19E-11	1.22E-11	1.25E-11
	(mrem)	1.71E-09	1.23E-09	1.44E-09	1.15E-09	1.05E-09	3.19E-09	1.22E-09	1.25E-09
Grd. Plane direct	(mSv)	1.42E-03	5.73E-06	5.79E-06	4.65E-06	4.57E-06	1.11E-05	4.83E-06	5.29E-06
	(mrem)	1.42E-01	5.73E-04	5.79E-04	4.65E-04	4.57E-04	1.11E-03	4.83E-04	5.29E-04
Inhalation	(mSv)	0	4.82E-08	5.41E-08	5.34E-03	1.34E-06	2.03E-05	5.16E-08	6.42E-04
	(mrem)	0	4.82E-06	5.41E-06	5.34E-01	1.34E-04	2.03E-03	5.16E-06	6.42E-02
Ingestion -Vegetables	(mSv)	0	1.78E-06	1.77E-06	1.77E-06	5.07E-05	7.74E-04	1.77E-06	5.26E-05
	(mrem)	0	1.78E-04	1.77E-04	1.77E-04	5.07E-03	7.74E-02	1.77E-04	5.26E-03
- Leafy Vegetables	(mSv)	0	2.88E-07	2.87E-07	2.86E-07	8.21E-06	1.25E-04	2.86E-07	8.52E-06
	(mrem)	0	2.88E-05	2.87E-05	2.86E-05	8.21E-04	1.25E-02	2.86E-05	8.52E-04
- Milk	(mSv)	0	5.69E-08	5.67E-08	5.65E-08	1.62E-06	2.48E-05	5.65E-08	1.68E-06
	(mrem)	0	5.69E-06	5.67E-06	5.65E-06	1.62E-04	2.48E-03	5.65E-06	1.68E-04
- Meat	(mSv)	0	1.37E-08	1.37E-08	1.36E-08	3.92E-07	5.98E-06	1.36E-08	4.06E-07
	(mrem)	0	1.37E-06	1.37E-06	1.36E-06	3.92E-05	5.98E-04	1.36E-06	4.06E-05
Sum Total	(mSv)	1.42E-03	7.92E-06	7.97E-06	5.35E-03	6.68E-05	9.61E-04	7.01E-06	7.10E-04
	(mrem)	1.42E-01	7.92E-04	7.97E-04	5.35E-01	6.68E-03	9.61E-02	7.01E-04	7.10E-02

**Table 4.12-19 Annual Dose Equivalents to Maximum Hypothetical Resident (Teen)**  
**(Page 1 of 1)**

Location: Maximum Site Boundaries – NNE at 1.1 km (0.67 mi) based on D/Q; N at 1.1 km (0.67 mi) based on depleted  $\chi/Q$ .  
(Annual Liquid & Gaseous Effluents with 30 Years Soil Deposition, Full Year Occupancy)

Source		Skin	Gonads	Breast	Lung	Red Bone Marrow	Bone Surface	Thyroid	Effective Dose Equivalent
Cloud Immersion	(mSv)	1.71E-11	1.23E-11	1.44E-11	1.15E-11	1.05E-11	3.19E-11	1.22E-11	1.25E-11
	(mrem)	1.71E-09	1.23E-09	1.44E-09	1.15E-09	1.05E-09	3.19E-09	1.22E-09	1.25E-09
Grd. Plane direct	(mSv)	1.42E-03	5.73E-06	5.79E-06	4.65E-06	4.57E-06	1.11E-05	4.83E-06	5.29E-06
	(mrem)	1.42E-01	5.73E-04	5.79E-04	4.65E-04	4.57E-04	1.11E-03	4.83E-04	5.29E-04
Inhalation	(mSv)	0	5.77E-08	6.44E-08	6.36E-03	1.60E-06	2.42E-05	6.15E-08	7.66E-04
	(mrem)	0	5.77E-06	6.44E-06	6.36E-01	1.60E-04	2.42E-03	6.15E-06	7.66E-02
Ingestion -Vegetables	(mSv)	0	3.24E-06	3.22E-06	3.22E-06	9.23E-05	1.41E-03	3.22E-06	9.58E-05
	(mrem)	0	3.24E-04	3.22E-04	3.22E-04	9.23E-03	1.41E-01	3.22E-04	9.58E-03
- Leafy Vegetables	(mSv)	0	2.84E-07	2.83E-07	2.83E-07	8.10E-06	1.24E-04	2.83E-07	8.40E-06
	(mrem)	0	2.84E-05	2.83E-05	2.83E-05	8.10E-04	1.24E-02	2.83E-05	8.40E-04
- Milk	(mSv)	0	1.10E-07	1.10E-07	1.10E-07	3.15E-06	4.81E-05	1.10E-07	3.27E-06
	(mrem)	0	1.10E-05	1.10E-05	1.10E-05	3.15E-04	4.81E-03	1.10E-05	3.27E-04
- Meat	(mSv)	0	1.22E-08	1.21E-08	1.21E-08	3.48E-07	5.31E-06	1.21E-08	3.61E-07
	(mrem)	0	1.22E-06	1.21E-06	1.21E-06	3.48E-05	5.31E-04	1.21E-06	3.61E-05
Sum Total	(mSv)	1.42E-03	9.43E-06	9.48E-06	6.37E-03	1.10E-04	1.62E-03	8.52E-06	8.79E-04
	(mrem)	1.42E-01	9.43E-04	9.48E-04	6.37E-01	1.10E-02	1.62E-01	8.52E-04	8.79E-02

**Table 4.12-20 Annual Dose Equivalents to Maximum Hypothetical Resident (Child)**  
**(Page 1 of 1)**

Location: Maximum Site Boundaries – NNE at 1.1 km (0.67 mi) based on D/Q; N at 1.1 km (0.67 mi) based on depleted  $\chi/Q$ .  
(Annual Liquid & Gaseous Effluents with 30 Years Soil Deposition, Full Year Occupancy)

Source		Skin	Gonads	Breast	Lung	Red Bone Marrow	Bone Surface	Thyroid	Effective Dose Equivalent
Cloud Immersion	(mSv)	1.71E-11	1.23E-11	1.44E-11	1.15E-11	1.05E-11	3.19E-11	1.22E-11	1.25E-11
	(mrem)	1.71E-09	1.23E-09	1.44E-09	1.15E-09	1.05E-09	3.19E-09	1.22E-09	1.25E-09
Grd. Plane direct	(mSv)	1.42E-03	5.73E-06	5.79E-06	4.65E-06	4.57E-06	1.11E-05	4.83E-06	5.29E-06
	(mrem)	1.42E-01	5.73E-04	5.79E-04	4.65E-04	4.57E-04	1.11E-03	4.83E-04	5.29E-04
Inhalation	(mSv)	0	4.53E-08	5.09E-08	5.03E-03	1.26E-06	1.91E-05	4.85E-08	6.05E-04
	(mrem)	0	4.53E-06	5.09E-06	5.03E-01	1.26E-04	1.91E-03	4.85E-06	6.05E-02
Ingestion -Vegetables	(mSv)	0	3.19E-06	3.17E-06	3.16E-06	9.07E-05	1.39E-03	3.16E-06	9.41E-05
	(mrem)	0	3.19E-04	3.17E-04	3.16E-04	9.07E-03	1.39E-01	3.16E-04	9.41E-03
- Leafy Vegetables	(mSv)	0	2.10E-07	2.09E-07	2.08E-07	5.97E-06	9.12E-05	2.08E-07	6.19E-06
	(mrem)	0	2.10E-05	2.09E-05	2.08E-05	5.97E-04	9.12E-03	2.08E-05	6.19E-04
- Milk	(mSv)	0	1.09E-07	1.08E-07	1.08E-07	3.09E-06	4.72E-05	1.08E-07	3.21E-06
	(mrem)	0	1.09E-05	1.08E-05	1.08E-05	3.09E-04	4.72E-03	1.08E-05	3.21E-04
- Meat	(mSv)	0	9.17E-09	9.13E-09	9.10E-09	2.61E-07	3.99E-06	9.10E-09	2.71E-07
	(mrem)	0	9.17E-07	9.13E-07	9.10E-07	2.61E-05	3.99E-04	9.10E-07	2.71E-05
Sum Total	(mSv)	1.42E-03	9.29E-06	9.34E-06	5.04E-03	1.06E-04	1.56E-03	8.36E-06	7.14E-04
	(mrem)	1.42E-01	9.29E-04	9.34E-04	5.04E-01	1.06E-02	1.56E-01	8.36E-04	7.14E-02

**Table 4.12-21 Annual Dose Equivalents to Maximum Hypothetical Resident (Infant)**  
**(Page 1 of 1)**

Location: Maximum Site Boundaries – NNE at 1.1 km (0.67 mi) based on D/Q; N at 1.1 km (0.67 mi) based on depleted  $\chi/Q$ .  
(Annual Liquid & Gaseous Effluents with 30 Years Soil Deposition, Full Year Occupancy)

Source		Skin	Gonads	Breast	Lung	Red Bone Marrow	Bone Surface	Thyroid	Effective Dose Equivalent
Cloud Immersion	(mSv)	1.71E-11	1.23E-11	1.44E-11	1.15E-11	1.05E-11	3.19E-11	1.22E-11	1.25E-11
	(mrem)	1.71E-09	1.23E-09	1.44E-09	1.15E-09	1.05E-09	3.19E-09	1.22E-09	1.25E-09
Grd. Plane direct	(mSv)	1.42E-03	5.73E-06	5.79E-06	4.65E-06	4.57E-06	1.11E-05	4.83E-06	5.29E-06
	(mrem)	1.42E-01	5.73E-04	5.79E-04	4.65E-04	4.57E-04	1.11E-03	4.83E-04	5.29E-04
Inhalation	(mSv)	0	3.55E-08	3.99E-08	3.94E-03	9.84E-07	1.49E-05	3.80E-08	4.73E-04
	(mrem)	0	3.55E-06	3.99E-06	3.94E-01	9.84E-05	1.49E-03	3.80E-06	4.73E-02
Ingestion -Vegetables	(mSv)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	(mrem)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
- Leafy Vegetables	(mSv)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	(mrem)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
- Milk	(mSv)	0	4.53E-07	4.51E-07	4.50E-07	1.29E-05	1.97E-04	4.50E-07	1.34E-05
	(mrem)	0	4.53E-05	4.51E-05	4.50E-05	1.29E-03	1.97E-02	4.50E-05	1.34E-03
- Meat	(mSv)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	(mrem)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sum Total	(mSv)	1.42E-03	6.22E-06	6.28E-06	3.95E-03	1.85E-05	2.23E-04	5.32E-06	4.92E-04
	(mrem)	1.42E-01	6.22E-04	6.28E-04	3.95E-01	1.85E-03	2.23E-02	5.32E-04	4.92E-02

**Table 4.12-22 Maximum Annual Gaseous & Liquid Radiological Impacts**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Category	Dose Equivalent	Location
Maximum Effective Dose Equivalent (Hypothetical Resident)	8.79E-01 $\mu$ Sv  8.79E-02 mrem	Site Boundary (NNE for D/Q) (N for $\chi$ /Q depleted)
Maximum Thyroid Committed Dose Equivalent (Hypothetical Resident)	8.52E-03 $\mu$ Sv  8.52E-04 mrem	Site Boundary (NNE for D/Q) (N for $\chi$ /Q depleted)
Maximum Organ (Lung) Committed Dose Equivalent (Hypothetical Resident)	6.37E+00 $\mu$ Sv  6.37E-01 mrem	Site Boundary (NNE for D/Q) (N for $\chi$ /Q depleted)

**Table 4.12-23 Annual Total Effective Dose Equivalent (All Sources)**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Location	Fixed Sources	Gas & Liquid Effluents	TEDE
Site Boundary (N – fixed; NNE Effl.) (2000 hrs/yr) (mSv)	0.0142	1.48E-04	0.0143
(mrem)	1.42	1.48E-02	1.43
Nearest Business (SW 4.0 km (2.5 mi)) (2000 hrs/yr) (mSv)	< 1E-12	1.59E-05	1.59E-05
(mrem)	< 1E-10	1.59E-03	1.59E-03
Nearest Resident (Teen) (8.0 km (5 mi) Max Sect. NE) (8766 hrs/yr) (mSv)	< 1E-12	3.53E-05	3.53E-05
(mrem)	< 1E-10	3.53E-03	3.53E-03
Hypothetical Max Resident (Teen) (N, NNE Site Boundary) (8766 hrs/yr) (mSv)	0.0623	8.79E-04	0.0632
(mrem)	6.23	8.79E-02	6.32



**Table 4.12-24 Estimated EREF Occupational Dose Equivalent Rates**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Area or Component	Dose Rate, mSv/hr (mrem/hr)
Plant general area (excluding Separations Building)	< 0.0001 (< 0.01)
Separations Building – Cascade Halls	0.0005 (0.05)
Separations Building – UF <sub>6</sub> Handling	0.001 (0.1)
Empty used UF <sub>6</sub> shipping cylinder	0.1 on contact (10.0) 0.010 at 1 m (3.3 ft) (1.0)
Full UF <sub>6</sub> Shipping cylinder	0.05 on contact (5.0) 0.002 at 1 m (3.3 ft) (0.2)

**Table 4.12-25 Estimated Annual EREF Occupational (Individual) Exposures**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Position	Annual Dose Equivalent	Reported Experience at Urenco, Capenhurst, UK (averages 2003 -2007)*
General Office Staff	< 0.5 mSv (< 50 mrem)**	(Not reported)
Typical Operations & Maintenance Technician	1 mSv (100 mrem)	0.32 mSv (32 mrem)
Typical Cylinder Handler	3 mSv (300 mrem)	2.55 mSv (255 mrem)

\* Average radiation worker dose values derived from the 2003 through 2007 annual Urenco (Capenhurst) Health, Safety and Environmental Reports.

\*\* ALARA considerations will be implemented to limit the annual dose equivalent to general office staff, ensuring compliance with the dose limits to members of the public specified in 10 CFR 20.1301.

(Urenco, 2003) (Urenco, 2004) (Urenco, 2005) (Urenco, 2006) (Urenco, 2007)

**Table 4.12-26 Annual Average Effluent Air Concentrations at Critical Receptors**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Location	Annual Average Depleted $\gamma/Q$ (Sec/m <sup>3</sup> )	Isotope	Annual Average Release Rate (uCi/sec)	Annual Average Release Rate (MBq/sec)	Average Airborne Concentration (uCi/m <sup>3</sup> )	Average Airborne Concentration (MBq/m <sup>3</sup> )
Maximum Site Boundary (N)	3.82E-06	U-234	8.16E-06	3.02E-07	3.12E-11	1.15E-12
		U-235	3.76E-07	1.39E-08	1.44E-12	5.32E-14
		U-236	5.20E-08	1.92E-09	1.99E-13	7.35E-15
		U-238	8.14E-06	3.01E-07	3.11E-11	1.15E-12
Nearest Resident (8 km (5 mi) N)	1.57E-07	U-234	8.16E-06	3.02E-07	1.28E-12	4.74E-14
		U-235	3.76E-07	1.39E-08	5.91E-14	2.18E-15
		U-236	5.20E-08	1.92E-09	8.16E-15	3.02E-16
		U-238	8.14E-06	3.01E-07	1.28E-12	4.73E-14
Maxi Off-site Business (4 km (2.5 mi) SW)	4.12E-07	U-234	8.16E-06	3.02E-07	3.36E-12	1.24E-13
		U-235	3.76E-07	1.39E-08	1.55E-13	5.73E-15
		U-236	5.20E-08	1.92E-09	2.14E-14	7.92E-16
		U-238	8.14E-06	3.01E-07	3.35E-12	1.24E-13

**Table 4.12-27 30 Years Accumulative Soil Concentrations at Critical Receptors**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Location	Annual Average Deposition D/Q (1/m <sup>2</sup> )	Isotope	Annual Average Release Rate (uCi/yr)	Annual Average Release Rate (MBq/yr)	30 Year Soil deposition (uCi/m <sup>2</sup> )	30 Year Soil deposition (MBq/m <sup>2</sup> )
Maximum Site Boundary (NNE)	1.71E-08	U-234	257.54	9.529	1.32E-04	4.89E-06
		U-235	11.87	0.439	6.09E-06	2.25E-07
		U-236	1.64	0.061	8.41E-07	3.11E-08
		U-238	256.95	9.507	1.32E-04	4.88E-06
Nearest Resident (8 km (5 mi) NE)	5.75E-10	U-234	257.54	9.529	4.44E-06	1.64E-07
		U-235	11.87	0.439	2.05E-07	7.58E-09
		U-236	1.64	0.061	2.83E-08	1.05E-09
		U-238	256.95	9.507	4.43E-06	1.64E-07
Maximum Off-site Business (4 km (2.5 mi) SW)	1.17E-09	U-234	257.54	9.529	9.04E-06	3.34E-07
		U-235	11.87	0.439	4.17E-07	1.54E-08
		U-236	1.64	0.061	5.76E-08	2.13E-09
		U-238	256.95	9.507	9.02E-06	3.34E-07

**Table 4.12-28 Accident Criteria Chemical Exposure Limits by Category**  
(Page 1 of 1)

	<b>High Consequence (Category 3)</b>	<b>Intermediate Consequence (Category 2)</b>
Worker (in the room)	> 216 mg UF <sub>6</sub> /m <sup>3</sup> > 139 mg HF/m <sup>3</sup>	> 28 mg UF <sub>6</sub> /m <sup>3</sup> > 78 mg HF/m <sup>3</sup>
Outside Controlled Area (30-minute exposure)	> 28 mg HF/m <sup>3</sup> > 21 mg U Intake	> 0.8 mg HF/m <sup>3</sup> > 4.06 mg U Intake
Environment (outside Restricted Area)	Not Applicable	> 5.47 mg U/m <sup>3</sup>

**Table 4.12-29 Causes of Injuries at Capenhurst (2003-2007)**  
(Page 1 of 1)

<b>Main Causes of Injury at UCL 2003-2007</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent of Total</b>
Vehicles	1	<b>0.8%</b>
Slip, trip, fall on same level	16	<b>13.1%</b>
Chemical	6	<b>4.9%</b>
Impact, striking or falling objects	30	<b>24.6%</b>
Minor electric shock	1	<b>0.8%</b>
Handling tools, equipment or other items	45	<b>36.9%</b>
Lifting, pushing or pulling	3	<b>2.5%</b>
Slip when changing level	7	<b>5.7%</b>
Trap in Door	2	<b>1.6%</b>
Bending (no lifting)	2	<b>1.6%</b>
Dust in eye	2	<b>1.6%</b>
Manual handling of loads	5	<b>4.1%</b>
Loud Noise	1	<b>0.8%</b>
Over-stretching	1	<b>0.8%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>100%</b>

Sources: (Urenco, 2003; Urenco, 2004; Urenco, 2005; Urenco, 2006; Urenco, 2007)

## FIGURES

Security-Related Information  
Figure Withheld Under 10 CFR 2.390

**Figure 4.12-1**

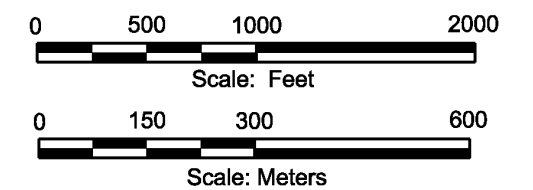
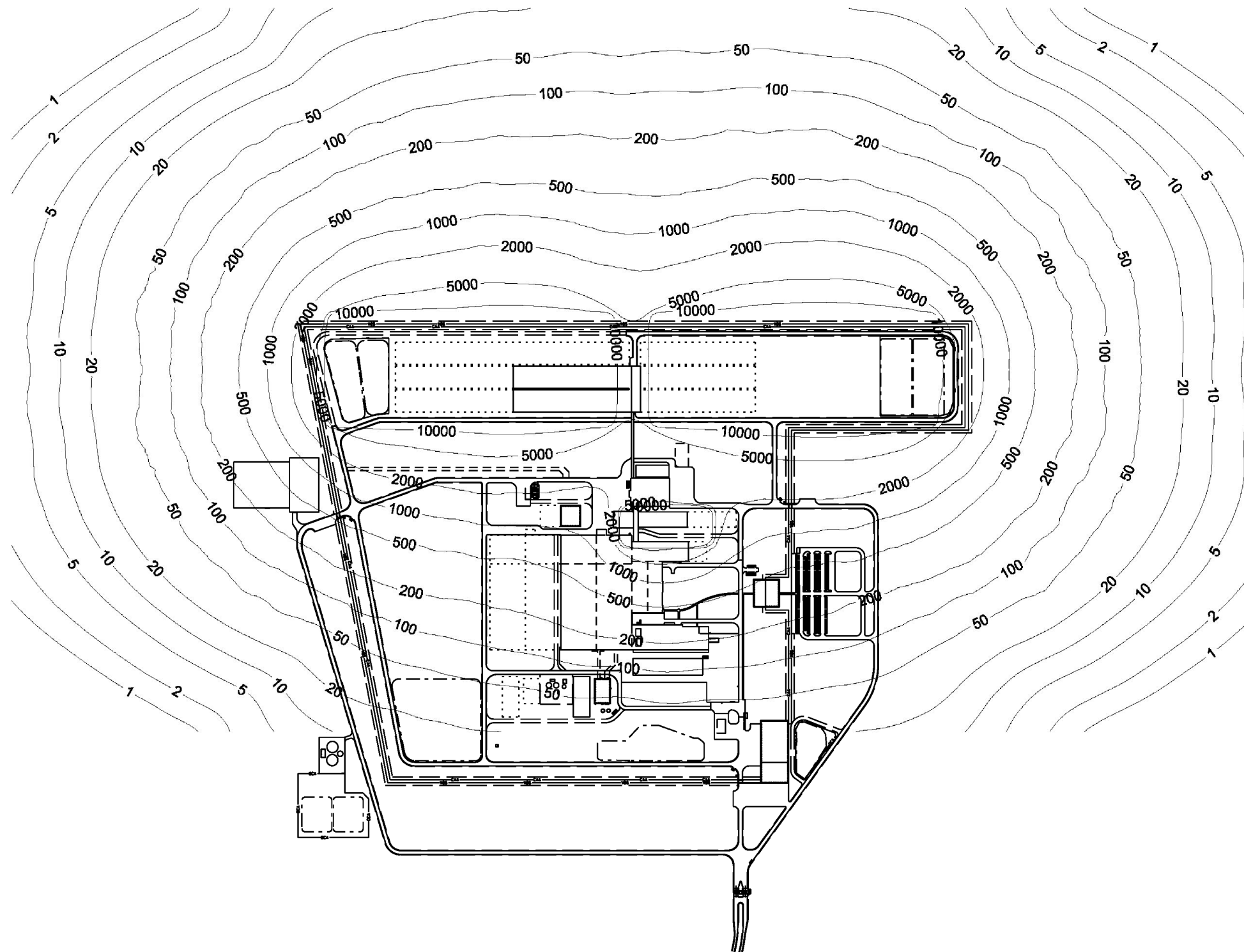
**Rev. 4**

Site Plan

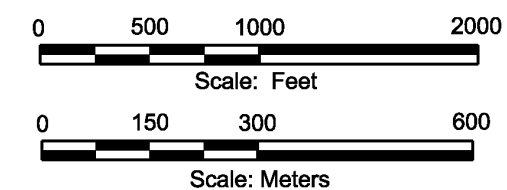
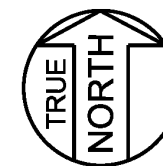
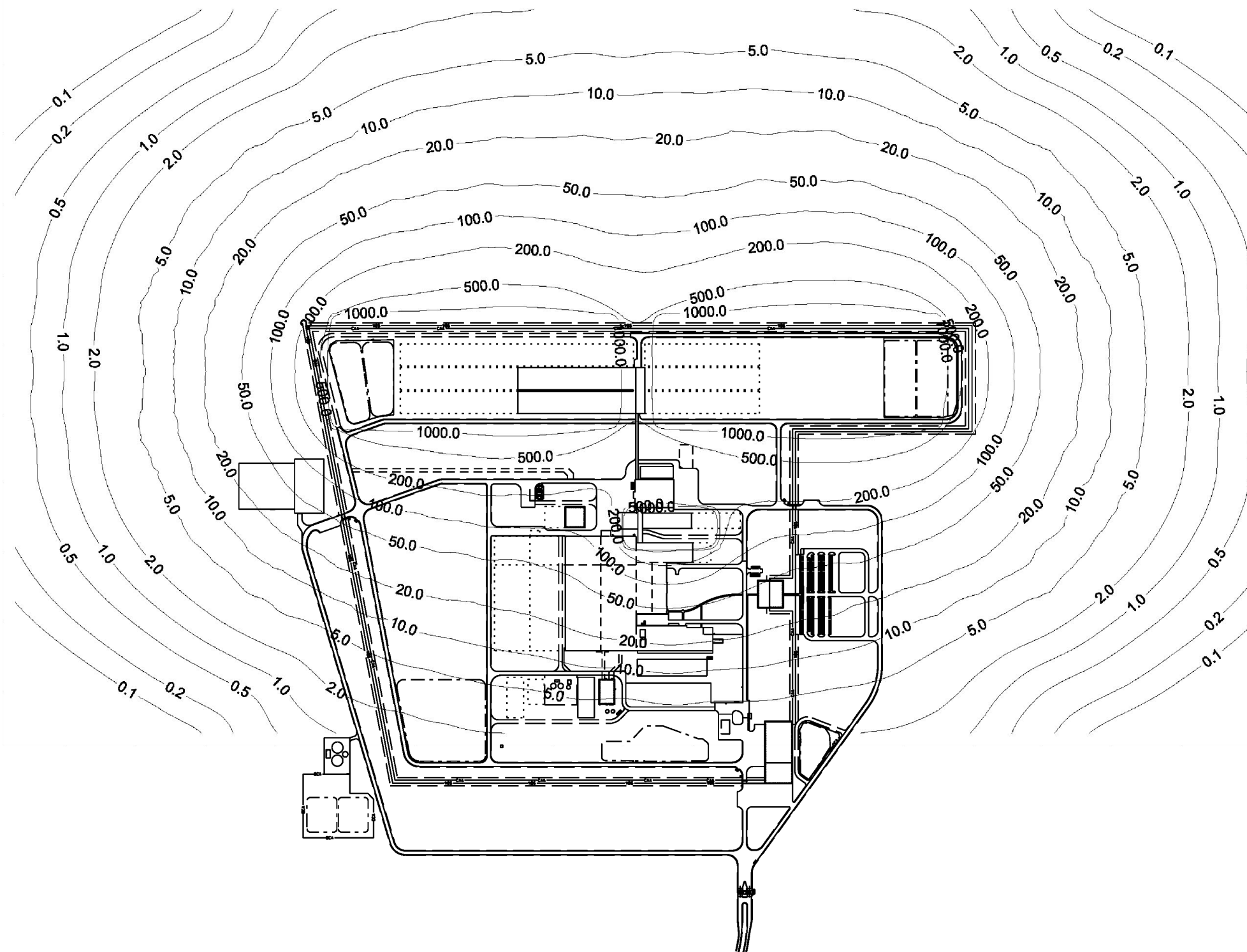
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ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT**



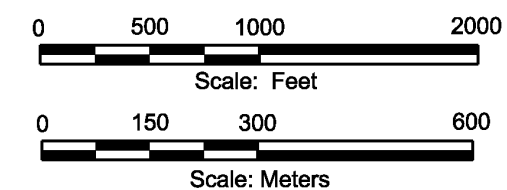
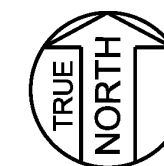
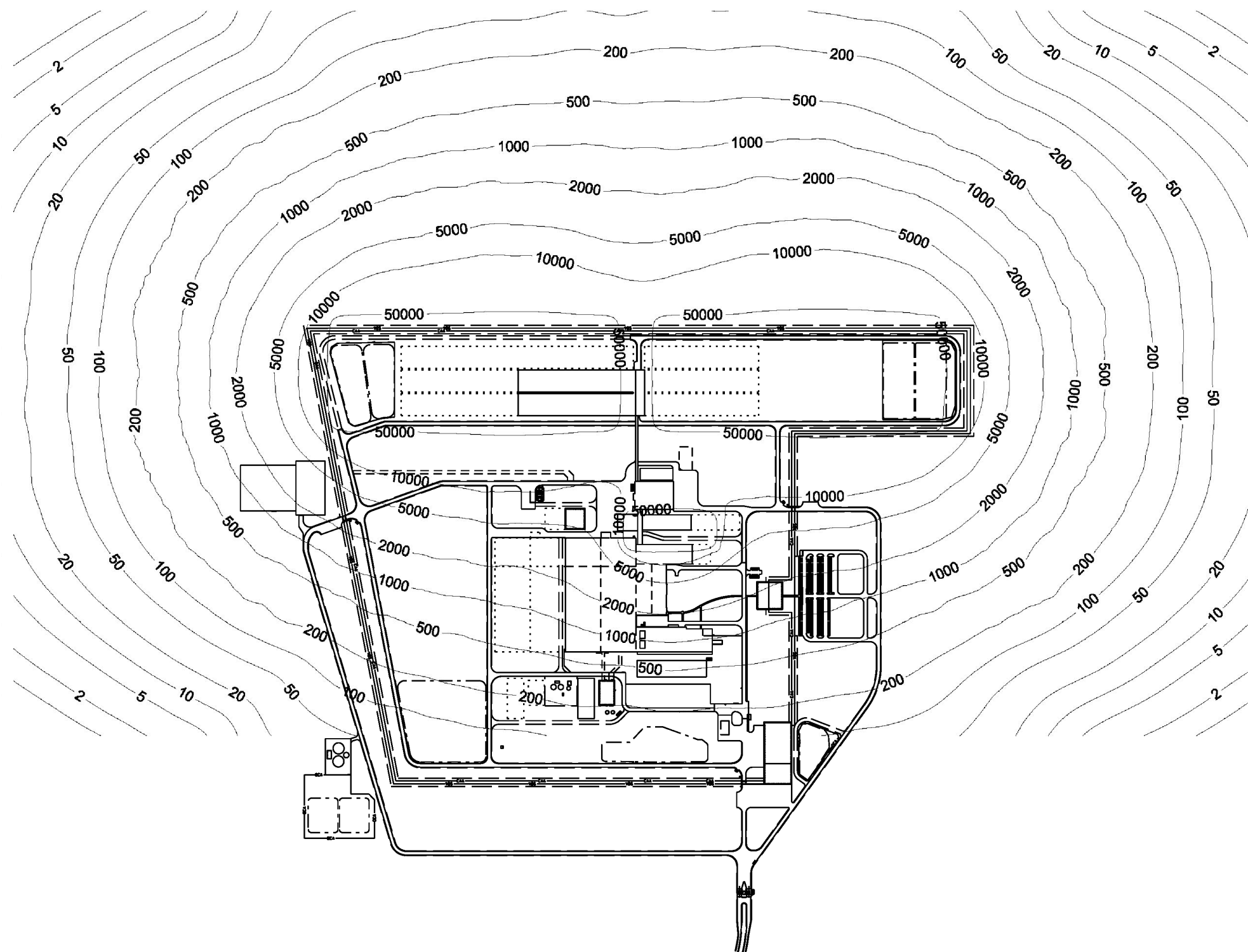
**Figure 4.12-2, Facility Layout for Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility,  
contains Security-Related Information  
Withheld from Disclosure under 10 CFR 2.390**



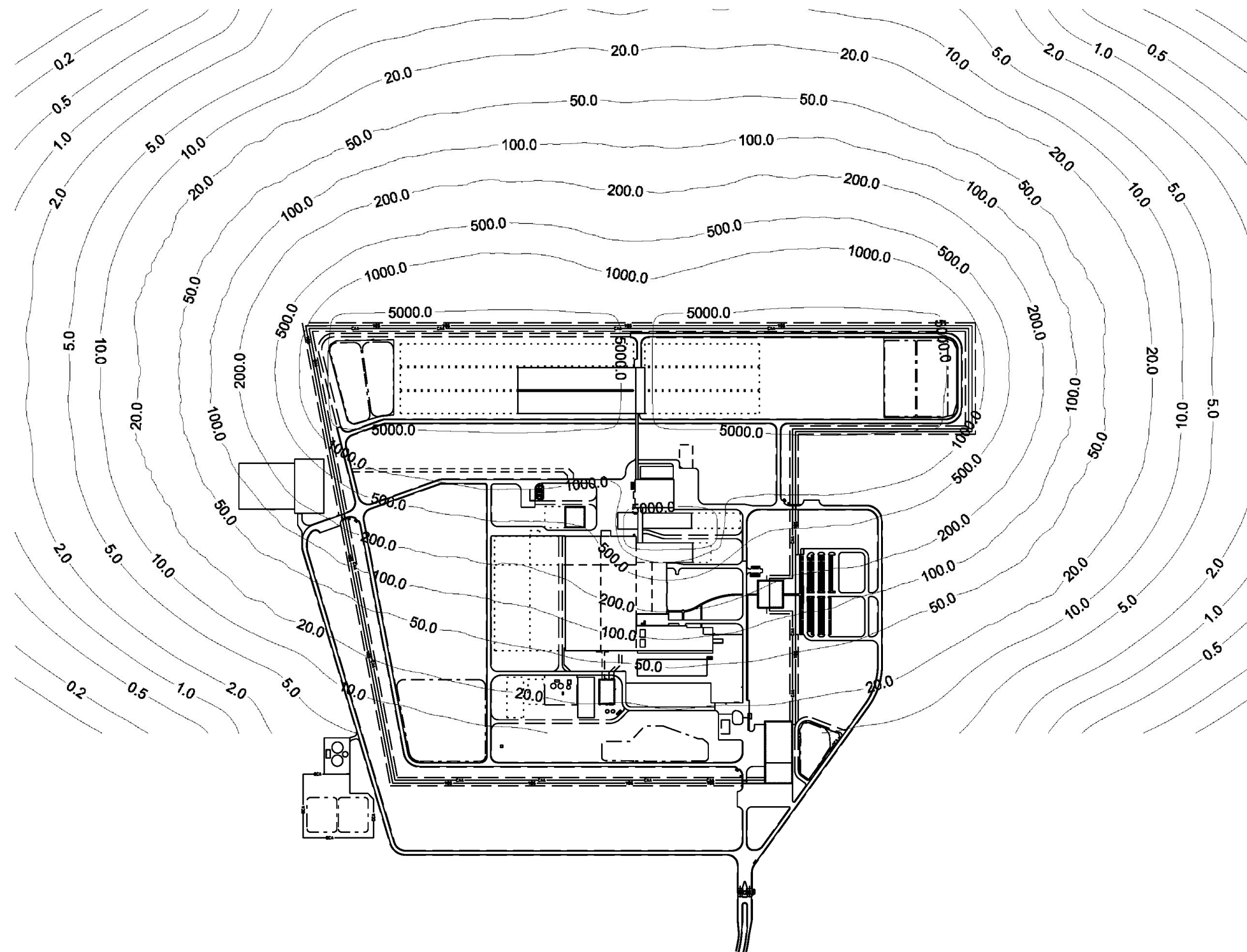
**Figure 4.12-3** **Rev. 4**  
 Combined Cylinder Storage Pad Dose  
 Equivalent Isopleths (micro Sv/2000 hrs)  
**EAGLE ROCK ENRICHMENT FACILITY**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT**



**Figure 4.12-4** **Rev. 4**  
 Combined Cylinder Storage Pad  
 Dose Equivalent Isopleths (mrem/2000 hrs)  
**EAGLE ROCK ENRICHMENT FACILITY**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT**



**Figure 4.12-5** **Rev. 4**  
 Combined Cylinder Storage Pad Annual  
 Dose Equivalent Isopleths (micro Sv/8766 hrs)  
**EAGLE ROCK ENRICHMENT FACILITY**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT**



**Figure 4.12-6** **Rev. 4**  
 Combined Cylinder Storage Pad Annual  
 Dose Equivalent Isopleths (mrem/8766 hrs)  
**EAGLE ROCK ENRICHMENT FACILITY**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT**

#### **4.13      WASTE MANAGEMENT IMPACTS**

The preferred location for non-hazardous construction-related waste is the Bonneville County's construction and demolition landfill (currently the Hatch Pit). When the Hatch Pit approaches its maximum capacity as determined by Bonneville County, a new landfill for construction and demolition wastes will either be opened by Bonneville County or another location found, as alternative locations for disposal of non-hazardous construction-related waste exist in Bingham and Jefferson Counties. These counties are within a reasonable haul distance of the EREF. AES contacted these counties and both acknowledged that they accept construction and demolition waste from outside their respective borders.

Solid waste generated at the Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility (EREF) will be disposed of at licensed facilities designed to accept the various waste types. Approximately 70,307 kg/yr (155,000 lbs/yr) of industrial waste including miscellaneous trash, filters, resins, and paper will be generated annually by the EREF. It will be collected and disposed of by a licensed solid waste disposal contractor. It could be disposed of at the Bonneville County Peterson Landfill that accepted 81,647 MT (90,000 tons) of waste in 2007 and will maintain this yearly waste capacity for the next 80 years. The impact of the additional waste from the EREF is very small in that it represents less than one-tenth of one percent of the Peterson Hill annual landfill capacity. Radioactive waste will be collected in labeled containers in each Restricted Area and transferred to the Solid Waste Collection Room for inspection. Suitable waste will be volume-reduced and all radioactive waste disposed of at a licensed LLW disposal facility. Hazardous and some mixed wastes will be collected at the point of generation, transferred to the Solid Waste Collection Room, inspected, and classified. Any mixed waste that may be processed to meet land disposal requirements may be treated in its original collection container and shipped as LLW for disposal. There will be no on-site disposal of solid waste at the EREF. Waste Management Impacts for on-site disposal, therefore, need not be evaluated. On site storage of depleted UF<sub>6</sub> (DUF<sub>6</sub>) cylinders will minimally impact the environment. A pathway assessment for the temporary storage of DUF<sub>6</sub> on the Northern Cylinder Storage Pads is provided in Section 4.13.3.2, DUF<sub>6</sub> Cylinder Storage.

EREF will generate approximately 5,062 kg (11,160 lbs) of Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) hazardous wastes per year and 100 kg (220 lbs) per year of mixed waste. Under Idaho regulations, (IDA, 2008) EREF will be considered a small quantity generator (SQG) if it accumulates less than 1,000 kg (2,200 lbs) but more than 100 kg (220 lbs) of hazardous waste per month. As an SQG, EREF will be required to file an annual report to the state and to pay an annual fee. Since the EREF plans to ship all hazardous wastes off-site within the allowed timeframe, 180 days, no further permitting as a Treatment, Storage and Disposal facility will be necessary and the impacts for such systems need not be evaluated.

##### **4.13.1      Waste Descriptions**

Descriptions of the sources, types and quantities of solid, hazardous, radioactive and mixed wastes generated by EREF during construction and operation are provided in Section 3.12, Waste Management.

##### **4.13.2      Waste Management System Description**

Descriptions of the EREF waste management systems are provided in Section 3.12.

### **4.13.3 Waste Disposal Plans**

#### **4.13.3.1 Radioactive and Mixed Waste Disposal Plans**

Solid radioactive wastes are produced in a number of plant activities and require a variety of methods for treatment and disposal. These wastes, as well as the generation and handling systems, are described in detail in Section 3.12, Waste Management.

All radioactive and mixed wastes will be disposed of at off-site licensed facilities. Table 4.13-1, Possible Radioactive Waste Processing/Disposal Facilities, summarizes the facilities that may be used to process or dispose of EREF radioactive or mixed waste.

Idaho is a member of the Northwest Interstate Compact on Low Level Radioactive Waste Management and, as such, is entitled to dispose of low level radioactive waste at the facility operated by U.S. Ecology, a subsidiary of American Ecology, near Richland, Washington. This site is licensed to accept Class A, B and C low level radioactive waste. It does not accept mixed waste. The disposal site is about 885 km (550 mi) from the EREF.

The Clive, Utah site is owned and operated privately by EnergySolutions of Utah. This low-level waste disposal site is licensed by the State of Utah pursuant to its authority as an agreement state to accept for disposal radioactive waste including byproduct material (Utah, 2008) and certain mixed waste (Utah, 2003). The disposal site is approximately 475 km (295 mi) from the EREF.

The EREF may send wastes that are candidates for volume reduction, recycling, or treatment to EnergySolutions facilities in Oak Ridge, Tennessee that have the ability to volume reduce most Class A low level wastes and to process contaminated oils and some mixed wastes. Other processing vendors may be used to process EREF waste depending on future availability. The Oak Ridge processing facilities are approximately 3,068 km (1,907 mi) from the EREF.

With regard to  $\text{DUF}_6$  disposal, DOE has contracted with Uranium Disposition Services, LLC UDS for the construction and operation of  $\text{DUF}_6$  conversion facilities in Paducah, Kentucky, and Portsmouth, Ohio. The deconversion facilities will convert the  $\text{DUF}_6$  to a more stable and easily stored uranium oxide. This action was taken following the earlier enactment of Section 3113 of the USEC Privatization Act (USC, 2000) and related subsequent legislation, which require that the Secretary of Energy accept for disposal  $\text{DUF}_6$  generated by an NRC-licensed facility such as the EREF for a fee. Per conversation with the Paducah, Kentucky Plant Manager on November 26, 2008, the Paducah, Kentucky and Portsmouth, Ohio deconversion facilities are scheduled to begin accepting  $\text{DUF}_6$  in September 2010 and May 2010, respectively. Although other options will likely be available to the EREF, AREVA Enrichment Services' (AES's) intention is to transport its  $\text{DUF}_6$  to the DOE facilities after temporary on-site storage for conversion and subsequent disposition by the U.S. Department of Energy. The environmental impacts of converting  $\text{DUF}_6$  are addressed in Final Environmental Impact Statements for the Paducah and Portsmouth facilities (DOE, 2004c) (DOE, 2004d) (DOE, 2007c) (FR, 2007).

#### **4.13.3.2 $\text{DUF}_6$ Cylinder Temporary Storage**

The EREF yields a  $\text{DUF}_6$  stream that will be temporarily stored on-site in cylinders before transfer to a DOE deconversion facility and subsequent disposition. The storage containers are referred to as Full Tails Cylinders although any partially filled tails cylinders will be maintained, controlled and dispositioned in the same manner as full tails cylinders. The storage locations are designated the Northern Cylinder Storage Pads.

The disposition of the DUF<sub>6</sub> Cylinders includes temporary on-site storage of cylinders followed by transport to the new deconversion facilities under construction at the sites of the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant (GDP) and the former Portsmouth GDP as discussed below in ER Section 4.13.3.4, Depleted UF<sub>6</sub> Disposition. AES is committed to ensuring that the storage of DUF<sub>6</sub> on site will not extend beyond the licensed life of the plant and that it will be conducted in a safe, secure, and monitored manner until removed by DOE. In addition, AES will provide financial assurance through a letter of credit to assure adequate funding is in place to safely dispose all DUF<sub>6</sub> Cylinders (see SAR Chapter 10, Decommissioning).

Cylinders placed on the Cylinder Storage Pads normally have no surface contamination due to restrictions placed on surface contamination levels by plant operating procedures. Nonetheless, since they will be stored for a time on the pad, there is the remote possibility of stormwater runoff becoming contaminated with UF<sub>6</sub> or its derivatives. The runoff water will, therefore, be directed to Cylinder Storage Pad Stormwater Retention Basins that are lined and designed to minimize ground infiltration. Each basin is sampled under the site's environmental monitoring plan. The sources of the potential water runoff contamination (albeit unlikely) would be either residual contamination on the cylinders from routine handling, or accidental releases of UF<sub>6</sub> and its derivatives resulting from a leaking cylinder or cylinder valve caused by corrosion, transportation or handling accidents, or other factors. Operational evidence, however, suggests that breaches in cylinders and the resulting leaks are "self-sealing" as described below.

The chemical and physical properties of UF<sub>6</sub> can pose potential health risks, and the material is handled accordingly. Uranium and its decay products emit low-levels of alpha, beta, gamma, and neutron radiation. If UF<sub>6</sub> is released to the atmosphere, it reacts with water vapor in the air to form hydrogen fluoride (HF) and the uranium oxyfluoride compound called uranyl fluoride (UO<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>). These products are chemically toxic. Uranium is a heavy metal that, in addition to being radioactive, can have toxic chemical effects (primarily on the kidneys) if it enters the bloodstream by means of ingestion or inhalation. HF is an extremely corrosive gas that can damage the lungs and cause death if inhaled in high concentrations.

A Joint Report of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development and the International Atomic Energy Agency (OECD, 2001) states that there is widespread experience with the storage of UF<sub>6</sub> in steel cylinders in open-air storage yards and reports that even without routine treatment of localized corrosion, containers have maintained structural integrity for more than 50 years. The most extreme conditions experienced were in Russian Siberia where temperatures ranged from +40°C to -40°C (+104°F to -40°F) and from deep snow to full sun.

While it is AES's intention to store the full DUF<sub>6</sub> Cylinders temporarily prior to transport to the DOE Deconversion facilities, depleted UF<sub>6</sub> can be safely stored for decades in painted steel cylinders in open-air storage yards. Internal corrosion does not represent a problem. A reaction between the UF<sub>6</sub> and inner surface of the cylinder forms a complex uranium oxyfluoride layer between the UF<sub>6</sub> and cylinder wall that limits access of water moisture to the inside of the cylinder, thus further inhibiting internal corrosion. Moreover, while limiting factors are the external corrosion of the steel containers and the integrity of the "connection" seals, their impact can be minimized with an adequate preventive maintenance program. The three primary causes of external corrosion, all of which are preventable, are: (1) standing water on metal surfaces, (2) handling damaged cylinders, and (3) the aging of cylinder paint.

Standing water problems can be minimized through proper yard drainage, use of support saddles, and periodic inspection. Appropriate labor training and yard access design can minimize handling damage. Aging effects can be minimized through the use of periodic inspection and repainting and the use of quality paint. At the EREF, DUF<sub>6</sub> Cylinders rest on concrete saddles placed on an outdoor storage pad of reinforced concrete. Stormwater runoff



from the pad is collected in Cylinder Storage Pad Stormwater Retention Basins, which have sampling capabilities. The entry/exit carriage and cylinder hauling trailer transfer cylinders from the Blending, Sampling and Preparation Building to the Northern Cylinder Storage Pads. DUF<sub>6</sub> cylinder transport between the Separations Building and the storage area is discussed in Integrated Safety Analysis Summary Section 3.4.11, Material Handling Processes.

The Material Handling Processes are designed to ensure that the storage and movement of DUF<sub>6</sub> cylinders is conducted safely in accordance with all applicable regulations to protect the environment. Although AES intends to transport DUF<sub>6</sub> cylinders to the DOE conversion facilities in a timely and efficient manner after generation and has committed not to extend storage beyond the lifetime of the plant, the ultimate size of the Northern Cylinder Storage Pads is based on a conservatively calculated lifetime generation of DUF<sub>6</sub>. The concrete pad to be initially constructed on-site for the temporary storage of full DUF<sub>6</sub> cylinders will only be of a size necessary to hold a few years worth of cylinders. It will be expanded only if necessary. The EREF will establish and maintain an active cylinder management program that will address storage conditions, monitor cylinder integrity through routine inspections for breaches, and perform maintenance and repairs to cylinders and the Northern Cylinder Storage Pads, as needed.

The Northern Cylinder Storage Pads have also been sited to minimize the potential environmental impact from external radiation exposure to the public at the site boundary. The dose equivalent rate from the pad at the site boundary will be below the regulatory limits of 10 CFR 20 (CFR 2008x) and 40 CFR 190 (CFR, 2008f). The direct dose equivalent comes from the gamma-emitting progeny within the uranium decay chain. In addition, neutrons are produced by spontaneous fission in uranium and by the  $_{9}^{19}\text{F}$  (alpha, n)  $_{11}^{22}\text{Na}$  reaction. Thermoluminescent Dosimeters (TLDs) will be distributed along the Owner Controlled Area fence line and at other locations as described in Section 6.1.2, Radiological Environmental Monitoring, to monitor this impact due to photons and ensure that the estimated dose equivalent is not exceeded. Refer to Section 4.12.2, Radiological Impacts, for more detailed information on the impact of external dose equivalents from the Northern Cylinder Storage Pads.

Experience in Europe has shown that outdoor UF<sub>6</sub> cylinder storage will have little or no adverse environmental impact when it is coupled with an effective and protective cylinder management program. In 35 years of operation at three different enrichment plants, the European cylinder management program has not resulted in any significant releases of UF<sub>6</sub> to the environment (see ER Section 3.11.1.6, Historical Exposure to Radioactive Materials, for information of the types of releases that have occurred at Urenco plants).

#### **4.13.3.3 Mitigation for Depleted UF<sub>6</sub> Temporary Storage**

Since UF<sub>6</sub> is a solid at ambient temperatures and pressures, it is not readily released from a cylinder following a leak or breach. When a cylinder is breached, moist air reacts with the exposed UF<sub>6</sub> solid and iron, resulting in the formation of a dense plug of solid uranium and iron compounds and a small amount of HF gas. This "self-healing" plug limits the amount of material released from a breached cylinder. When a cylinder breach is identified, the cylinder is typically repaired or its contents are transferred to a new cylinder.

AES will maintain an active cylinder management program to maintain optimum storage conditions in the cylinder yard to monitor cylinder integrity by conducting routine inspections for breaches and to perform cylinder maintenance and repairs to cylinders and the storage pads, as needed. The following handling and storage procedures and practices shall be adopted at the EREF to mitigate adverse events, by either reducing the probability of an adverse event or reducing the consequence should an adverse event occur:

All filled DUF<sub>6</sub> cylinders will be stored in designated areas of the storage pad on concrete saddles (or saddles comprised of other suitable material) that do not cause cylinder corrosion. These saddles shall be placed on a stable concrete surface.

The storage array shall permit easy visual inspection of all cylinders.

The DUF<sub>6</sub> cylinders shall be surveyed for external contamination (wipe tested) prior to being placed on a Northern Cylinder Storage Pad or transported off-site. In accordance with 49 CFR 173.443, (CFR, 2008k) the maximum level of removable surface contamination allowed on the external surface of the cylinder shall be no greater than 0.4 Bq/cm<sup>2</sup> (22 dpm/cm<sup>2</sup>) (beta, gamma, alpha) on accessible surfaces averaged over 300 cm<sup>2</sup>.

Full DUF<sub>6</sub> cylinder valves shall be fitted with valve guards to protect the cylinder valve during transfer and storage.

Provisions are in place to ensure that full DUF<sub>6</sub> Cylinders do not have the defective valves identified in NRC Bulletin 2003-03, "Potentially Defective 1-Inch Valves for Uranium Hexafluoride Cylinders," (NRC, 2003d) installed.

All full DUF<sub>6</sub> cylinders shall be abrasive-blasted and coated with a minimum of one coat of zinc chromate primer plus one zinc-rich topcoat or equivalent anti-corrosion treatment.

Only designated vehicles, operated by trained and qualified personnel, will be allowed on the Full Product Cylinder Storage Pad and the Northern Cylinder Storage Pads.

Refer to the ISA Summary, Section 3.8, for controls associated with vehicle fires on or near the cylinder pads.

DUF<sub>6</sub> cylinders shall be inspected for damage prior to placing a filled cylinder on a Northern Cylinder Storage Pad.

DUF<sub>6</sub> cylinders shall be re-inspected annually for damage or surface coating defects. These inspections shall verify that:

- Lifting points are free from distortion and cracking.
- Cylinder skirts and stiffener rings are free from distortion and cracking.
- Cylinder surfaces are free from bulges, dents, gouges, cracks, or significant corrosion.
- Cylinder valves are fitted with the correct protector and cap, the valve is straight and not distorted, 2 to 6 threads are visible, and the square head of the valve stem is undamaged.
- Cylinder plugs are undamaged and not leaking.
- If inspection of a DUF<sub>6</sub> cylinder reveals significant deterioration (i.e., leakage, cracks, excessive, distortion, bent or broken valves or plugs, broken or torn stiffening rings or skirts, or other conditions that may affect the safe use of the cylinder), the contents of the affected cylinder shall be transferred to another undamaged cylinder and the defective cylinder shall be discarded. The root cause of any significant deterioration shall be determined and, if necessary, additional inspections of cylinders shall be made.
- Proper documentation on the status of each DUF<sub>6</sub> cylinder shall be available on site, including content and inspection dates.
- Cylinders containing liquid depleted UF<sub>6</sub> shall not be transported.

Site stormwater runoff from the Northern Cylinder Storage Pads is directed to lined retention basins, which will be included in the site environmental monitoring plan. (See ER Section 6.1, Radiological Monitoring)

#### **4.13.3.4 Depleted UF<sub>6</sub> Disposition**

As described above, AES is committed to safely and temporarily storing full DUF<sub>6</sub> Cylinders on the EREF site. The disposition of the full DUF<sub>6</sub> Cylinders will utilize the DOE deconversion and disposal facilities. Section 3113(a) of the USEC Privatization Act (PL, 1996) requires DOE, if requested by the operator of a uranium enrichment facility licensed by the NRC, to accept depleted uranium for disposal, for a fee, if it is determined to be low level radioactive waste. The Commission concluded that depleted uranium is, in fact, a form of low-level radioactive waste in a January 2005 Memorandum and Order (NRC, 2005a). In accordance with the Act, therefore, it is the responsibility of DOE to accept the DUF<sub>6</sub> generated by the operation of EREF for disposal.

AES requested DOE to provide an estimate (AREVA, 2008) for the cost of deconversion and disposal of DUF<sub>6</sub> generated by EREF (3.3M SWU/year) assuming it is initially generated in 2014 and that approximately 7,635 MT is provided annually when full production is achieved. In their response (DOE, 2008) DOE stated that they would accept, upon request, the DUF<sub>6</sub> generated by the proposed EREF contingent upon the negotiation of an agreement for deconversion and disposal that includes full cost recovery of DOE's expenses. DOE estimated that these costs would range from \$3.89/kg to \$5.78/kg (FY 2007 dollars) of DUF<sub>6</sub>. Deconversion would take place at the two new conversion facilities under construction at the sites of the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant (GDP) and the former Portsmouth GDP in Piketon, Ohio. AES confirmed that the DOE cost estimate (AES, 2009) is applicable to disposal of DUF<sub>6</sub> for an expanded EREF (6.6M SWU/year). It was noted by the DOE expert that while the total amount of DUF<sub>6</sub> generated will be larger than that used in the cost analysis, the cost of disposal of a kilogram of DUF<sub>6</sub> generated in the DOE cost estimate (DOE, 2008) would remain essentially the same, and could possibly be reduced by a small percentage. To be conservative, AES will utilize the highest disposal cost per kilogram established in the DOE cost estimated (DOE, 2008) to calculate the cost to dispose of DUF<sub>6</sub> for a 6.6M SWU/year facility.

#### **4.13.3.5 Converted Depleted UF<sub>6</sub> Disposal**

With respect to the disposal of the conversion products, DOE has been on record since 1999 that as much as possible of the depleted uranium oxide produced as a result of the deconversion process will be reused rather than disposed (DOE, 1999). In its 2004 Records of Decision related to the construction and operation of the conversion facilities (DOE, 2004a)(DOE, 2004b), DOE stated in part that the depleted uranium oxide (UO<sub>2</sub>) conversion product will be reused to the extent possible or packaged for disposal in emptied cylinders at an appropriate disposal facility.

See also the site-specific Environmental Impact Statements for the two conversion facilities (DOE, 2004c) (DOE, 2004d).

#### **4.13.3.6 Costs Associated with Depleted UF<sub>6</sub> Deconversion and Disposal**

By statute, (USC, 2000) DOE must accept depleted uranium from enrichment facilities licensed by the NRC and the DOE must be reimbursed for its costs, including a pro rata share of its capital costs. DOE's estimate of \$3.89 to \$5.78 (2007 dollars) (DOE, 2008) per kilogram to convert and dispose of AES's projected DUF<sub>6</sub> inventory is based on AES's projection that the

EREF would, upon attainment of full production, generate approximately 7,635 MT of  $\text{DUF}_6$  annually. This would amount to about 191,500 MT over the assumed operating life of the facility which, for purposes of conservatively calculating funding assurance for tails disposition, is assumed to be from 2014 to 2044. To be conservative, AES will utilize the highest disposal cost per kilogram in the DOE cost estimate (DOE, 2008) to calculate the cost to dispose of  $\text{DUF}_6$  for a 6.6M SWU/year facility.

Transportation costs from the EREF to the conversion facilities are not included in DOE's estimate. Based on information provided to AES by Transportation Logistics International, a company that moves radioactive cargo including  $\text{DUF}_6$ , AES estimates that it will cost \$8,600 (FY 2008 dollars) to transport one 48Y cylinder of  $\text{DUF}_6$  from EREF to the DOE conversion facility at Paducah. AES projects that, taking into account a ramp-up and a ramp-down period. The EREF will generate 217,193 MT (239,414 tons) of uranium, equivalent to about 321,235 MT (354,101 tons)  $\text{DUF}_6$  over the operating life of the facility. It is further assumed for purposes of calculating transportation costs, that the  $\text{DUF}_6$  is stored and transported in thick-walled 48Y cylinders, each having a gross weight of about 14.9 MT and, when filled, each containing 12.5 MT  $\text{DUF}_6$ . This results in the need to transport 25,718 cylinders for the 30 year operation case from EREF to the DOE facility. The rate of \$8,600 per cylinder, de-escalated to 2007 dollars using the GNP Implicit Price Deflator, is \$8,290. Since each cylinder is assumed to contain 12.5 MT, this is equivalent to \$0.66 per kilogram  $\text{DUF}_6$ .

The DOE deconversion facility will convert the  $\text{DUF}_6$  into a more stable chemical form that will be loaded into the depleted uranium tails cylinders. This is assumed to be  $\text{DUO}_2$ . As a result, there will be EREF  $\text{DUF}_6$  cylinders that are assumed to be unused and disposed of as Class 1 low-level radioactive waste. The cost of disposing these cylinders as Class A low-level radioactive waste is projected to be approximately \$1.22 per Kg  $\text{DUF}_6$  (2007 dollars).

The total expected cost for conversion and disposal of the  $\text{DUF}_6$  for purposes of funding assurance is, therefore, calculated by conservatively assuming the high end of the DOE range of \$5.78 per kilogram  $\text{DUF}_6$ , adding the transportation cost of \$0.66 per kg  $\text{DUF}_6$ , and the cost for disposal of excess cylinders of \$1.22 per kg  $\text{DUF}_6$  for a total cost of \$7.66 per kg  $\text{DUF}_6$ .

The total estimated costs for deconversion and disposal of  $\text{DUF}_6$  is about \$2.46 billion (2007 dollars). A summary of the cost components is provided in Table 4.13-2.

The financial assurance mechanisms that will be established to ensure that adequate funds are available are described in SAR Chapter 10, Decommissioning.

#### **4.13.4 Water Quality Limits**

Two single-lined Cylinder Storage Pads Stormwater Retention Basins, each having two cells, will be used specifically to retain runoff from the Cylinder Storage Pads during precipitation. A Domestic SSTP Basin will be utilized for the discharge of treated domestic sanitary effluents from the Domestic Sanitary Sewage Treatment Plant. The unlined Site Stormwater Detention Basins will receive rainfall runoff from the balance of the developed plant site. Liquid effluents include stormwater runoff and treated sanitary waste water. There will be no discharges to a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW).

Refer to Section 4.4, Water Resources Impacts, for additional water quality standards and permits and to Section 3.12, Waste Management, for information on systems and procedures to ensure water quality.

#### **4.13.5 Waste Minimization**

A high priority will be assigned to minimizing the generation of waste through reduction, reuse, or recycling. The EREF incorporates several waste minimization systems in its operational procedures that aim at conserving materials and recycling important compounds. The EREF will also have in place a Decontamination Workshop designed to remove radioactive contamination from equipment and allow some equipment to be reused rather than treated as waste.

In addition, the EREF process systems that handle UF<sub>6</sub>, other than the Product Liquid Sampling System, will operate entirely at subatmospheric pressure to prevent outward leakage of UF<sub>6</sub>. Cylinders, initially containing liquid UF<sub>6</sub>, will be transported only after being cooled, so that the UF<sub>6</sub> is in solid form, to minimize the potential risk of accidental releases due to mishandling.

The EREF is designed to minimize the consumption of natural and depletable resources. Closed-loop cooling systems have been incorporated in the design to reduce water usage. Power usage will be minimized by efficient design of lighting systems, selection of high-efficiency motors, and use of proper insulation materials.

ALARA controls will be maintained during facility operation to minimize the generation of radioactive waste as directed in 10 CFR 20 (CFR, 2008x). The outer packaging associated with consumables will be removed prior to use in a contaminated area. The use of glove boxes will minimize the spread of contamination and waste generation.

Collected waste such as trash, compressible dry waste, scrap metals, and other candidate wastes will be volume reduced at a centralized waste processing facility that could be operated by a commercial vendor. This facility would further reduce generated waste to a minimum quantity prior to final disposal at a land disposal facility or potential reuse.

#### **4.13.6 Control and Conservation**

The features and systems described in this subsection serve to limit, collect, confine, and treat wastes and effluents from the UF<sub>6</sub> enrichment process. A number of chemicals and processes are used in fulfilling these functions. As with any chemical/industrial facility, a wide variety of waste types will be produced. Waste and effluent control is addressed as well as features used to conserve resources.

##### **4.13.6.1 Mitigating Effluent Releases**

The equipment and design features incorporated in the EREF are selected to keep the release of gaseous and liquid effluent contaminants as low as practicable, and within regulatory limits. They are also selected to minimize the use of depletable resources. The following equipment and design features limit effluent releases during normal operation:

- Process systems that handle UF<sub>6</sub> operate almost entirely at sub-atmospheric pressures resulting in no outward leakage of UF<sub>6</sub> to any effluent stream.
- The one location where UF<sub>6</sub> pressure is raised above atmospheric pressure (becomes liquid UF<sub>6</sub>) is in the piping and cylinders inside the Product Liquid Sampling System sampling autoclave. The piping and cylinders inside the autoclave confine the UF<sub>6</sub>. In the event of leakage, the sampling autoclave provides secondary containment of UF<sub>6</sub>.
- Cylinders of UF<sub>6</sub> are transported only when cool and when the UF<sub>6</sub> is in solid form. This minimizes risk of inadvertent releases due to mishandling.

- Process off-gas from UF<sub>6</sub> purification and other operations is discharged through desublimers to solidify and reclaim as much UF<sub>6</sub> as possible. Remaining gases are discharged through high-efficiency filters and chemical adsorbent beds. The filters and adsorbents remove HF and uranium compounds left in the gaseous effluent stream.
- Liquids and solids in the process systems collect uranium compounds. When these liquids and solids (e.g., oils, damaged piping, or equipment) are removed for cleaning or maintenance, portions end up in wastes and effluent. Different processes are employed to separate uranium compounds and other materials (such as various heavy metals) from the resulting wastes and effluent. These processes are described in Section 4.13.7, Reprocessing and Recovery System.
- Processes used to clean up wastes and effluents create their own wastes and effluent as well. Control of these is also accomplished by liquid and solid waste handling systems and techniques. In general, careful application of basic principles for waste handling is followed in all of the systems and processes. Different waste types are collected in separate containers to minimize contamination of one waste type with another. Materials that can cause airborne contamination are carefully packaged; ventilation and filtration of the air in the area is provided as necessary. Liquid wastes are confined to piping, tanks, and other containers; curbing, pits, and sumps are used to collect and contain leaks and spills. Hazardous wastes are stored in designated areas in carefully labeled containers; mixed wastes are also contained and stored separately. Strong acids and caustics are neutralized before entering an effluent stream. Radioactively contaminated wastes are decontaminated insofar as possible to reduce waste volume.
- In addition, following handling and treatment processes to limit wastes and effluent, sampling and monitoring is performed to assure regulatory and administrative limits are met. Gaseous effluent is monitored for HF and radioactive contamination before release; liquid effluent is sampled and/or monitored in liquid waste systems; solid wastes are sampled and/or monitored prior to offsite treatment and disposal. Samples are returned to their source where feasible to minimize input to waste streams.

#### **4.13.6.2 Conserving Depletable Resources**

The EREF design serves to minimize the use of depletable resources. Water is the primary depletable resource used at the facility. Electric power usage also depletes fuel sources used in the production of the power. Other depletable resources are used only in small quantities.

At the current state of conceptual design for the proposed EREF, the construction plan has not been developed enough to determine how much of the construction debris would be recycled. As such, there is no plan in place at this time to recycle construction materials. A recycling program will be developed as the design progresses to the final and the construction execution plan proceeds.

During operation, a non-hazardous materials waste recycling plan will be implemented. The recycling plan will start with the performance of a waste assessment to identify waste reduction opportunities and to determine which materials will be recycled. Once the decision has been made regarding which waste materials to recycle, brokers and haulers will be contacted to find an end-market for the materials. Employee training on the recycling program will be performed so that employees will know which materials are to be recycled. Recycling bins and containers will be clearly labeled. Periodically, the recycling program will be evaluated (i.e., waste management expenses and savings, recycling and disposal tonnages) and the results reported to employees.

The cost of disposal of radioactive-contaminated materials necessitates the decontamination and reuse of such materials where practicable. Chemical solutions, such as citric acid, are limited to minimize the volume of mixed waste.

The main feature incorporated in the EREF to limit water consumption is the use of closed-loop cooling systems. Other water conserving measures incorporated into the design and operation of the EREF include:

- The installation of low flow toilets, sinks and showers
- Localized floor washing using mops and self-contained cleaning machines that reduce water usage compared to conventional washing with a hose.

Power usage is minimized by efficient design of lighting systems, selection of high efficiency motors, use of appropriate building insulation materials, and other good engineering practices. The demand for power in the process systems is a major portion of plant operating cost and efficient design of components is, therefore, incorporated throughout the process systems.

#### **4.13.6.3 Prevention and Control of Oil Spills**

The EREF will implement a spill control program for accidental oil spills. Its purpose will be to reduce the potential for the occurrence of spills, reduce the risk of injury if a spill occurs, minimize the impact of a spill, and provide a procedure for the cleanup and reporting of spills. The oil spill control program will be established to comply with the requirements of 40 CFR 112 (CFR, 2008y), Oil Pollution Prevention. As required by Part 112, a Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) plan will be prepared prior to either the start of facility operation or prior to the storage of oil on-site in excess of the quantities established in 40 CFR 112.1(d) (CFR, 2008y). The SPCC Plan will be reviewed and certified by a Professional Engineer and will be maintained on-site.

As a minimum, the SPCC will contain the following information:

- Identification of potential significant sources of spills and a prediction of the direction and quantity of flow that would result from a spill from each such source;
- Identification of the use of containment or diversionary structures such as dikes, berms, culverts, booms, sumps, and diversionary ponds to be used at the facility where appropriate to control discharged oil;
- Procedures for inspection of potential sources of spills and spill containment/diversion structures; and
- Assigned responsibilities for implementing the plan, inspections and reporting.

In addition to preparation and implementation of the SPCC Plan, the facility will comply with the specific spill prevention and control guidelines contained in 40 CFR 112.7 (CFR, 2008aw), such as drainage of rain water from diked areas, containment of oil in bulk storage tanks, above ground tank integrity testing, and oil transfer operational safeguards.

#### **4.13.7 Reprocessing and Recovery Systems**

Systems used to allow recovery or reuse of materials are described below. The systems and processes are similar to those used at the National Enrichment Facility (NEF). The primary differences between the EREF and NEF relate to the differences in the configuration of the decontamination areas. The EREF separates the functions involved in the decontamination of

plant equipment into four separate rooms: the Mobile Unit Disassembly and Reassembly Workshop, the Vacuum and Pump Dismantling Workshop, the Decontamination Workshop and the Maintenance Facility. The specific functions of these rooms are described in ER 2.1.2.3, Facility Description. For the EREF, the process vacuum pumps will be degassed in the Valve and Pump Dismantling Workshop prior to decontamination; whereas, the NEF degasses these pumps in-place. The EREF does not intend to install a Fomblin Oil Recovery System. The PFPE oil, containing uranic material, will be collected and sent to a low-level radioactive waste facility for treatment and disposal.

#### **4.13.7.1 Decontamination System**

The Decontamination Workshop in the TSB will contain the area to break down, strip and decontaminate contaminated equipment and its components. The decontamination systems in the workshop are designed to remove radioactive contamination from contaminated materials and equipment. The only significant forms of radioactive contamination found in the plant are uranium hexafluoride ( $UF_6$ ), uranium tetrafluoride ( $UF_4$ ), and uranyl fluoride ( $UO_2F_2$ ).

The process carried out within the Decontamination Workshop begins with receipt and storage of contaminated pumps, out-gassing, Perfluoropolyether (PFPE) oil removal and storage and pump stripping. Activities for the dismantling and maintenance of other plant components are also carried out. Other components commonly decontaminated besides pumps include valves, piping, instruments, sample bottles, tools, and scrap metal. Personnel entry into the facility will be via a sub-change facility. This area has contamination controls, washing, and monitoring facilities.

The decontamination part of the process consists of a series of steps following equipment disassembly including degreasing, decontamination, drying, and inspection. Items from uranium hexafluoride systems, waste handling systems, and miscellaneous other items are decontaminated in this process with a typical cycle time of one hour for most plant components. Sample bottles and flexible hoses are handled under special procedures due to the difficulty of handling the specific shapes and are addressed separately below.

Criticality is precluded through the control of geometry, mass, and the selection of appropriate storage containers. Administrative measures are applied to uranium concentrations in the Citric Acid Tank, Degreaser Tank, and Rinse Water Tanks in the Equipment Decontamination Cabinet to maintain these controls. To minimize worker exposure, airborne radiological contamination resulting from dismantling is extracted from the work area through the Technical Support Building Gaseous Effluent Ventilation System. Air suits and portable ventilation units are available for further worker protection.

All pipe work and vessels in the Mobile Unit Disassembly and Reassembly Workshop, Valve and Pump Dismantling Workshop, and Decontamination Workshop are provided with design measures to protect against spillage or leakage. Hazardous wastes and materials are contained in tanks and other appropriate containers, and are strictly controlled by administrative procedures. Chemical reaction accidents are prevented by strict control on chemical handling.



#### 4.13.7.2 General Decontamination

Equipment to be decontaminated (i.e., process vacuum pumps) will be removed from the process systems and prepared for decontamination. After being taken offline, the pump flanges are sealed and it is transported to the Mobile Unit Disassembly and Reassembly Workshop and Valve and Pump Dismantling Workshop and stored before being dismantled. Pumps enter through airlock doors either individually or in pairs on pump frames. Valves, piping, flexible hoses, and general plant components are accepted into the Decontamination Workshop either in plastic bags or with the ends sealed.

Pumps waiting to be processed are stored in the pump storage array with sufficient minimum edge spacing to eliminate the possibility of accidental criticality. Pumps are not accepted if there are no vacancies in the array.

Before being broken down and stripped, all pumps are placed in the Valve and Pump Dismantling Workshop, and the local ventilation hose is positioned close to the pump flange. The flange covers are then removed from the pumps. HF and UF<sub>6</sub> fumes from pumps are exhausted via the vent hose, typically over a period of several hours. While in the Valve and Pump Dismantling Workshop, PFPE oil is drained from the pump, and the oil is drained into 5-L (1.3-gal) plastic containers that are labeled so each can be tracked through the process. Prior to removal from the Valve and Pump Dismantling Workshop, the outside of equipment bins, pump frames, and oil containers are monitored for radiological contamination. The various items are then taken to the decontamination system or to the PFPE oil storage array as appropriate. The PFPE oil storage array eliminates the possibility of accidental criticality. The PFPE oil will be sent to a low-level radioactive waste facility for treatment and disposal.

After out-gassing, individual pumps are placed on either of the two hydraulic stripping tables. The pump and motor are stripped to component level using various hydraulic and hand tools. Using the overhead crane or mobile jig truck, the components are placed in bins ready for transportation to the General Decontamination Cabinet in the Decontamination Workshop.

Components requiring degreasing are cleaned manually and then immersed into the Degreaser Tank in the Equipment Decontamination Cabinet. An open top tank with a sloped bottom is used for removing the residual PFPE oil and greases that may inhibit the decontamination process. The sloped bottom construction is provided for draining the tank completely. During the degreasing process, a pump continuously recirculates the tank contents to accommodate sampling for criticality prevention. The tank has a capacity of 800 L (211 gal), and level control with a local alarm is provided to maintain the liquid level. It is furnished with an ultrasonic agitation facility, and a thermostatically controlled electric heater to maintain the temperature at 60°C (140°F). The tank has a ring header and a manual hose to rinse out residual solids/sludge with deionized (DI) water after the batch has been pumped to the Liquid Effluent Collection and Treatment System.

The degreased components are inspected and then transferred to the Citric Acid Tank where decontamination is accomplished by immersing the contaminated component in a citric acid bath. The Citric Acid Tank and pump system have the same components as the Degreaser Tank and are operated and controlled in the same fashion as the Degreaser Tank. In order to minimize uranium concentration, the rinse water from the final Rinse Water Tank is pumped into the second Rinse Water Tank (closer to the Citric Acid Tank), which in turn is pumped into the Citric Acid Tank. This counter-current system eliminates a waste product stream by concentrating the uranics in the Citric Acid Tank. The rinse water transfer pump is linked with a high level alarm on the Citric Acid Tank to prevent overfilling. After approximately 15 minutes, the component is removed from the Citric Acid Tank to be rinsed.

Two open top Rinse Water Tanks with sloped bottoms are provided to rinse excess citric acid from decontaminated components. Each has a liquid capacity of 800 L (211 gal). Both tanks are furnished with ultrasonic agitation, a thermostatically controlled electric heater to maintain the content's temperature at 60°C (140°F), and a recirculation pump facility to accommodate sampling for criticality prevention. The sloped bottom is provided for draining the tank completely. Fresh DI water is manually added to the final rinse tank as needed. The water from this tank is pumped into the second Rinse Water Tank (closer to the Citric Acid Tank) to minimize uranium concentration. Level control is provided to maintain the rinse water level. A manual spray hose is available for rinsing each tank after it has been emptied.

All components are dried after decontamination. This is performed manually using compressed air inside the cabinet while the components are still in the basket.

Each of the tanks is sampled periodically to determine the condition of the solution and any sludge present. The Citric Acid Tank and Degreaser Tank contents are analyzed for uranium concentration and citric acid concentration. The results of the analysis are compared to administrative limits set for the uranic content and for the pH of the solutions. Spent solutions, consisting of citric acid, degreasing water, and various uranyl and metallic citrates, are transferred to collection tanks in the Liquid Effluent Collection and Treatment System. After monitoring, the Degreaser Tank waste contents are pumped into the Degreaser Water Collection Tank and the Citric Acid Tank waste solution is pumped into the Spent Citric Acid Collection Tank. The solids contents from both tanks are sprayed with fresh DI water and the resultant mixtures are also pumped to their respective destinations. The Rinse Water Tanks are checked for satisfactory pH and uranic levels; unusable water is transferred to an effluent collection tank in the Liquid Effluent Collection and Treatment System. The quantity of contamination remaining is "as low as reasonably achievable." Components released for unrestricted use do not have contamination exceeding administrative limits. However, if a component's surface contamination cannot be monitored or if the contamination exceeds administrative limits, then the component is disposed of as low-level radioactive waste. All materials of construction are compatible with the process solutions at operating conditions.

The activities carried out in the Decontamination Workshop give rise to a potentially contaminated gaseous stream, which requires treatment before discharging to the atmosphere. These streams consist of air with traces of UF<sub>6</sub>, HF, and uranium particulates (mainly UO<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>). Air exhausted from the Equipment Decontamination Cabinet, the Sample Bottle Decontamination Cabinet, and the Flexible Hose Decontamination Cabinet is vented to the Technical Support Building (TSB) GEVS to ensure airborne contamination is controlled. There are local ventilation ports in the Mobile Unit Disassembly and Reassembly Workshop, and the Valve and Pump Dismantling Workshop that operate under vacuum with all air discharging through the TSB GEVS. The TSB GEVS is designed to route these streams to a filter system and to monitor, on a continuous basis, the resultant exhaust stream discharged to the atmosphere. The room itself has HVAC ventilation.

#### **4.13.7.3 Sample Bottle Decontamination**

The Decontamination Workshop has a separate area dedicated to sample bottle storage, disassembly, and decontamination, called the Sample Bottle Decontamination Cabinet. Valves are also decontaminated in this cabinet. The decontamination system for valves and sample bottles requires a citric acid rinse and a DI water rinse for both items.

Used sample bottles are weighed to confirm the bottles are empty upon entry into the workshop. The sample bottle valves are loosened outside the cabinet and then are removed once inside the cabinet. A small open container is filled with a citric acid solution. The sample bottles are

filled with a clean citric acid solution from this container. Any loose material inside the bottle is dissolved in the solution, which is then poured into a waste tank. The sample bottles are then filled with DI water and left to stand for approximately an hour.

The removed valves are linked together in series before being placed downstream of a pump. The pump is fed from a Citric Acid Tank filled with citric acid solution. Citric acid is then recirculated in a closed loop through the valves for an hour. The citric acid solution is drained to 5-L (1.3-gal) citric acid/uranic wastes containers. The valves are rinsed after the decontamination step using fresh DI water.

The bottles and valves undergo a second DI water rinsing, and then dried manually using heated compressed air and inspected for contamination and rust. The resulting waste solutions from cleaning the bottles and the valves are collected in 5-L (1.3-gal) citric acid/uranic wastes containers. The solutions are then manually transferred to the Citric Acid Tank in the Equipment Decontamination Cabinet. Any liquid spillages / drips are soaked away with paper tissues that are disposed of in the Solid Waste Collection System.

During the process, air from the cabinet vents to the TSB GEVS to ensure that airborne contamination is controlled. The bottles are then put into an electric oven to ensure total dryness, and on removal are ready for reuse. The cleaned components are transferred to a clean workshop for reassembly followed by pressure and vacuum testing.

#### **4.13.7.4 Flexible Hose Decontamination**

The decontamination of flexible hoses is performed in a Flexible Hose Decontamination Cabinet. This decontamination cabinet is designed to process only one flexible hose at a time and consists of recirculation loops of citric acid solution and DI water.

The flexible hose is attached in a closed loop downstream of a closed citric acid tank and a recirculation pump. The flexible hose is flushed with a heated citric acid solution. After the citric acid wash, the hose is attached in a closed loop downstream of a closed DI water tank and a pump. It is then rinsed with heated DI water in a recirculation system. Each flexible hose is then dried in the cabinet using heated compressed air. The cleaned, dry flexible hose is then transferred to the Vacuum Pump Rebuild Workshop for reassembly and pressure testing prior to reuse in the plant.

### **4.13.8 Comparative Waste Management Impacts of No Action Alternative Scenarios**

ER Chapter 2, Alternatives, provides a discussion of possible alternatives to the construction and operation of the EREF, including an alternative of "no action" i.e., not building the EREF. The following information provides comparative conclusions specific to the concerns addressed in this subsection for each of the two "no action," alternative scenarios addressed in Section 2.4, Table 2.4-2, Comparison of Environmental Impacts for the Proposed Action and the No-Action Alternative Scenarios.

**Alternative Scenario C** No EREF; LES and USEC deploy gas centrifuge plants, USEC phases out the Paducah gaseous diffusion plant (GDP) and GEH deploys their plant using Silex enrichment technology: The waste management impacts would be the same since three enrichment plants would be built.

**Alternative Scenario D** - No EREF; LES and USEC deploy gas centrifuge plants, USEC phases out the Paducah gaseous diffusion plant (GDP) and USEC increases its centrifuge plant

capacity: The waste management impacts would be about the same since overall SWU capacity would be about the same.

# TABLES

**Table 4.13-1 Possible Radioactive Waste Processing / Disposal Facilities**  
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<b>Radioactive Waste Processing / Disposal Facility</b>	<b>Acceptable Wastes</b>	<b>Approximate Distance km (mi)</b>
EnergySolutions Clive, Utah	Radioactive Class A Mixed	475 (295)
EnergySolutions Oak Ridge, Tennessee	Radioactive Class A Some Mixed	3,068 (1,907)
U.S. Ecology Richland, Washington	Radioactive Class A, B and C	885 (550)
Depleted UF <sub>6</sub> Conversion Facility Paducah, Kentucky	Depleted UF <sub>6</sub>	2,610 (1,622)
Depleted UF <sub>6</sub> Conversion Facility Portsmouth, Ohio	Depleted UF <sub>6</sub>	3,002 (1,865)

**Table 4.13-2 Summary of Estimated Costs for Disposal of DUF<sub>6</sub> at DOE Deconversion Facilities**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Cost per Kilogram</b>	<b>Total Cost per Activity</b>
Transportation of 321,235 MT DUF <sub>6</sub> in 25,718 48Y cylinders to DOE conversion facilities	\$0.66 per kilogram DUF <sub>6</sub>	\$212,015,100
Conversion/disposal of 321,235 MT DUF <sub>6</sub>	\$5.78 per kilogram DUF <sub>6</sub>	\$1,856,738,300
Disposal of unused empty depleted uranium tails cylinders	\$1.22 per kilogram DUF <sub>6</sub>	\$391,906,700
<b>TOTAL (2007 Dollars)</b>	<b>\$7.66 per kilogram DUF<sub>6</sub></b>	<b>\$2,460,660,100</b>

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## LIST OF TABLES

None

## LIST OF FIGURES

None

## **5.0 MITIGATION MEASURES**

This chapter summarizes the mitigation measures that will be in place to reduce adverse impacts that occur during construction and any other kind of operation of the Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility (EREF).

## **5.1      IMPACT SUMMARY**

This section summarizes the environmental impacts that may result from the construction and operation of the EREF. Complete details of these potential impacts are provided in Chapter 4 of this Environmental Report (ER).

### **5.1.1      Land Use**

Impacts from land use have been characterized in Section 4.1, Land Use Impacts. The site will be converted largely from agricultural to industrial use although much of the site will remain open space. Of the approximate 1,700 ha (4,200 ac) available, only a small portion, approximately 240 ha (592 ac), will be used for construction and permanent structures.

Construction impacts to land will be limited to grading activities necessary to prepare the site and subsequent construction of structures. Impacts to land are expected to be small on a short-term and long-term basis with little cumulative impact to the region.

Impacts will not be substantive as related to the following:

- Land use impact and impact of any related Federal action that may have cumulatively significant impacts. As noted in Section 4.1, construction of the Component Test Facility supporting the High Temperature Gas Reactor at INL is not anticipated to be significant.
- Area and location of land disturbed on either a short-term or long-term basis.

Minor impacts related to erosion control on the site may occur but will be short-term and limited. Mitigation measures associated with these impacts are listed in Section 5.2.1, Land Use.

### **5.1.2      Transportation**

Transportation impact has been characterized in Section 4.2, Transportation Impacts.

With respect to construction-related transportation, no substantive impacts will exist related to the following:

- Construction of the access roads to the facility. Two construction access roads will be constructed from U.S. Highway 20.
- Transportation route and mode for conveying construction material to the facility.
- Impacts of construction transportation such as fugitive dust, emissions, scenic quality, and noise.

Impacts related to construction traffic such as fugitive dust, noise, and emissions will be small and are discussed in Section 4.2.1, Impacts of Construction of the Highway Entrances and Access Roads. Additional information on noise impacts is contained in Section 4.7.1, Predicted Noise Levels. Impacts due to traffic volume increases during construction (e.g., from heavy haul vehicles and construction worker commuting) are anticipated to be moderate to large, while the impacts of traffic volume increases associated with operation and decommissioning of the EREF will be small as discussed in Section 4.2.4, Traffic Impacts. Mitigation measures associated with transportation impacts are listed in Section 5.2.2, Transportation.

With respect to the transport of radioactive materials, no substantive impacts will exist related to the following activities:

- Transportation by truck and routes from originating site to the destination.

- Estimated transportation distance from the originating site to the destination.
- Treatment and packaging procedure for radioactive wastes.
- Radiological dose equivalents for incident-free scenarios to the public and workers.
- Impacts of operating transportation vehicles on the environment (radioactive material released from a truck accident).
- Non-radioactive impacts (fatalities from traffic accidents, health effects from exposure to truck emissions).

Impacts related to the transport of radioactive material are addressed in Section 4.2.7, Radioactive Material Transportation. The radioactive materials that will be transported to and from the EREF by truck within the scope of the environmental impacts previously evaluated by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) are determined to have a small to moderate impact on overall traffic. Because these impacts have been addressed in previous NRC environmental impact statements (NUREG-0170; NUREG-1790) (NRC, 1977a; NRC, 2005b), no additional mitigation measures are proposed (Section 5.2.2, Transportation).

### **5.1.3 Geology and Soils**

The potential impacts to the geology and soils have been characterized in Section 4.3, Geology and Soils Impacts. Although construction activities may cause short-term increases in soil erosion and dust generation at the site, no substantive impacts will exist related to excavation activities during construction.

The operation phase of the proposed facility will not involve additional disruption of the local bedrock and therefore, is expected to have no impact on the site geology. Also, during operation of the proposed facility, BMPs will be used to manage stormwater runoff. Mitigation measures associated with these impacts are listed in Section 5.2.3, Geology and Soils.

### **5.1.4 Water Resources**

The potential impacts to the water resources have been characterized in Section 4.4, Water Resources Impacts. No substantive impacts will exist related to the following:

- Impacts on surface water and groundwater quality
- Impacts of consumptive water uses (e.g., groundwater depletion) on other water users and adverse impacts on surface-oriented water users resulting from facility activities. The EREF water supply will be obtained from on-site groundwater supply wells. The wells could supply up to 1,713 m<sup>3</sup>/day (452,500 gal/day) for industrial use and up to 147 m<sup>3</sup>/day (38,800 gal/day) for seasonal irrigation under the AREVA Enrichment Services (AES) water appropriation. The predicted daily water consumption for operation of the EREF is expected to be approximately 68.2 m<sup>3</sup>/day (18,000 gal/day) and peak water requirements are expected to be 42 L/s (664 gal/min). The normal annual water usage rate will be 24,870,000 L/yr (6,570,000 gal/yr), which is a very small fraction (i.e., about 4%) of the water appropriation value of 625,000,000 L/yr (165,000,000 gal/yr) for industrial use. The peak water usage is developed based on the assumption that all water users are operating simultaneously. Furthermore, the peak water usage assumes that each water user is operating at maximum demand. This combination of assumptions is very unlikely to occur during the lifetime of the EREF. Nevertheless, the peak water usage is used to size the piping system and pumps. Given that the normal annual water usage rate for the EREF is a

very small fraction of the appropriation value, momentary usages of water beyond the expected normal water usage rate is expected to be well within the water appropriation value for the EREF.

- Hydrological system alterations or impacts.
- Withdrawals and returns of ground water.
- Cumulative effects on water resources.

The EREF will not obtain any water from on-site surface water resources. Daily treated domestic sanitary wastewater will be discharged to the Domestic SSTP Basin. Stormwater from the Cylinder Storage Pads will be discharged to the lined Cylinder Storage Pads Stormwater Retention Basins.

Stormwater from developed portions of the site, excluding the Cylinder Storage Pads, will be collected in the Site Stormwater Detention Basins, as described in Section 3.4, Water Resources. Minor impacts to water resources are discussed in Section 4.4, Water Resources Impacts. Mitigation measures associated with these potential impacts are listed in Section 5.2.4, Water Resources.

### **5.1.5 Ecological Resources**

The potential impacts to the ecological resources have been characterized in Section 4.5, Ecological Resources Impacts. No substantive impacts will exist related to the following:

- Total area of land to be disturbed
- Area of disturbance for each habitat type
- Use of chemical herbicides, roadway maintenance, and mechanical clearing
- Areas to be used on a short-term basis during construction
- Communities or habitats that have been defined as rare or unique or that support threatened and endangered species
- Impacts of elevated construction equipment or structures on species (e.g., bird collisions, nesting areas)
- Impact on important biota.

Impacts to ecological resources will be minimal. Mitigation measures associated with these impacts are listed in Section 5.2.5, Ecological Resources.

### **5.1.6 Air Quality**

The potential impacts to the air quality have been characterized in Section 4.6, Air Quality Impacts. No substantive impacts exist related to the following activities:

- Gaseous effluents
- Visibility impacts.

Impacts to air quality will be minimal. Construction activities will result in interim increases in carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide and particulate matter due to vehicle emissions and dust. Impacts from plant operation will consist of emissions of small quantities of

volatile organic compounds (VOCs) emissions and trace amounts of HF,  $\text{UO}_2\text{F}_2$ , and other uranic compound effluents remaining in treated air emissions from plant ventilation systems.

A small quantity of VOCs will also be emitted during vehicle refueling that will occur during construction and plant operations. These effluents are significantly below regulatory limits. Mitigation measures associated with air quality impacts are listed in Section 5.2.6, Air Quality.

### **5.1.7 Noise**

The potential impacts related to noise generated by the facility have been characterized in Section 4.7, Noise Impacts. No substantive impacts will exist related to the following activities:

- Predicted typical noise levels at facility perimeter
- Impacts to sensitive receptors (i.e., hospitals, schools, residences, wildlife).

Noise levels will increase during construction and operation of the EREF, but not to a level that will cause significant impact to nearby residents or users of the Bureau of Land Management Hell's Half Acre Wilderness Study Area (WSA) and the Wasden Complex. The nearest residence is about 7.7 km (4.8 mi) east of the proposed site. While the WSA borders the south boundary of the site, the WSA is approximately 2.4 km (1.5 mi) away from the proposed EREF footprint. Mitigation measures associated with noise impacts are listed in Section 5.2.7, Noise.

### **5.1.8 Historical and Cultural Resources**

The potential impacts to historical and cultural resources have been characterized in Section 4.8, Historical and Cultural Resources Impacts. No substantive impacts are anticipated pursuant to the following activities:

- Construction, operation, or decommissioning
- Impact on historic properties
- Potential for human remains to be present in the project area
- Impact on archeological resources.

Most of the facilities, when constructed, would be obscured due to an intervening ridgeline and due to distance from the EREF. Construction activities would also be difficult to observe due to these topographical features. As a result of consultation between AES and the Idaho State Historic Preservation Officer, AES is considering planting 2 m to 3 m (7 ft to 10 ft) tall native vegetation to further mask the portions of the EREF buildings that may be visible from the Wasden Complex. Within the EREF area of direct effects, impacts to historical and cultural resources are expected to be small. Mitigation measures associated with these impacts, if required, are listed in Section 5.2.8, Historical and Cultural Resources.

### **5.1.9 Visual/Scenic Resources**

The potential impacts to visual/scenic resources have been characterized in Section 4.9, Visual/Scenic Resources Impacts. No substantive negative impacts will exist related to the following:

- Impacts on the aesthetic and scenic quality of the site
- Impacts from physical structures

- Impacts on historical, archaeological, or cultural properties of the site
- Impacts on the character of the site setting.

Visual/scenic impacts due to the development of the EREF will result from visual intrusions in the existing landscape character. No structures are proposed that will require the removal of natural or built barriers, screens, or buffers. Mitigation measures associated with these impacts are listed in Section 5.2.9, Visual/Scenic Resources.

#### **5.1.10 Socioeconomic**

The potential socioeconomic impacts to the community have been characterized in Section 4.10, Socioeconomic Impacts. No substantive negative impacts will exist related to the following:

- Impacts to population characteristics (e.g., ethnic groups and population density)
- Impacts to housing, health and social services, or educational and transportation resources
- Impacts to the area's tax structure and distribution.

The anticipated socioeconomic impacts from construction and operation of the EREF are expected to be positive throughout the region. Refer to Section 7.1, Economic Cost-Benefits, Facility Construction and Operation). See Section 4.10, Socioeconomic Impacts, for a detailed discussion on socioeconomic impacts.

#### **5.1.11 Environmental Justice**

The potential impacts with respect to environmental justice have been characterized in Section 4.11, Environmental Justice. No impacts will exist related to the following:

- Disproportionate impact to minority or low-income population.

Based on the data analyzed and the NUREG-1748 (NRC, 2003a) guidance by which that analysis was conducted, AES determined that no further evaluation of potential environmental justice concerns was necessary, since no Census Block Group within the 6.4-km (4-mi) radius, i.e., 130 km<sup>2</sup> (50 mi<sup>2</sup>) of the EREF site contained a minority or low-income population exceeding the NUREG-1748 "20%" or "50%" criteria. See Section 4.11, Environmental Justice.

#### **5.1.12 Public and Occupational Health**

This section describes public and occupational health impacts from both nonradiological and radiological sources.

##### **5.1.12.1 Nonradiological - Normal Operations**

The potential impacts to public and occupational health for nonradiological sources have been characterized in Section 4.12.1, Nonradiological Impacts. No substantive impacts exist as related to the following:

- Impact to members of the public from nonradiological discharge of liquid effluents (i.e., treated domestic sanitary waste) to water or gaseous effluents to air
- Impact to facility workers as a result of occupational exposure to nonradiological chemicals, effluents, and wastes



- Cumulative impacts to public and occupational health.

Impacts to the public and workers from nonradiological gaseous and liquid effluents will be minimal. Mitigation measures associated with these impacts are listed in Section 5.2.12.1, Nonradiological - Normal Operations.

#### **5.1.12.2 Radiological - Normal Operations**

This subsection describes public and occupational health impacts from radiological sources. It provides a brief description of the methods used to assess the pathways for exposure and the potential impacts.

##### **5.1.12.2.1 Pathway Assessment**

The potential for exposure to radiological sources included an assessment of pathways that could convey radioactive material to members of the public. These are briefly summarized below. Potential points or areas were characterized to identify:

- Nearest site boundary
- Nearest full time resident
- Location of average member of the critical group
- In addition, important ingestion pathways such as stored and fresh vegetables, milk, and meat, assumed to be grown or raised at the nearest resident location, have been analyzed. There are no off-site releases to any surface waters or Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW).

##### **5.1.12.2.2 Public and Occupational Exposure**

The potential impacts to public and occupational health for radiological sources have been characterized in Section 4.12, Public and Occupational Health Impacts. No substantive impacts exist as related to the following:

- Impacts based on the average annual concentration of radioactive and hazardous materials in gaseous effluents
- Impacts to the public (as determined by the critical group)
- Impacts to the workforce based on radiological and chemical exposures
- Impacts based on reasonably foreseeable (i.e., credible) accidents with the potential to result in environmental releases.

Routine operations at the EREF create the potential for radiological and nonradiological public and occupational exposure. Radiation exposure is due to the facility's use of the isotopes of uranium and the presence of associated decay products. Chemical and radiological exposures are primarily from byproducts of  $UF_6$ ,  $UO_2F_2$ , hydrogen fluoride and related uranic compounds that will form inside facility equipment and from reaction with components. These are the primary products of concern in gaseous effluents that will be released from the facility. Mitigation measures associated with these impacts are listed in Section 5.2.12, Public and Occupational Health.

### 5.1.12.3 Accidental Releases

All credible accident sequences were considered during the Integrated Safety Analysis (ISA) performed for the facility. Accidents evaluated fell into two general types: criticality events and UF<sub>6</sub> releases. Criticality events and some UF<sub>6</sub> release scenarios were shown to result in potential radiological and HF chemical exposures, respectively, to the public. Gaseous releases of UF<sub>6</sub> react quickly with moisture in the air to form HF and UO<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>. Consequence analyses showed that HF was the bounding consequence for all gaseous UF<sub>6</sub> releases to the environment. For some fire cases, uranic material in waste form or in chemical traps provided the bounding case. Accidents that produced unacceptable consequences to the public resulted in the identification of various design bases, design features, and administrative controls.

During the ISA process, evaluation of most accident sequences resulted in identification of design bases and design features that prevent a criticality event or HF release to the environment. Table 4.12-28, Accident Criteria Chemical Exposure Limits by Category, lists the accident criteria chemical exposure limits (HF) by category for an immediate consequence and high consequence categories.

All HF release scenarios with the exception of those caused by one fire case are controlled through design features or by administrative procedural control measures.

The seismic accident scenario considers an earthquake event of sufficient magnitude to fail the UF<sub>6</sub> process piping and some UF<sub>6</sub> components resulting in a large gaseous UF<sub>6</sub> release inside the buildings housing UF<sub>6</sub> process systems. Several accident sequences involving HF releases to the environment due to seismic events were prevented using design features to preclude the release of UF<sub>6</sub> from process piping and components.

The fire accident scenario considers a fire within the Technical Support Building (TSB) that causes the release of uranic material from open waste containers and chemical traps during waste drum filling operations.

Potential adverse impacts for accident conditions are described in Section 4.12.3, Environmental Effects of Accidents. Mitigation measures associated with these impacts are listed in Section 5.2.12.3, Accidental Releases.

### 5.1.13 Waste Management

The potential impacts of waste generation and waste management have been characterized in Section 4.13, Waste Management Impacts. No substantive impacts exist as related to the following:

- Impact to the public due to the composition and disposal of solid, hazardous, radioactive and mixed wastes
- Impact to facility workers due to storage, processing, handling, and disposal of solid, hazardous, radioactive and mixed wastes
- Cumulative impacts of waste management.

Waste generated at the EREF will be comprised of industrial (nonhazardous), radioactive and mixed, and hazardous waste categories. In addition, radioactive and mixed waste will be further segregated according to the quantity of liquid that is not readily separable from the solid material. Gaseous effluent impacts are discussed in Section 5.1.12.2, Radiological - Normal Operations. No radioactively contaminated liquid effluent impacts are anticipated since there will be no radioactively contaminated liquid effluent discharges from plant operations. Depleted

uranium tails cylinders are stored on site at an outdoor storage area and will minimally impact the environment. (See Section 5.2.13, Waste Management.)

Mitigation measures associated with waste management are listed in Section 5.2.13, Waste Management.

## **5.2      MITIGATIONS**

This section summarizes the mitigation measures that are in place to reduce adverse impacts that may result from the construction and operation of the proposed Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility (EREF). The residual and unavoidable adverse impacts, which will remain after application of the mitigation measures, are of such a small magnitude that AREVA Enrichment Services (AES) considers that additional analysis is not necessary.

### **5.2.1      Land Use**

The anticipated effects on the soil during construction activities are limited to a potential short-term increase in soil erosion. However, this impact will be mitigated by following construction best management practices (BMPs), including:

- Minimizing the construction footprint to the extent possible.
- Limiting site slopes to a horizontal-vertical ratio of four to one or less.
- Using a sedimentation detention basin.
- Protecting undisturbed areas with silt fencing and straw bales as appropriate.
- Using site stabilization practices such as placing crushed stone on top of disturbed soil in areas of concentrated runoff.
- Watering on-site construction roads at least twice daily (when needed) to control fugitive dust emissions.

Additional discussion is provided in ER Section 5.2.3, Geology and Soils.

After construction is complete, the site will be stabilized with natural, low water consumption, low-maintenance landscaping, and pavement.

### **5.2.2      Transportation**

Mitigation measures will be used to reduce traffic volumes and minimize fugitive dust production, noise, and wildlife mortality. These measures will include the following:

- Encouraging car-pooling to minimize traffic due to employee travel.
- Staggering shift changes to reduce the peak traffic volume on U.S. Highway 20.
- Construction deliveries (e.g., concrete truck deliveries, engineered fill deliveries, construction supplies) will be coordinated and scheduled to avoid peak traffic periods, thereby minimizing traffic impacts.
- Constructing and using acceleration and deceleration lanes to improve traffic flow and safety on U.S. Highway 20 at the proposed EREF highway entrances.
- Using water for dust suppression at least twice daily (when needed) on dirt roads, in clearing and grading operations, and construction activities. Other fugitive dust prevention and control methods will also be implemented.
- Using adequate containment methods during excavation and/or other similar operations, including minimizing the construction footprint, limiting site slopes to a horizontal to vertical ratio of four to one or less, constructing a sedimentation detention basin, protecting

undisturbed areas with silt fencing and straw bales, and placing crushed stone on top of disturbed soil in areas of concentrated runoff.

- Covering open-bodied trucks that transport materials likely to give rise to airborne dust.
- Promptly removing earthen materials on paved roads on the EREF site carried onto the roadway by wind, trucks, or earth moving equipment.
- Promptly stabilizing or covering bare areas once roadway and highway entrance earthmoving activities are completed.
- Maintaining low speed limits on site to reduce noise and minimize impacts to wildlife.

Mitigation measures will be used to minimize the release of dirt and other matter onto Highway 20 during construction. These measures will include the following:

- Gravel pads will be built at the EREF entry/exit points along U.S. Highway 20 in accordance with the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) Catalog of Stormwater Best Management Practices for Idaho Cities and Counties, Volume 2, Erosion and Sediment Controls (IDEQ, 2009). Periodic top dressing of clean stone will be applied to the gravel pads, as needed, to maintain effectiveness of the stone voids. Tire washing will be performed as needed, on a stabilized stone (gravel) area which drains to a sediment trap.
- Vehicles will be inspected for cleanliness from dirt and other matter that could be released onto Highway 20 prior to entering U.S. Highway 20.
- Open-bodied trucks will be covered (e.g., the installation of tarps over open beds) to prevent debris from falling off or blowing out of vehicles onto the highway.

### **5.2.3 Geology and Soils**

Mitigation measures will be in place to minimize potential impact on geology and soils. These include the following items:

- The use of BMPs will be used to reduce soil erosion (e.g., earth berms, dikes, and sediment fences).
- Prompt revegetation or covering of bare areas with natural materials will be used to mitigate impacts of erosion due to construction activities.
- Watering will be used to control potentially fugitive construction dust.
- Process water will be contained within enclosed systems and will not be disposed to the subsurface bedrock or local soils.
- BMPs will be used to manage stormwater runoff from paved and compacted surfaces to drainage ditches and basins.
- Grading plans will be designed to minimize overland flow of stormwater and direct stormwater to the Site Stormwater Detention Basins.
- Standard drilling and blasting techniques, if required, will be used to minimize impact to bedrock, reducing the potential for over-excavation thereby minimizing damage to the surrounding rock, and protecting adjacent surfaces that are intended to remain intact.
- Soil stockpiles generated during construction will be placed in a manner to reduce erosion.
- On-site excavated materials will be reused whenever possible.

#### 5.2.4 Water Resources

Mitigation measures will be in place to minimize potential impacts on water resources during construction and operation. These include employing BMPs and the control of hazardous materials and fuels. In addition, the following controls will also be implemented:

- Construction equipment will be in good repair without visible leaks of oil, greases, or hydraulic fluids.
- The control and mitigation of spills during construction will be in conformance with the Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) plan.
- BMPs will be used to control stormwater runoff to prevent releases to nearby areas to the extent possible. See Section 4.1.1 for descriptions of construction BMPs.
- In addition to twice daily watering (when needed), other BMPs will also be used for dust control associated with excavation and fill operations during construction.
- Silt fencing and/or sediment traps will be used.
- External vehicle washing will use only water (no detergents).
- Stone construction pads will be placed at entrance/exits where unpaved construction access adjoins a state road.
- All temporary construction and permanent basins will be arranged to provide for the prompt, systematic sampling of runoff in the event of any special needs.
- Water quality impacts will be controlled during construction by compliance with the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) - Construction General Permit requirements and by applying BMPs as detailed in the site Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP).
- A SPCC plan will be implemented for the facility to identify potential spill substances, sources, and responsibilities.
- All above ground gasoline and diesel fuel storage tanks will be bermed or self contained.
- Any hazardous materials will be handled by approved methods and shipped off site to approved disposal sites. Sanitary wastes generated during site construction will be handled by portable systems until the Domestic Sanitary Sewage Treatment Plant is available for site use. An adequate number of these portable systems will be provided.
- The Liquid Effluent Collection and Treatment System will use evaporators, eliminating the need to discharge treated process water to an on-site basin.
- Water from the EREF Domestic Sanitary Sewage Treatment Plant will meet required levels for all contaminants stipulated in any permit or license required for that activity.
- Control of surface water runoff will be required for activities covered by the NPDES Construction General Permit.

The proposed EREF will be designed to minimize the use of water resources as shown by the following measures:

- The use of low-water consumption landscaping versus conventional landscaping reduces water usage.
- The installation of low flow toilets, sinks, and showers reduces water usage.

- Localized floor washing using mops and self-contained cleaning machines reduces water usage compared to conventional washing with a hose.
- Laundry services will not be performed on site resulting in use of less water and laundry wash water will not have to be treated and disposed.
- Closed-loop cooling systems have been incorporated to reduce water usage.
- Cooling towers will not be used resulting in the use of less water since evaporative losses and cooling tower blowdown are eliminated.

The facility design will include three types of basins. The Site Stormwater Detention Basins will collect runoff from parking lots, roofs, roads, landscaped areas and diversions from unaltered areas around the site. The detention basins will be designed to contain runoff for a volume equal to the 24-hour, 100-year return frequency rainstorm.

The Cylinder Storage Pads Stormwater Retention Basins will collect runoff from the Cylinder Storage Pads. The retention basins will be lined to prevent infiltration and will be designed to retain a volume equal to twice that for the 24-hour, 100-year frequency rain storm. The retention basins will have no flow outlets so that the only means for water loss is by evaporation. The retention basins will also be designed for sampling of the contained water and sediment.

The Domestic SSTP Basin will collect treated domestic sanitary waste water and rainwater that falls directly on the basin. The basin will be designed in accordance with applicable state requirements for a two cell system.

## 5.2.5 Ecological Resources

Mitigation measures will be in place to minimize potential impact on ecological resources. These include the following items:

- The management of unused open areas (i.e., leave undisturbed), including areas of native grasses and shrubs for the benefit of wildlife.
- The use of native plant species (i.e., low-water consuming plants) to revegetate disturbed areas to enhance wildlife habitat.
- On-site stormwater basins and the Domestic SSTP Basin will be fenced to limit access by wildlife.
- Vehicle speeds onsite will be reduced.
- Best management practices will be used to minimize dust. Water will be applied at least twice daily (when needed) to control dust in construction areas in addition to other fugitive dust prevention and control methods.
- All lights will be focused downward.
- The existing boundary fence will be improved to ensure pronghorn access to the remaining habitat on the proposed site.
- Removal of livestock, when the plant becomes operational, to improve sagebrush habitat.
- To protect migratory birds during the construction and decommissioning of the EREF, the following measures will be taken:
  - Clearing or removal of habitat (e.g., sagebrush), including buffer zones, will be performed outside of the breeding and nesting season for migratory birds.

- If additional areas are to be disturbed or impacted that have not been cleared outside of breeding and nesting season, surveys will be performed to identify active nests during breeding and nesting season for migratory birds. Activities in areas containing active nests for migratory birds will be avoided.
- AES will consult with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to determine the appropriate actions to take a migratory bird, if needed.
- No herbicides will be used during construction, but may be used during operations in limited amounts along the access roads, plant area, and security fence surrounding the plant. Herbicides would be used according to government regulations and manufacturer's instructions to control unwanted noxious vegetation during operation of the plant.
- Any eroded areas that may develop will be repaired and stabilized, and sediment will be collected in a stormwater detention basin.
- Erosion and runoff control methods, both temporary and permanent, will follow BMPs. BMPs will include minimizing the construction footprint to the extent possible, limiting site slopes to a horizontal to vertical ratio of four to one or less, using sedimentation detention basins, protecting adjacent undisturbed areas with silt fencing and straw bales as appropriate, and using crushed stone on top of disturbed soil in areas of concentrated runoff.
- Re-seed cropland areas on the property with native species when the plant becomes operational.

In addition to proposed wildlife management practices above, AES will consider all recommendations of appropriate state and federal agencies, including the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

## **5.2.6 Air Quality**

Mitigation measures will be in place to minimize potential impact on air quality. These include the following items:

- The SBM GEVS with Passive IROFS that Contain Safe-by-Design Component Attributes and SBM Local Extraction GEVS are designed to collect and clean all potentially hazardous gases from the plant prior to release into the atmosphere. Instrumentation is provided to detect and signal via alarm all non-routine process conditions, including the presence of radionuclides or hydrogen fluoride (HF) in the exhaust system that will trip the system to a safe condition in the event of effluent detection beyond routine operational limits.
- The TSB GEVS is designed to collect and clean all potentially hazardous gases from the serviced areas in the TSB prior to release into the atmosphere. Instrumentation is provided to detect and signal the Control Room via alarm all non-routine process conditions, including the presence of radionuclides or HF in the exhaust stream. Operators will then take appropriate actions to mitigate the release.
- The Centrifuge Test and Post Mortem Facilities GEVS is designed to collect and clean all potentially hazardous gases from the serviced areas in the Centrifuge Assembly Building prior to release into the atmosphere. Instrumentation is provided to detect and signal the Control Room via alarm all non-routine process conditions, including the presence of radionuclides or HF in the exhaust stream. Operators will then take appropriate actions to mitigate the release.



- The TSB Contaminated Area HVAC, the Ventilated Room HVAC System in the BSPB, and the Centrifuge Test and Post Mortem Facilities Exhaust Filtration System are designed to collect and clean all potentially hazardous gases from the serviced areas prior to release into the atmosphere.
- Fuel dispensing at the Gasoline and Diesel Fueling Station will be via automated, approved dispensing equipment to minimize emissions and spill potential.
- Construction BMPs will be applied to minimize fugitive dusts.
- Applying gravel to the unpaved surface of haul roads.
- Imposing speed limits on unpaved haul roads.
- Applying an environmentally safe chemical soil stabilizer or chemical dust suppressant to the surface of the unpaved haul roads.
- Using water spray bars at drop and conveyor transfer points.
- Limiting the height and disturbances of stockpiles.
- Applying water to the surface of stockpiles.
- Air concentrations of the Criteria Pollutants resulting from vehicle emissions and fugitive dust will be below the National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

### **5.2.7 Noise**

Mitigation of the operational noise sources will occur primarily from the plant design, whereby cooling systems, valves, transformers, pumps, generators, and other facility equipment, will mostly reside inside plant structures. The buildings themselves will absorb the majority of the noise located within. Natural land contours, vegetation (such as scrub brush), and site buildings and structures will mitigate the impact of other equipment located outside of structures that contribute to site noise levels.

The nearest home is located approximately 7.7 km (4.8 mi) east of the proposed site; and the Bureau of Land management Hell's Half Acre Wilderness Study Area (WSA) is located immediately south of the proposed site. Both the residence and the WSA are near U.S. Highway 20. To minimize noise impacts to the residence, most of U.S. Highway 20 use will be restricted after twilight through early morning hours. Similarly, heavy truck and earth moving equipment usage during construction of the access roads and highway entrances will be restricted after twilight through early morning hours to minimize noise impacts on the WSA.

AES will minimize and manage noise and vibration impacts during construction and decommissioning by:

1. Performing construction or decommissioning activities with the potential for noise or vibration at residential areas that could have a negative impact on the quality of life during the day-time hours (7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.). If it is necessary to perform an activity that could result in excessive noise or vibration in a residential area after hours, the community will be notified in accordance with the site procedures.
2. Engineered and administrative controls for equipment noise abatement, including the use of equipment and vehicle mufflers, acoustic baffles, shrouding, barriers and noise blankets.

3. Sequencing construction or decommissioning activities to minimize the overall noise and vibration impact (e.g., establishing the activities that can occur simultaneously or in succession).
4. Utilizing blast mats, if necessary.
5. Creating procedures for notifying State and local government agencies, residents, and businesses of construction or decommissioning activities that may produce high noise or vibration that could affect them.
6. Posting appropriate State highway signs warning of blasting.
7. Creating a Complaint Response Protocol for dealing with and responding to noise or vibration complaints, including entering the complaint into the site's Corrective Action Program.

### **5.2.8 Historical and Cultural Resources**

Mitigation measures will be in place to minimize any potential impact on historical and cultural resources. In the event that any inadvertent discovery of human remains or other item of archeological significance is made during construction, the facility will cease construction activities in the area around the discovery and notify the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) to make the determination of appropriate measures to identify, evaluate, and treat these discoveries.

Mitigation of the impact to historical and cultural sites within the EREF project boundary can take a variety of forms. Avoidance and data collection are the two most common forms of mitigation recommended for sites considered eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Significance criteria (a-d) serve as the basis for a determination that a site is eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. When possible, avoidance is the preferred alternative because the site is preserved in place and mitigation costs are minimized. When avoidance is not possible, data collection becomes the preferred alternative.

Data collection can take place after sites recommended eligible in the field have been officially determined eligible by the SHPO and a treatment plan has been submitted and approved. The plan describes the expected data content of the sites and the methodology for collection, analysis, and reporting. For the EREF, one site, MW004, has been recommended eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under criteria a and d. A treatment/mitigation plan for MW004 will be developed by AES to recover significant information.

Procedures to deal with unexpected discoveries will be developed in a plan prepared by AES. The plan will set forth the process for dealing with discoveries of human remains or previously unidentified archaeological materials that are discovered during ground disturbing activities and will establish procedures for the evaluation and treatment of these resources.

Materials that may be recovered for analysis during discovery or data recovery activities include artifacts and samples (e.g., bone, charcoal, sediments). Certain types of samples, such as radiocarbon samples, are usually submitted to outside analytical laboratories. All resources within the EREF are located on private land.

AES has also assessed the potential visual impact of the EREF on the Wasden Complex viewshed and has provided the assessment to the SHPO. AES is currently working with SHPO to address their concerns. AES has consulted with the Shoshone-Bannock Tribe. Consultation letters are included in ER Appendix A.

### **5.2.9 Visual/Scenic Resources**

Mitigation measures will be in place to minimize the impact to visual and scenic resources. These include the following items:

- Accepted natural, low water consumption landscaping techniques will be used to limit any potential visual impacts. These techniques will incorporate, but not be limited to, the use of native landscape plantings and crushed stone pavements on difficult to reclaim areas.
- Aesthetically pleasing screening measures such as berms and earthen barriers, natural stone, and other physical means may be used to soften the buildings.
- Prompt revegetation or covering of bare areas with natural materials will be used to mitigate visual impacts due to construction activities.
- Neutral colors will be used for structures.
- Lighting will be limited to meet security requirements and focusing lighting toward the ground to reduce night lighting in the surrounding area.

### **5.2.10 Socioeconomic**

No socioeconomic mitigation measures are anticipated.

### **5.2.11 Environmental Justice**

No environmental justice mitigation measures are anticipated.

### **5.2.12 Public and Occupational Health**

#### **5.2.12.1 Nonradiological – Normal Operations**

Mitigation measures will be in place to minimize the impact of nonradiological gaseous and liquid effluents to well below regulatory limits. The facility design incorporates numerous features to minimize potential gaseous and liquid effluent impacts including:

- Process systems that handle  $\text{UF}_6$  operate at sub-atmospheric pressure, minimizing outward leakage of  $\text{UF}_6$
- $\text{UF}_6$  cylinders are moved only when cool and when  $\text{UF}_6$  is in solid form minimizing the risk of inadvertent release due to mishandling
- Process off-gas from  $\text{UF}_6$  purification and other operations passes through cold traps to solidify and reclaim as much  $\text{UF}_6$  as possible. Remaining gases pass through high-efficiency filters and chemical absorbers removing HF and uranic compounds
- Waste generated by decontamination of equipment and systems are subjected to processes that separate uranic compounds and various other heavy metals in the waste material
- Liquid and solid waste handling systems and techniques are used to control wastes and effluent concentrations
- Gaseous effluent passes through pre-filters, high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters, and activated carbon filters, all of which reduce the radioactivity in the final discharged effluent to very low concentrations

- Process liquid waste is routed to collection tanks, and treated through a combination of precipitation, evaporation, and ion exchange to remove most of the radioactive material prior to a final evaporation step to preclude any liquid effluent release from the facility
- All UF<sub>6</sub> process systems are monitored by instrumentation, which will activate alarms in the Control Room and will either automatically shut down the facility to a safe condition or alert operators to take the appropriate action (i.e., to prevent release) in the event of operational problems
- AES will investigate alternative solvents or will apply control technologies for methylene chloride solvent use. Potential solvent alternatives, such as citrus-based, aqueous-based, petroleum hydrocarbons, and glycol ethers, would be evaluated based on their performance as a replacement solvent for methylene chloride, their toxicity and safety characteristics, and costs.

AES will also consider implementing potential source reduction strategies and best management practices (BMPs) for methylene chloride. These activities could include the use of pre-moistened industrial solvent wipers, management of used solvent wipers (storage in leak-free accumulation containers, keeping the container closed when not adding waste to the container), training of maintenance personnel, and establishing a solvent inventory and use tracking system.

Administrative controls, practices, and procedures are used to assure compliance with the EREF's Health, Safety, and Environmental Program. This program is designed to ensure safe storage, use, and handling of chemicals to minimize the potential for worker exposure.

#### **5.2.12.2 Radiological – Normal Operations**

Mitigation measures to minimize the impact of radiological gaseous effluents are the same as those listed in ER Section 5.2.12.1, Nonradiological - Normal Operations. Additional measures to minimize radiological exposure and release are listed below.

Radiological practices and procedures are in place to ensure compliance with the EREF's Radiation Protection Program. This program is designed to achieve and maintain radiological exposure to levels that are "As Low as Reasonably Achievable" (ALARA). These measures include:

- Routine facility radiation and radiological surveys to characterize and minimize potential radiological dose/exposure
- Monitoring of all radiation workers via the use of dosimeters and area air sampling to ensure that radiological doses remain within regulatory limits and are ALARA
- Radiation monitors are provided in the gaseous effluent vents to detect and alarm, and affect the automatic safe shutdown of process equipment in the event contaminants are detected in the system exhaust. Systems will automatically shut down, switch trains, or rely on operator actions to mitigate the potential release.

#### **5.2.12.3 Accidental Releases**

Mitigation measures will be in place to minimize the impact of a potential accidental release of radiological and/or nonradiological effluents. For example, one accident sequence involving UF<sub>6</sub> releases to the environment due to a fire event was mitigated using design features to delay and reduce the UF<sub>6</sub> releases inside the buildings from reaching the outside environment. This mitigative feature includes automatic shutoff of room HVAC system during a fire event.

With mitigation, the dose consequences to the public for this accident sequence, has been reduced to a level below that considered "intermediate consequences," as that term is defined in (10 CFR 70.61(c)) (CFR, 2008oo).

### 5.2.13 Waste Management

Mitigation measures will be in place to minimize both the generation and impact of facility wastes. Solid and liquid wastes and gaseous effluents will be controlled in accordance with regulatory limits. There will be no radioactively contaminated liquid effluent discharges from facility operations. Mitigation measures include the following.

- System design features are in place to minimize the generation of solid waste, liquid waste, and gaseous effluent. Gaseous effluent design features were previously described in ER Section 5.2.12, Public and Occupational Health.
- There will be no onsite disposal of waste at the EREF. Waste will be stored in designated areas of the plant, until an administrative limit is reached. When the administrative limit is reached, the waste will then be shipped off site to a licensed disposal facility.
- All radioactive and mixed wastes will be disposed of at off-site, licensed facilities.

Mitigation measures associated with depleted uranium tails cylinder storage are as follows:

- AES will maintain a cylinder management program to monitor storage conditions on the Northern Cylinder Storage Pads, to monitor cylinder integrity by conducting routine inspections for breaches, and to perform cylinder maintenance and repairs as needed.
- All tails cylinders filled with depleted uranium hexafluoride (UF<sub>6</sub>) will be stored on concrete (or other suitable material) saddles that do not cause corrosion of the cylinders. These saddles will be placed on a concrete pad.
- The storage pad areas will be segregated from the rest of the enrichment facility by barriers (e.g., vehicle guard rails).
- Depleted uranium tails cylinders will be double stacked on the storage pad. The storage array will permit easy visual inspection of all cylinders.
- Depleted uranium tails cylinders will be surveyed for external contamination (wipe tested), prior to being placed on a Northern Cylinder Storage Pad or transported off site.
- Depleted uranium tails cylinder valves will be fitted with valve guards to protect the cylinder valve during transfer and storage.
- Provisions will be in place to ensure that depleted uranium tails cylinders will not have defective valves (identified in NRC Bulletin 2003-03, "Potentially Defective 1-Inch Valves for Uranium Hexafluoride Cylinders") (NRC, 2003d) installed.
- All UF<sub>6</sub> cylinders will be abrasive blasted and coated with anti-corrosion primer/paint when manufactured (as required by specification). Touch-up application of coating will be performed on depleted uranium tails cylinders if coating damage is discovered during inspection.
- Only designated vehicles, operated by trained and qualified personnel, will be allowed on the Full Product Cylinder Storage Pad and the Northern Cylinder Storage Pads. Refer to the ISA Summary, Section 3.8 for controls associated with vehicle fires on or near the Cylinder Storage Pads.

Depleted uranium tails cylinders will be inspected for damage prior to placing a filled cylinder on a storage pad. Depleted uranium tails cylinders will be re-inspected annually for damage or surface coating defects. These inspections will verify that:

- Lifting points are free from distortion and cracking.
- Cylinder skirts and stiffener rings are free from distortion and cracking.
- Cylinder surfaces are free from bulges, dents, gouges, cracks, or significant corrosion.
- Cylinder valves are fitted with the correct protector and cap.
- Cylinders are inspected to confirm that the valve is straight and not distorted, two to six threads are visible, and the square head of the valve stem is undamaged.
- Cylinder plugs are undamaged and not leaking.
- If inspection of a depleted uranium tails cylinder reveals significant deterioration or other conditions that may affect the safe use of the cylinder, the contents of the affected cylinder will be transferred to another good condition cylinder and the defective cylinder will be discarded. The root cause of any significant deterioration will be determined, and if necessary, additional inspections of cylinders will be made.
- Proper documentation on the status of each depleted uranium tails cylinder will be available on site, including content and inspection dates.
- The lined Cylinder Storage Pads Stormwater Retention Basins will be used to capture stormwater runoff from the Northern Cylinder Storage Pads.

Other waste mitigation measures will include:

- Power usage will be minimized by efficient design of lighting systems, selection of high-efficiency motors, and use of proper insulation materials.
- Processes used to clean up wastes and effluents, create their own wastes and effluent as well. Control of these process effluents will be accomplished by liquid and solid waste handling systems and techniques as described below:
  - Careful applications of basic principles for waste handling will be followed in all of the systems and processes.
  - Different waste types will be collected in separate containers to minimize contamination of one waste type with another. Materials that can cause airborne contamination will be carefully packaged, and; ventilation and filtration of the air in the area will be provided as necessary. Liquid wastes will be confined to piping, tanks, and other containers; curbing, pits, and sumps will be used to collect and contain leaks and spills.
  - Hazardous wastes will be stored in designated areas in carefully labeled containers. Mixed wastes will also be contained and stored separately.
  - Strong acids and caustics will be neutralized before entering an effluent stream.
  - Radioactively contaminated wastes will be decontaminated and/or re-used in so far as possible to reduce waste volume.
  - Collected waste such as trash, compressible dry waste, scrap metals, and other candidate wastes, will be volume reduced at a centralized waste processing facility.
  - Waste management systems will include administrative procedures and practices that

provide for the collection, temporary storage, processing, and disposal of categorized solid waste in accordance with regulatory requirements.

- Handling and treatment processes will be designed to limit wastes and effluent. Sampling and monitoring will be performed to assure that plant administrative and regulatory limits will not be exceeded.
- Gaseous effluent will be monitored for HF and for radioactive contamination before release.
- Liquid wastes will be sampled and/or monitored in liquid waste treatment systems.
- Solid wastes will be sampled and/or monitored prior to offsite treatment and disposal.
- Process system samples will be returned to their source, where feasible, to minimize input to waste streams.
- The EREF will implement a spill control program for accidental oil spills. A Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plan will be prepared prior to the start of operation of the facility or prior to the storage of oil on site in excess of de minimis quantities and will contain the following information:
  - Identification of potential significant sources of spills and a prediction of the direction and quantity of flow that will likely result from a spill from each source.
  - Identification of the use of containment or diversionary structures such as dikes, berms, culverts, booms, sumps, and diversion ponds at the facility to control discharged oil.
  - Procedures for inspection of potential sources of spills and spill containment/diversion structures.
  - Assigned responsibilities for implementing the plan, inspections, and reporting.
  - As part of the SPCC Plan, other measures will include control of drainage of rain water from diked areas, containment of oil, gasoline, and diesel fuel in bulk storage tanks, above ground tank integrity testing, and oil, gasoline, and diesel fuel transfer operational safeguards.

Currently, the EREF construction plan has not been developed enough to determine how much of construction debris will be recycled. As such, there is no plan in place at this time to recycle construction materials. A construction phase recycling program will be developed as the construction plan progresses to final design.

The EREF will implement a non-hazardous materials waste recycling plan during operation. The recycling effort will start with the performance of a waste assessment to identify waste reduction opportunities and to determine which materials will be recycled. Once the decision has been made of which waste materials to recycle, brokers and haulers will be contacted to find an end-market for the materials. Employee training on the recycling program will be performed so that employees will know which materials are to be recycled. Recycling bins and containers will be purchased and will be clearly labeled. Periodically, the recycling program will be evaluated (i.e., waste management expenses and savings, recycling and disposal quantities) and the results reported to the employees.

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## **6.0 ENVIRONMENTAL MEASUREMENTS AND MONITORING PROGRAMS**

### **6.1 RADIOLOGICAL MONITORING**

#### **6.1.1 Effluent Monitoring Program**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) requires, pursuant to 10 CFR 20 (CFR, 2008x) that licensees conduct surveys necessary to demonstrate compliance with these regulations and to demonstrate that the amount of radioactive material present in effluent from the facility has been kept as low as reasonably achievable (ALARA). In addition, the NRC requires, pursuant to 10 CFR 70 (CFR, 2008b), that licensees submit semiannual reports, specifying the quantities of the principal radionuclides released to unrestricted areas and other information needed to estimate the annual radiation dose to the public from effluent discharges. The NRC has also issued Regulatory Guide 4.15 "Quality Assurance for Radiological Monitoring Programs (Normal Operations) - Effluent Streams and the Environment" (NRC, 1979) and Regulatory Guide 4.16 "Monitoring and Reporting Radioactivity in Releases of Radioactive Materials in Liquid and Gaseous Effluent from Nuclear Fuel Processing and Fabrication Plants and Uranium Hexafluoride Production Plants" (NRC, 1985b) that reiterate that concentrations of hazardous materials in effluent must be controlled and that licensees must adhere to the ALARA principal such that there is no undue risk to the public health and safety at or beyond the site boundary.

Refer to Figure 6.1-1, Effluent Release Points and Meteorological Tower, and Figure 6.1-2, Modified Site Features With Proposed Sampling Stations and Monitoring Locations. Effluents are sampled as indicated in Table 6.1-1, Effluent Monitoring Program. For gaseous effluents, liquid condensate samples from the Evaporator exhaust vent and continuous air sampler filters are analyzed for gross alpha and gross beta each week. The filters, or liquid condensate samples, are composited quarterly and an isotopic analysis is performed if a specified gross alpha or gross beta action level is exceeded (as specified in Table 6.1-1).

The guidance in "Offsite Dose Calculation Manual Guidance: Standard Radiological Effluent Controls for Boiling Water Reactors" (NRC, 1991) and Regulatory Guide 4.16, "Monitoring and Reporting Radioactivity in Releases of Radioactive Materials in Liquid and Gaseous Effluent from Nuclear Fuel Processing and Fabrication Plants and Uranium Hexafluoride Production Plants" (NRC, 1985b) was followed for determining sample locations, analyses, frequencies, durations, and lower limits of detection for both effluent and environmental samples. Sample sizes are set in accordance with standard commercial laboratory requirements.

Public exposure to radiation from routine operations at the Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility (EREF) may occur as the result of discharge of airborne effluents, including controlled releases from the uranium enrichment process lines during decontamination and maintenance of equipment. In addition, radiation exposure to the public may result from the transportation and storage of uranium hexafluoride (UF<sub>6</sub>) feed cylinders, product cylinders, and depleted uranium cylinders. Of these potential pathways, discharge of gaseous effluent has the highest possibility of introducing facility-related uranium into the environment. The plant's procedures and facilities for solid waste handling, storage, and monitoring result in safe storage and timely disposition of the material. ER Section 1.3, Applicable Regulatory Requirements, Permits and Required Consultations, describes all applicable federal and Idaho state standards for discharges, as well as required permits issued by local, Idaho, and Federal governments.

Compliance with 10 CFR 20.1301 (CFR, 2008x) is demonstrated using a calculation of the total effective dose equivalent (TEDE) to the individual who is likely to receive the highest dose in

accordance with 10 CFR 20.1302(b)(1) (CFR, 2008x). The determination of the TEDE by pathway analysis is supported by appropriate models, codes, and assumptions that accurately represent the facility, site, and the surrounding area. The assumptions are reasonably conservative, input data is accurate, and all applicable pathways are considered. ER Section 4.12, Public and Occupational Health Impacts, presents the details of these determinations.

The computer codes used to calculate dose associated with potential gaseous effluent from the plant follow the methodology for pathway modeling described in Regulatory Guide 1.109 (NRC, 1977b), and have undergone validation and verification. The dose conversion factors used are those presented in Federal Guidance Reports Numbers 11 (EPA, 1988) and 12 (EPA, 1993).

Administrative action levels are established for effluent samples and monitoring instrumentation as an additional step in the effluent control process. All action levels are sufficiently low so as to permit implementation of corrective actions before regulatory limits are exceeded. Effluent samples that exceed the action level are cause for an investigation into the source of elevated radioactivity. Radiological analyses will be performed more frequently on ventilation air filters if there is a significant increase in gross radioactivity or when a process change or other circumstances cause significant changes in radioactivity concentrations. Additional corrective actions will be implemented based on the level, automatic shutdown programming, and operating procedures to be developed in the detailed alarm design. Under routine operating conditions, radioactive material in effluents discharged from the facility complies with regulatory release criteria.

Compliance is demonstrated through effluent and environmental sampling data. If an accidental release of uranium should occur, then routine operational effluent data and environmental data will be used to assess the extent of the release. Processes are designed to include, when practical, provision for automatic shutdown in the event action levels are exceeded. Appropriate action levels and actions to be taken are specified for effluent releases. Data analysis methods and criteria used in evaluating and reporting environmental sample results are appropriate and will indicate when an action level is being approached in time to take corrective actions.

Periodic audits of the effluent monitoring program will be conducted by AES. Written procedures will be in place to ensure the collection of representative samples, use of appropriate sampling methods and equipment, proper locations for sampling points, and proper handling, storage, transport, and analyses of effluent samples. In addition, the plant's written procedures also ensure that sampling and measuring equipment, including ancillary equipment such as airflow meters, are properly maintained and calibrated at regular intervals. Moreover, the effluent monitoring program procedures include functional testing and routine checks to demonstrate that monitoring and measuring instruments are in working condition. Employees involved in implementation of this program are trained in the program procedures.

The EREF will ensure, when sampling particulate matter within ducts with moving air streams, that sampling conditions within the sample probe are maintained to simulate as closely as possible the conditions in the duct. This will be accomplished by implementing the following criteria: (1) calibrating air sampling equipment so that the sample is representative of the effluent being sampled in the duct; (2) maintaining the axis of the sampling probe head parallel to the air stream flow lines in the ductwork; (3) sampling (if possible) at least ten duct diameters downstream from a bend or obstruction in the duct; and (4) using shrouded-head air sampling probes when they are available in the size appropriate to the air sampling situation. Particle size distributions will be determined from process knowledge or measured to estimate and compensate for sample line losses and momentary conditions not reflective of airflow conditions in the duct.

The EREF will ensure that sampling equipment (pumps, pressure gages, and air flow calibrators) are calibrated by qualified individuals. All air flow and pressure drop calibration devices (e.g., rotometers) will be calibrated periodically using primary or secondary air flow calibrators (wet test meters, dry gas meters, or displacement bellows). Secondary air flow calibrators will be calibrated annually by the manufacturer(s). Air sampling train flow rates will be verified and/or calibrated each time a filter is replaced or a sampling train component is replaced or modified. Sampling equipment and lines will be inspected for defects, obstructions, and cleanliness. Calibration intervals will be developed based on applicable industry standards.

#### **6.1.1.1 Gaseous Effluent Monitoring**

As a matter of compliance with regulatory requirements, all potentially radioactive effluent from the facility is discharged only through monitored pathways. See ER Section 4.12.2.1.1, Routine Gaseous Effluent, for a discussion of pathway assessment. The effluent sampling program for the EREF is designed to determine the quantities and concentrations of radionuclides discharged to the environment. The uranium isotopes  $^{238}\text{U}$ ,  $^{236}\text{U}$ ,  $^{235}\text{U}$ , and  $^{234}\text{U}$  are expected to be the prominent radionuclides in the gaseous effluent. The annual uranium source term for routine gaseous effluent releases from the 6.6 million SWU EREF plant has been conservatively assumed to be 19.5 MBq (528  $\mu\text{Ci}$ ) per year, which is proportional to the 4.4 MBq (120  $\mu\text{Ci}$ ) per year source term applied to the 1.5 million SWU plant described in NUREG-1484 (NRC, 1994). This is a very conservative annual release estimate used for bounding analyses. Additional details regarding source term are provided in ER Section 4.12, Public and Occupational Health Impacts. Representative samples are collected from each release point of the facility. Because uranium in gaseous effluent may exist in a variety of compounds (e.g., depleted hexavalent uranium, triuranium octoxide, and uranyl fluoride), effluent data will be maintained, reviewed, and assessed by the facility's Radiation Protection/Chemistry Manager to assure that gaseous effluent discharges comply with regulatory release criteria for uranium. Table 6.1-1, Effluent Monitoring Program, presents an overview of the effluent sampling program.

The gaseous effluent monitoring program for the EREF is designed to determine the quantities and concentrations of gaseous discharges to the environment.

Gaseous effluent from the EREF, which has the potential for airborne radioactivity (albeit in very low concentrations) will be discharged through the four Separations Building Gaseous Effluent Ventilation Systems (GEVS), the Technical Support Building (TSB) GEVS, the Centrifuge Test and Post Mortem Facilities GEVS, the Centrifuge Test and Post Mortem Facilities Exhaust Filtration System, the Ventilated Room Heating, Ventilating, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) System, and the TSB Contaminated Area HVAC System. Monitoring for each of these systems is as follows:

- Separations Building GEVS: The GEVS for each of the four Separations Building Modules (SBMs) discharges to exhaust vents on the SBM roofs. Each Separations Building GEVS provides for continuous monitoring and sampling of the gaseous effluent in the exhaust vents in accordance with the guidance in NRC Regulatory Guide 4.16 (NRC, 1985b). The GEVS exhaust vent sampling systems provide the required samples. The exhaust vents are equipped with monitors for alpha radiation and hydrogen fluoride (HF). The SBM Module 1 GEVS also provides process services for the Blending, Sampling, and Preparation Building (BSPB).
- TSB GEVS: This system discharges to an exhaust vent on the TSB roof. The TSB GEVS provides for continuous monitoring and sampling of the gaseous effluent in the exhaust vent in accordance with the guidance in NRC Regulatory Guide 4.16 (NRC, 1985b). The TSB

GEVS exhaust vent sampling system provides the required samples. The exhaust vent contains monitors for alpha radiation and HF.

- Centrifuge Test and Post Mortem Facilities GEVS: This system discharges through an exhaust vent on the Centrifuge Assembly Building (CAB) roof. The Centrifuge Test and Post Mortem Facilities GEVS exhaust vent sampling system provides for continuous monitoring and sampling of the gaseous effluent in the exhaust vent in accordance with the guidance in NRC Regulatory Guide 4.16 (NRC, 1985b). The exhaust vent is provided with an alpha radiation monitor and an HF monitor.
- Centrifuge Test and Post Mortem Facilities Exhaust Filtration System: This system discharges through an exhaust vent on the CAB roof. When the Centrifuge Test Facility or the Centrifuge Post Mortem Facility is in operation, the Centrifuge Test and Post Mortem Facilities Exhaust Filtration exhaust vent sampling system provides for continuous monitoring and sampling of the gaseous effluent in the exhaust vent in accordance with the guidance in NRC Regulatory Guide 4.16 (NRC, 1985b). The exhaust vent is provided with an alpha radiation monitor and an HF monitor.
- TSB Contaminated Area HVAC System: This system maintains the temperature in various areas in the TSB. For the potentially contaminated areas in the TSB, which include the Chemical Trap Workshop, Mobile Unit Disassembly and Reassembly Workshop, Valve and Pump Dismantling Workshop, Decontamination Workshop, and Maintenance Facility, the TSB Contaminated Area HVAC system maintains a negative pressure in these rooms and discharges the room air to an exhaust vent on the TSB roof. The system provides for continuous alpha and HF monitoring and sampling of the discharged room air from the rooms served by the TSB Contaminated Area HVAC system in accordance with the guidance in NRC Regulatory Guide 4.16 (NRC, 1985b).
- Ventilated Room HVAC System: This system maintains a negative pressure in the Ventilated Room, which is located in the BSPB, and discharges the room air to an exhaust vent on the BSPB roof. The system provides for continuous alpha and HF monitoring and sampling of the discharged room air from the Ventilated Room, in accordance with the guidance in NRC Regulatory Guide 4.16 (NRC, 1985b).

The HVAC systems serving all process areas will have the necessary access to periodically sample exhaust air, in accordance with the guidance in NRC Regulatory Guide 4.16 (NRC, 1985b).

Saturated air from the Evaporator (which is part of the Liquid Effluent Collection and Treatment System) is discharged to the environment through an exhaust vent on the TSB roof. An air sampler in this vent line will sample the discharged air and trap the condensed distillate. The liquid condensate will be periodically sampled and analyzed for isotopic uranium.

The gaseous effluent sampling program supports the determination of quantity and concentration of radionuclides discharged from the facility and supports the collection of other information required in reports to be submitted to the NRC. A minimum detectable concentration (MDC) of at least  $1.8 \times 10^{-9}$  Bq/ml ( $5.0 \times 10^{-14}$   $\mu$ Ci/ml) is a program requirement (NRC, 2002a) for all analyses performed on gaseous effluent samples. That MDC value represents 5% of the limit for any applicable uranium isotope (Class W). Liquid condensate samples from the evaporator discharge are analyzed to an MDC equivalent to 5% or less of the appropriate 10 CFR 20 Appendix B, Table 2, Col. 1 (Air) value (CFR, 2008x). Table 6.1-2, Required Lower Limit of Detection for Effluent Sample Analyses, summarizes detection requirements for effluent sample analyses.

### **6.1.1.2 Stormwater and Sewage Treatment Plant Liquid Effluent Monitoring**

General site stormwater runoff is routed to the Site Stormwater Detention Basins. (See sections 3.4 and 4.4 for descriptions of the discharges from these basins.) The two Cylinder Storage Pads Stormwater Retention Basins collect stormwater runoff from the Cylinder Storage Pads (i.e., Full Product Cylinder Storage Pad and Northern Cylinder Storage Pads). Approximately 150,415 m<sup>3</sup> (39.7 million gal) of stormwater are expected to be collected each year (mean annual) by the detention and retention basins combined. Approximately 18,700 m<sup>3</sup> (4,927,500 gal) of Domestic Sanitary Sewage Treatment Plant (SSTP) effluent are expected to be discharged to the Domestic SSTP Basin each year. These basins will be included in the site Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program described below in ER Section 6.1.2.

### **6.1.2 Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program**

The Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program (REMP) at the EREF is a major part of the effluent compliance program. It provides a supplementary check of containment and effluent controls, establishes a process for collecting data for assessing radiological impacts on the environs and estimating the potential impacts on the public, and supports the demonstration of compliance with applicable radiation protection standards and guidelines.

The primary objective of the REMP is to provide verification that the operations at the facility do not result in detrimental radiological impacts on the environment. Through its implementation, the REMP provides data to confirm the effectiveness of effluent controls and the effluent monitoring program. In order to meet program objectives, representative samples from various environmental media are collected and analyzed for the presence of plant-related radioactivity. The types and frequency of sampling and analyses are summarized in Table 6.1-3, Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program. Environmental media identified for sampling consist of ambient air, groundwater, soil/sediment, and vegetation. All environmental samples will be analyzed onsite. However, samples may also be shipped to a qualified independent laboratory for analyses. The MDCs for gross alpha (assumed to be uranium) in various environmental media are shown in Table 6.1-4, Required MDC for Environmental Sample Analysis. Monitoring and sampling activities, laboratory analyses, and reporting of facility-related radioactivity in the environment will be conducted in accordance with industry-accepted and regulatory-approved methodologies.

The Quality Control (QC) procedures used by the laboratories performing the plant's REMP will be adequate to validate the analytical results and will conform with the guidance in Regulatory Guide 4.15 (NRC, 1979). These QC procedures include the use of established standards such as those provided by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), as well as standard analytical procedures such as those established by the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Conference (NELAC).

Monitoring procedures will employ well-known acceptable analytical methods and instrumentation. The instrument maintenance and calibration program will be appropriate to the given instrumentation, in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations.

The EREF will ensure that the onsite laboratory and any contractor laboratory used to analyze EREF samples participates in third-party laboratory intercomparison programs appropriate to the media and analytes being measured. Examples of these third-party programs are: (1) Mixed Analyte Performance Evaluation Program (MAPEP) and the DOE Quality Assurance Program (DOEQAP) that are administered by the Department of Energy; and (2) Analytics, Inc. Environmental Radiochemistry Cross-Check Program. The EREF will require that all radiological and non-radiological laboratory vendors are certified by the National Environmental

Laboratory Accreditation Program (NELAP) or an equivalent state laboratory accreditation agency for the analytes being tested.

Reporting procedures will comply with the requirements of 10 CFR 70.59 (CFR, 2008b) and the guidance specified in Regulatory Guide 4.16 (NRC, 1985b). Reports of the concentrations of principal radionuclides released to unrestricted areas in effluents will be provided and will include the Minimum Detectable Concentration (MDC) for the analysis and the error for each data point.

The REMP includes the collection of data during pre-operational years in order to establish baseline radiological information that will be used in determining and evaluating impacts from operations at the plant on the local environment. The REMP will be initiated at least two years prior to plant operations in order to develop a sufficient database. The early initiation of the REMP provides assurance that a sufficient environmental baseline has been established for the plant before the arrival of the first uranium hexafluoride shipment. Radionuclides in environmental media will be identified using technically appropriate, accurate, and sensitive analytical instruments. Data collected during the operational years will be compared to the baseline generated by the pre-operational data. Such comparisons provide a means of assessing the magnitude of potential radiological impacts on members of the public and in demonstrating compliance with applicable radiation protection standards.

During the course of facility operations, revisions to the REMP may be necessary and appropriate to assure reliable sampling and collection of environmental data. The rationale and actions behind such revisions to the program will be documented and reported to the appropriate regulatory agency, as required. REMP sampling focuses on locations within 4.8 km (3 mi) of the facility, but may also include distant locations as control sites. REMP sampling locations have been determined based on NRC guidance found in the document, "Offsite Dose Calculation Manual Guidance: Standard Radiological Effluent Controls for Boiling Water Reactors" (NRC, 1991), meteorological information, and current land use. The sampling locations may be subject to change as determined from the results of periodic review of land use.

Atmospheric radioactivity monitoring is based on plant design, demographic, geologic, meteorological, and land use data. Because operational releases are anticipated to be very low and subject to rapid dilution via dispersion, distinguishing plant-related uranium from background uranium already present in the site environment is a major challenge of the REMP. The gaseous effluent is released from roof-top discharge points, which will result in ground-level releases. A characteristic of ground-level plumes is that plume concentrations decrease continually as the distance from the release point increases. It logically follows that the impact at locations close to the release point is greater than at more distant locations. The radioactive materials in gaseous effluents from the EREF are expected to be very low concentrations of uranium because of process and effluent controls. Consequently, air samples collected at locations that are close to the plant would provide the best opportunity to detect and identify plant-related radioactivity in the ambient air. Therefore, air-monitoring activities will concentrate on collection of data from locations that are relatively close to the plant, such as the plant perimeter fence or the plant property line. Air monitoring stations will be situated along the three site boundary locations of highest predicted atmospheric deposition. Since there are no communities or residences within 8 km (5 mi) of the facility footprint, an additional air sampler will be located at the site boundary in the same sector as the nearest residence, which is situated in the East sector at approximately 8 km (5 mi) from the facility footprint.

A control sample location will be established beyond 8 km (5 mi) in an upwind sector (the sector with a non-prevalent wind direction) that is not in the vicinity of any other facility with a



significant radiological source term. Refer to Sections 3.6, Meteorology, Climatology and Air Quality and 4.6, Air Quality Impacts, for information on meteorology and atmospheric dispersion. All environmental air samplers operate on a continuous basis with sample retrieval for a gross alpha and beta analysis occurring on a biweekly basis (or as required by dust loading).

Vegetation and soil samples from locations near the Owner Controlled Area fence line will be collected on a quarterly basis in each sector during the pre-operational REMP. This is to assure the development of a sound baseline. During the operational years, vegetation, and soil sampling will be performed semiannually in eight sectors, including three with the highest predicted atmospheric deposition. Vegetation samples may include vegetables and grass, depending on availability. Soil samples will be collected in the same vicinity as the vegetation samples. Vegetation and soil samples will also be collected from an off-site control location.

Groundwater samples from onsite monitoring wells will be collected semiannually for radiological analysis. The locations of the groundwater sampling (monitoring) wells are shown on Figure 6.1-2, Modified Site Features with Proposed Sampling Stations and Monitoring Locations. The rationale for the locations is based on the predominant groundwater flow under the EREF site and proximity to key site structures. Nine deep monitoring wells will be located as follows: one down-gradient (i.e., west-southwest) of the plant footprint, three near the down-gradient edge of the plant footprint, three cross-gradient, and two up-gradient of the site to serve as control locations. An additional shallow monitoring well will be located down-gradient of the site. Sediment samples will be collected semiannually from the two Cylinder Storage Pads Stormwater Retention Basins and the three Site Stormwater Detention Basins to look for any buildup of uranic material being deposited.

The site Domestic Sanitary Sewage Treatment Plant will receive only domestic sanitary wastes. No plant process-related effluents will be introduced. Samples will, however, be collected semiannually from the sanitary sewage treatment system and will be analyzed for isotopic Uranium.

Direct radiation in offsite areas from processes inside the facility building is expected to be minimal because the low-energy radiation associated with the uranium will be shielded by the process piping, equipment, and cylinders to be used at the EREF. However, the uranium cylinders stored on the Cylinder Storage Pads may have an impact in some offsite locations due to direct and scatter (skyshine) radiation. The offsite impact from the storage pads has been evaluated and is discussed in Section 4.12, Public and Occupational Health Impacts.

The conservative evaluation showed that an annual TEDE of  $< 0.1$  mSv ( $\leq 10$  mrem) is expected at the highest impacted area at the site boundary.

Because the offsite dose equivalent rate from stored uranium cylinders is expected to be very low and difficult to distinguish from the variance in normal background radiation beyond the site boundary, demonstration of compliance will rely on a system that combines direct dose equivalent measurements and computer modeling to extrapolate the measurements.

Environmental thermoluminescent dosimeters (TLDs) placed at the Owner Controlled Area fence line or other location(s) close to the stored uranium cylinders, along with a minimum of two off-site TLD control sampling locations to provide information on regional changes in background radiation levels, will provide quarterly direct dose equivalent information. Where TLD results indicate radiation levels at the fence line in excess of background, the direct dose equivalent at offsite locations will be estimated through extrapolation of the quarterly TLD data using the Monte Carlo N-Particle (MCNP) computer program (ORNL, 2005) or a similar computer program.

Figure 6.1-2, Modified Site Features With Proposed Sampling Stations and Monitoring Locations, indicates the location of REMP sampling locations.

The REMP may be enhanced during the operation of the facility as necessary to maintain the collection and reliability of environmental data based on changes to regulatory requirements or facility operations. The REMP includes administrative action levels (requiring further analysis) and reporting levels for radioactivity in environmental samples.

Written procedures to ensure representative sampling, proper use of appropriate sampling methods and equipment, proper locations for sampling points, and proper handling, storage, transport, and analyses of effluent samples will be a key part of the REMP. In addition, written procedures ensure that sampling and measuring equipment, including ancillary equipment such as airflow meters, are properly maintained and calibrated at regular intervals. Moreover, the REMP implementing procedures will include functional testing and routine checks to demonstrate that monitoring and measuring instruments are in working condition.

Each year, the EREF will submit a summary report of the environmental sampling program to the NRC, including all associated data as required by 10 CFR 70 (CFR, 2008b). The report will include the types, numbers, and frequencies of environmental measurements and the identities and activity concentrations of facility-related radionuclides found in environmental samples, in addition to the MDC for the analyses and the error associated with each data point. Significant positive trends in activities will also be noted in the report, along with any adjustment to the program, unavailable samples, and deviation to the sampling program.

# TABLES

**Table 6.1-1 Effluent Monitoring Program**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Sample Location	Sample Type	Analysis / Frequency
Separations Building GEVS exhaust vents TSB GEVS exhaust vent TSB Contaminated Area HVAC System exhaust vent Centrifuge Test and Post Mortem Facilities GEVS exhaust vent <sup>a</sup> Centrifuge Test and Post Mortem Facilities Exhaust Filtration System exhaust vent <sup>a</sup> Ventilated Room HVAC System exhaust vent	Continuous air particulate filter	Gross alpha/beta-Weekly Isotopic analysis <sup>d</sup> -Quarterly composite
Evaporator	Continuous liquid condensate sample from exhaust vent	Gross alpha/beta – Weekly Isotopic analysis <sup>d</sup> – Quarterly composite
Process Areas <sup>b</sup>	Local area continuous air particulate filter <sup>c</sup>	Gross alpha/beta-Weekly Isotopic analysis <sup>d</sup> -Quarterly composite
Non-Process Areas <sup>b</sup>	Local area continuous air particulate filter <sup>c</sup>	Gross alpha/beta-Quarterly composite

Notes:

<sup>a</sup> The continuous sampling system is operated only when the Centrifuge Test Facility or Post Mortem Facility is in operation.

<sup>b</sup> A “Process Area” is any area of the facility where UF<sub>6</sub> process flow between feed, product, or tails cylinders occurs, including areas where cylinders containing UF<sub>6</sub> are opened for testing, inspection, or sampling. A “Non-Process Area” is any other area where uranic material is present in an open form.

<sup>c</sup> These will generally be collected with mobile continuous air monitors, as required to complement the effluent monitoring program.

<sup>d</sup> Isotopic analysis for Uranium if gross alpha and gross beta activities indicate that an individual radionuclide could be present in a concentration greater than 10 percent of the concentrations specified in Table 2 of Appendix B to 10 CFR Part 20 (CFR, 2008x).

**Table 6.1-2 Required Lower Limit of Detection for Effluent Sample Analysis**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Effluent Type	Nuclide	MDC <sup>a</sup> in Bq/ml (μCi/ml)
Gaseous <sup>b</sup>	Isotopic U	$1.8 \times 10^{-9}$ ( $5.0 \times 10^{-14}$ )
Gaseous <sup>b</sup>	Gross Alpha	$1.8 \times 10^{-9}$ ( $5.0 \times 10^{-14}$ )

Notes:

<sup>a</sup> These MDCs are 5% of the limits in 10 CFR 20 Appendix B, Table 2 Effluent Concentrations (retention Class W) (CFR, 2008x).

<sup>b</sup> Liquid condensate samples from the Evaporator exhaust vent will be analyzed to an MDC equivalent to 5% or less of the 10 CFR 20 Appendix B, Table 2, Col. 1 (Air) value for retention Class W (CFR, 2008x).

**Table 6.1-3 Radiological Environmental Monitoring Program**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Sample Type/Location	Minimum Number of Sample Locations	Sampling and Collection Frequency	Type of Analysis
Continuous Airborne Particulate	5	Continuous operation of air sampler with sample collection as required by dust loading but at least biweekly. Quarterly composite samples by location.	Gross beta/gross alpha analysis each filter change. Quarterly isotopic analysis on composite sample.
Vegetation	9	1 to 2-kg (2.2 to 4.4-lb) samples collected semiannually	Isotopic analysis <sup>a</sup>
Groundwater	10	4-L (1.06-gal) samples collected semiannually	Isotopic analysis <sup>a</sup>
Basins	1 from each of 5 basins <sup>b</sup>	4-L (1.06-gal) water sample/1 to 2-kg (2.2 to 4.4-lb) sediment sample collected quarterly	Isotopic analysis <sup>a</sup>
Soil	9	1 to 2-kg (2.2 to 4.4-lb) samples collected semiannually	Isotopic analysis <sup>a</sup>
Domestic Sanitary Sewage Treatment Plant	1	4-L (1.06-gal) water fraction/1 to 2-kg (2.2 to 4.4-lb) solid fraction; samples collected semiannually <sup>c</sup>	Isotopic analysis <sup>a</sup>
TLD	18	Quarterly	Gamma and neutron dose equivalent

Notes:

<sup>a</sup> Isotopic analysis for Uranium.

<sup>b</sup> Site Stormwater Detention Basins and Cylinder Storage Pads Stormwater Retention Basins.

<sup>c</sup> Both treated residual solids and clarified liquids are collected from the Domestic Sanitary Sewage Treatment Plant.

Note: Physiochemical monitoring parameters are addressed separately in ER Section 6.2, Physiochemical Monitoring.

**Table 6.1-4 Required MDC for Environmental Sample Analysis**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Medium	Analysis	MDC Bq/ml or g (μCi/ml or g)
Ambient Air <sup>a</sup>	Gross Alpha	$7.4 \times 10^{-10}$ ( $2.0 \times 10^{-14}$ )
Vegetation	Isotopic U	$1.9 \times 10^{-4}$ ( $5.0 \times 10^{-9}$ )
Soil/Sediment	Isotopic U	$1.1 \times 10^{-2}$ ( $3.0 \times 10^{-7}$ )
Groundwater <sup>a</sup>	Isotopic U	$1.1 \times 10^{-4}$ ( $3.0 \times 10^{-9}$ )

<sup>a</sup> MDCs are 2% or less of the limits in 10 CFR 20 Appendix B, Table 2 Effluent Concentrations (retention Class W for ambient air) (CFR, 2008x).

## FIGURES



**Figure 6.1-1, Effluent Release Points and Meteorological Tower, contains Security-Related Information Withheld from Disclosure under 10 CFR 2.390**



## **6.2      PHYSIOCHEMICAL MONITORING**

### **6.2.1      Introduction**

A physiochemical monitoring program will be implemented at the proposed EREF. The primary objective of physiochemical monitoring is to provide verification that the operations at the EREF do not result in detrimental chemical impacts on the environment. Effluent controls, which are discussed in Sections 3.12, Waste Management, and 4.13, Waste Management Impacts, are in place to ensure that chemical concentrations in gaseous effluents are maintained as low as reasonably achievable (ALARA). In addition, physiochemical monitoring provides data to confirm the effectiveness of effluent controls.

Administrative action levels will be implemented prior to facility operation to ensure that chemical discharges will remain below the limits specified in the facility discharge permits. The limits are specified in any applicable discharge permits administered by EPA Region 10 and the Idaho State Department of Environmental Quality.

Specific information regarding the source and characteristics of all non-radiological plant effluents and wastes that will be collected and disposed of offsite, or discharged in various effluent streams is provided in Sections 3.12, Waste Management, and 4.13, Waste Management Impacts.

In conducting physiochemical monitoring, sampling protocols and emission/effluent monitoring will be performed for routine operations with provisions for additional evaluation in response to potential accidental release.

The facility will have environmental laboratory areas consisting of various rooms which will be equipped with analytical instruments needed to ensure that the operation of facility activities complies with federal, state and local environmental regulations and requirements. Commercial, offsite laboratories may also be contracted to perform physiochemical analyses of samples.

Compliance will be demonstrated by monitoring and sampling at various facility and process locations, analyzing the samples, comparing results to applicable criteria defined in permits, and reporting the results of these analyses to the appropriate agencies. The sampling/monitoring locations will be selected by the Environmental, Health, Safety, and Licensing (EHS&L) organization staff in accordance with EREF permits and good sampling practices. Parameters to be monitored will be identified in environmental permits obtained for the proposed EREF operations.

Monitoring procedures will employ well-known, acceptable analytical methods and instrumentation. The instrument maintenance and calibration program will comply with manufacturer recommendations. Environmental personnel at the proposed EREF will follow certified sampling and analysis protocols and implement appropriate steps to make sure that the onsite laboratory and any contractor laboratories participate in third-party laboratory inter-comparison programs appropriate to the media and parameters being measured.

The radiological environmental laboratory areas are located in the Technical Support Building (TSB). The non-radiological Environmental Laboratory areas are located in the Operation Support Building (OSB) and are used to perform analyses that include the following:

- Hazardous material presence in waste samples
- pH, oil and other contaminants in liquid waste streams

The environmental laboratory areas will be available to perform analyses on air, water, soil, and flora samples obtained from designated areas around the plant.

In addition to its environmental and radiological capabilities, the capability exists to perform bioassay analyses when necessary. Commercial, offsite laboratories may also be contracted to perform bioassay analyses.

All waste liquids, solids and gases from enrichment-related processes and decontamination operations will be analyzed and/or monitored for chemical and radiological contamination to determine safe disposal methods and/or further treatment requirements. A description of the radiological monitoring program at the EREF is provided in Section 6.1, Radiological Monitoring.

### **6.2.2 Evaluation and Analysis of Samples**

Samples of liquid streams, solids, and gaseous effluents from plant processes will be analyzed in the TSB and OSB environmental laboratory areas. Results of process samples analyses are used to verify that process parameters are operating within expected performance ranges. Results of liquid stream sample analyses will be used to determine if corrective action is required in facility process and/or effluent collection and treatment systems.

### **6.2.3 Effluent Monitoring**

Each year, AES will submit a summary of the environmental sampling program and associated data to the proper regulatory authorities, as required. This summary will include the types, numbers and frequencies of samples collected.

Physiochemical monitoring will be conducted via sampling of stormwater, soil, sediment, surface water (if present in intermittent stream drainage), vegetation, and groundwater as defined in Table 6.2-1, Physiochemical Sampling, to confirm that trace, incidental chemical discharges are below regulatory limits. In the event of any accidental release from the facility, sampling protocols will be initiated immediately and on a continuing basis to document the extent/impact of the release until conditions have been abated and mitigated. Sampling locations are shown in Figure 6.2-1, Physiochemical Monitoring Locations.

Parameters for continuing environmental performance will be developed from the baseline data in the Environmental Report and additional preoperational sampling. Operational monitoring surveys will be conducted using sampling sites and at frequencies established from baseline sampling data and as determined based on permit requirements. The monitoring program will be enhanced as appropriate to maintain the collection and reliability of environmental data. Specific monitoring point locations will be determined during detailed design.

The site packaged Domestic Sanitary Sewage Treatment Plant will receive only typical sanitary wastes. No chemical sampling is planned because no plant process related effluents will be introduced into this system.

### **6.2.4 Stormwater Monitoring Program**

A stormwater monitoring program will be initiated during construction of the facility. Data collected from the program will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of measures taken to prevent the contamination of stormwater and to retain sediments within property boundaries. A temporary detention basin will be used as a sediment control basin during construction as part of the overall sedimentation erosion control plan.

Stormwater monitoring will continue with the same monitoring frequency upon initiation of facility operation. During plant operation, samples will be collected from the two Cylinder Storage Pads Stormwater Retention Basins and the three Site Stormwater Detention Basins in order to demonstrate that runoff does not contain any contaminants. A list of parameters to be monitored and monitoring frequencies for stormwater is presented in Table 6.2-2, Stormwater Monitoring Program for Detention and Retention Basins. This monitoring program will be refined to reflect applicable requirements as determined during the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) process.

### **6.2.5 Environmental Monitoring**

The purpose of this section is to describe the surveillance-monitoring program, which will be implemented to measure non-radiological chemical impacts upon the natural environment.

The ability to detect and contain any potentially adverse chemical releases from the facility to the environment will depend on chemistry data to be collected as part of the effluent and stormwater monitoring programs described in the preceding sections. Data acquisition from these programs encompasses both onsite and offsite sample collection locations and chemical element/compound analyses. Final constituent analysis requirements will be in accordance with permit mandates.

Sampling locations will be determined based on meteorological information and current land use. The sampling locations may be subject to change as determined from the results of any observed changes in land use.

The range of chemical surveillance incorporated into all the planned effluent monitoring programs for the facility are designed to be sufficient to predict any relevant chemical interactions in the environment related to facility operations.

Vegetation and soil sampling will be conducted. Vegetation samples will include grasses, and if available, vegetables. Soil will be collected in the same vicinity as the vegetation samples. The samples will be collected from both on site and off site locations in various sectors. Sectors are chosen based on air modeling. Onsite soil and vegetation sampling will include the outfalls at the Site Stormwater Detention Basins. The outfalls are further discussed in Section 4.4, Water Resources Impacts. Sediment samples will be collected from discharge points to the different collection basins onsite. Groundwater samples will be collected from a series of wells installed around the facility. The locations of the groundwater sampling (monitoring) wells are shown in Figure 6.2-1, Physiochemical Monitoring Locations.

Stormwater collected in the two Cylinder Storage Pads Stormwater Retention Basins will be sampled to ensure no contaminants are present in the runoff from the cylinder storage pads. If water is present, a surface water sample will be collected from the intermittent stream drainage in the southwest corner of the site.

### **6.2.6 Meteorological Monitoring**

In order to monitor and characterize meteorological phenomena (e.g., wind speed, wind direction, air temperature and humidity) during plant operation as well as consider interaction of meteorology and local terrain, conditions will be monitored with a 40-m (132-ft) instrumented tower located onsite. These data will assist in evaluating the potential locales on and off property that could be influenced by any emissions. The instrumented tower will be located at a site approximately the same elevation as the finished facility grade and in an area where facility structures will have little or no influence on the meteorological measurements. An area

approximately ten times the obstruction height around the tower towards the prevailing wind direction will be maintained in accordance with established standards for meteorological monitoring. This practice will be used to avoid spurious measurements resulting from local building-induced turbulence. The program for instrument maintenance and servicing, combined with redundant data recorders, assures at least 90% data recovery.

The data this equipment provides is recorded in the Control Room and can be used for dispersion calculations. Equipment will also measure temperature and humidity, which will be recorded in the Control Room.

### **6.2.7 Biota**

The monitoring of impacts to biota is detailed in Section 6.3, Ecological Monitoring.

### **6.2.8 Quality Assurance**

The physiochemical monitoring program for EREF will use a set of formalized and controlled procedures for sample collection, laboratory analysis, chain of custody, reporting of results, and corrective actions. Samples sent to laboratories will include blanks and duplicates at specified frequencies to provide data for identifying routine reporting or analytical errors as part of quality assurance checks on the data. Analyses will only be performed at laboratories with appropriate EPA and State of Idaho certifications. The laboratory analyses will be conducted using the best available standard techniques at state or EPA certified laboratories.

Corrective actions will be instituted when an administrative action level is exceeded for any of the measured parameters. Action levels will be divided into three priorities: (1) if the sample parameter is three times the normal background level; (2) if the sample parameter exceeds any existing administrative limits, or; (3) if the sample parameter exceeds any regulatory limit. The third scenario represents the worst case, which will be prepared for but is not expected.

Corrective actions will be implemented to ensure that the cause for the action level exceedance can be identified and immediately corrected, applicable regulatory agencies are notified, if required, communications to address lessons learned are dispersed to appropriate personnel, and applicable procedures are revised accordingly if needed. All action plans will be commensurate to the severity of the exceedance.

### **6.2.9 Lower Limits of Detection**

Lower limits of detection (LLD) will be met for sampling parameters listed in Tables 6.2-1, Physiochemical Sampling, and 6.2-2, Stormwater Monitoring Program for Detention and Retention Basins, and will be based on the baseline surveys and the type of matrix (sample type).

## TABLES

**Table 6.2-1 Physiochemical Sampling**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Media	Number of Locations	Monitoring Frequency	Sample Type	Analysis <sup>a</sup>
Groundwater	9 deep wells and 1 shallow well used for baseline monitoring.	Semiannually for deep wells; semiannually for shallow wells when water is present	Grab	Metals, organics and pesticides; water level elevations
Soil <sup>b</sup> /sediment	3 minimum soil samples at locations to be determined by environmental staff plus one at each of the three detention basin outfalls.	Quarterly, near vegetation sample locations; one sample at each location	Surface grab	Metals, organics, pesticides and fluoride uptake
	Retention and detention basin sediments at discharge points to the basins.	Quarterly for one sample at each location	Surface grab	Metals, organics, pesticides and fluoride uptake
Surface water <sup>b</sup>	Potential location in intermittent stream drainage on southwestern corner of site.	Quarterly if water present	Grab	Metals, organics and pesticides
Stormwater <sup>b</sup>	Retention and detention basins at locations to be determined by environmental staff.	Quarterly if water present	Grab	See Table 6.2-2
Vegetation <sup>b</sup>	6 minimum	Quarterly if present (i.e., during growing seasons); one sample at each location	Surface grab	Fluoride uptake
Meteorology	1 on-site station augmented by records from nearby meteorological stations	Daily	Continuous	Wind direction and wind speed, temperature, and humidity

Notes:

<sup>a</sup> Analyses will meet EPA Lower Limits of Detection (LLD), as applicable, and will be based on the baseline surveys and the type of matrix (sample type).

<sup>b</sup> Location to be established by Environmental, Health, Safety and Licensing (EHS&L) organization staff.



**Table 6.2-2 Stormwater Monitoring Program for Detention and Retention Basins  
(see Figure 4.4-1)<sup>a</sup>  
(Page 1 of 1)**

Monitored Parameter	Monitoring Frequency	Sample Type	LLD <sup>b</sup> (ppm)
Oil and Grease	Quarterly, if standing water exists	Grab	0.5
Total Suspended Solids	Quarterly, if standing water exists	Grab	0.5
Five-Day Biological Oxygen Demand	Quarterly, if standing water exists	Grab	2
Chemical Oxygen Demand	Quarterly, if standing water exists	Grab	1
Total Phosphorus	Quarterly, if standing water exists	Grab	0.1
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	Quarterly, if standing water exists	Grab	0.1
pH	Quarterly, if standing water exists	Grab	0.01 units
Nitrate plus Nitrite Nitrogen	Quarterly, if standing water exists	Grab	0.2
Metals	Quarterly, if standing water exists	Grab	Varies by metal

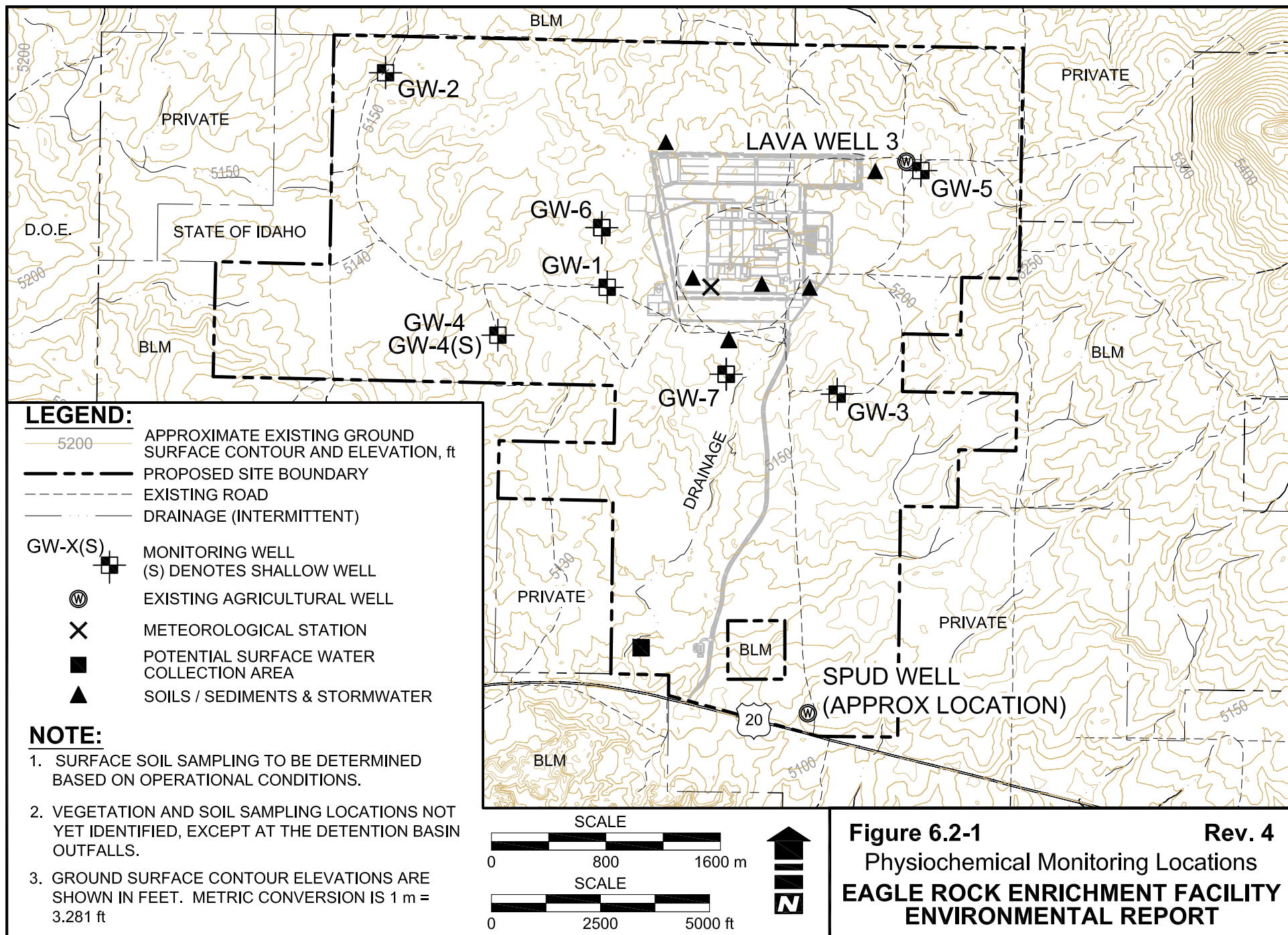
Notes:

<sup>a</sup> Site Stormwater Detention Basins, Cylinder Storage Pads Stormwater Retention Basins and any temporary basin(s) used during construction.

<sup>b</sup> Lower limit of detection; Analyses will meet EPA LLD, as applicable, and will be based on the baseline surveys and the type of matrix (sample type).

Note: Radiological monitoring parameters are addressed separately in ER Section 6.1, Radiological Monitoring.

## FIGURES



## **6.3 ECOLOGICAL MONITORING**

### **6.3.1 Maps**

See Figure 6.3-1, Modified Site Features with Proposed Ecological Sampling Locations.

### **6.3.2 Affected Important Ecological Resources**

The existing natural habitats on the proposed Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility (EREF) site and the 8-km (5-mi) area surrounding the site have been impacted by domestic livestock grazing, reseeding, and inter-seeding of habitat, farming, and road development. These current and historic land uses have resulted in reduction of plant and animal community diversity, productivity, and fragmentation of the remaining native sagebrush steppe habitat type.

The sagebrush steppe vegetation community at the proposed EREF site has been influenced by agricultural practices. There is active irrigated farming on about 389 ha (962 ac). In addition, about 880 ha (2,180 ac) has been dryland farmed as recently as four to five years ago. Existing vegetation on these areas is dominated by herbaceous species and limited brush associated with basalt outcrops. The remaining 430 ha (1,060 ac) is sagebrush steppe vegetation dominated by big sagebrush. Seasonal livestock grazing occurs throughout the entire proposed site. Sagebrush steppe is characterized by big sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata*), rabbitbrush (*Chrysothamnus nauseosa*), and grass species.

The site provides habitat for greater sage grouse (*Centrocercus urophasianus*) and is potential habitat for the pygmy rabbit (*Brachylagus idahoensis*). The closest breeding ground for greater sage grouse is between 6.4 and 8 km (4 and 5 mi) northwest of the proposed site on Idaho National Laboratory (INL) land. The closest known population of the pygmy rabbit is on the eastern area of the INL about 8.8 km (5.5 mi) west of the proposed site. Both species (i.e., greater sage grouse and pygmy rabbit) have been under review for listing under the Endangered Species Act. At present, listing of the greater sage grouse is warranted, but precluded. Listing of the pygmy rabbit was determined not to be warranted. The area does not provide habitat for species currently protected under the Endangered Species Act.

Based on ecological surveys that have been performed onsite, AES has concluded that the sagebrush steppe habitat is the ecological system on the proposed site that is the most sensitive. This vegetation type is used by big game (pronghorn (*Antilocapra americana*), deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*), and elk (*Cervus elaphus*)) and by greater sage grouse for feeding and likely brood rearing habitat. The proposed site is at the southern end of an area identified by the BLM as crucial winter-spring habitat for pronghorn. However, the area is not considered essential breeding for big game and does not contain breeding grounds for greater sage grouse. The quantity of sagebrush steppe on the proposed site is relatively small, about 430 ha (1,060 ac), and the site is located at the southern edge between contiguous sagebrush habitat to the north and west and farmland and barren lava flows to the south and east. Big game and greater sage grouse are mobile and have individual ranges that are much greater than the habitat on the proposed site. These species do not use the proposed site preferentially and are not found in high concentrations compared to other parts of their range.

### **6.3.3 Monitoring Program Elements**

Several elements have been chosen for the ecological monitoring program. These elements include vegetation, birds, mammals, and reptiles/amphibians. Currently there is no action or reporting level for each specific element. However, additional consultation with all appropriate

agencies (Idaho Department of Fish and Game, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management) will continue. Agency recommendations, based on future consultation and monitoring program data, will be considered when developing action and/or reporting levels for each element. In addition, AES will periodically monitor the proposed site (including detention- and retention-basin waters) during construction and plant operations to ensure the risk to birds and wildlife is minimized. If needed, measures will be taken to release entrapped wildlife. The monitoring program will assess the effectiveness of the entry barriers and release features to ensure risk to wildlife is minimized.

#### **6.3.4 Observations and Sampling Design**

The EREF site observations will include preconstruction, construction, and operations monitoring programs. The preconstruction monitoring program will establish the site baseline data. The procedures used to characterize the vegetation, bird, mammalian, and reptilian/amphibian communities at the proposed EREF site during pre-construction monitoring will be used for both the construction and operations monitoring programs. Operational monitoring surveys will also be conducted as described below using the same sampling sites established during the preconstruction monitoring program.

These surveys are designed to characterize gross changes in the composition of the vegetation, avian, mammalian, and reptilian/amphibian communities of the site associated with operation of the facility. Interpretation of operational monitoring results, however, must consider those changes that would be expected at the EREF site as a result of natural succession processes. Plant communities at the site will continue to change as the site begins to regenerate and mature. Changes in the bird, small mammal, and reptile/amphibian communities are likely to occur concomitantly in response to the changing habitat.

##### **Vegetation**

Ground cover will be estimated from about 20 permanent sampling locations within the proposed EREF site. Sampling will occur annually in June. Annual sampling is scheduled to coincide with the mature flowering stage of the dominant perennial species.

The sampling locations will be selected in areas outside of the proposed footprint of the EREF and will be identified using Global Positioning System coordinates. The expected positions of the sampling locations have been plotted on a site schematic (See Figure 6.3-1, Modified Site Features With Proposed Ecological Sampling Locations). The establishment of permanent sampling locations will facilitate a long-term monitoring system to evaluate vegetation trends and characteristics.

Vegetation characteristics will be quantified using the point-transect method. Points will be located in the field within the sagebrush steppe and disturbed sagebrush steppe vegetation types. Two, 50-m (164-ft) tapes will be extended perpendicular to one another from the random point; one oriented to the south, the other oriented to the east. Ground cover (e.g., bare ground, litter) will be recorded at each point. Overstory species and understory species will also be recorded at points where the point intersects vegetation. This data will be analyzed to determine species composition and to estimate ground cover. The initial monitoring will be conducted through at least the first three years of commercial operation. Following this period, program changes may be initiated based on operational experience.

## **Wildlife**

Wildlife surveys will be conducted during late spring/early summer and late fall/early winter to verify the presence of mammals, birds, and herptiles (reptiles and amphibians) at the proposed EREF site. The spring/summer and fall/winter surveys will be designed to identify species and provide estimates of abundance. Surveys will not be conducted at a time when inclement weather (e.g., high wind, rain, heavy snow) would reduce the likelihood of observing animals because of reduced animal activity or reduced visual conditions. Weather conditions (e.g., temperature, wind speed and direction, humidity, cloud cover) will be recorded during each sampling day. Changes in weather during surveys also will be recorded.

Permanent line transects of about 1.6 km (1 mi) in length will be walked at 30 minutes before sunrise to 1.5 hours after sunrise and 1.5 hours before sunset to 30 minutes after sunset. Transects will be 0.40 to 0.80 km (0.25 to 0.50 mi) apart. Transects will be placed in the sagebrush steppe and in the disturbed sagebrush steppe habitat. Species composition and relative abundance will be determined based on visual observations of animals, sign (e.g., tracks, scat, nests, burrows), and calls. Gender and age (i.e., juvenile and adult) will be noted when possible. Behavior also will be noted (e.g., in flight, male singing and territory establishment, nesting, perching). The initial monitoring will be conducted through at least the first three years of commercial operation. Following this period, program changes may be initiated based on operational experience.

## **Birds**

Bird populations will be sampled twice a year in the late spring during breeding, nesting, and brood rearing season and during the winter. Species and numbers observed will be recorded. In addition, behavior also will be noted (e.g., in flight, male singing and territory establishment, nesting, perching).

The avian communities are described in ER Section 3.5.2, General Ecological Conditions of the Site. All data collected will be recorded and compared to information listed in Table 3.5-2, Birds Potentially Using the Proposed Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility Site. The initial monitoring will be conducted through at least the first three years of commercial operation. Following this period, program changes may be initiated based on operational experience.

## **Mammals**

Mammal populations will be sampled twice a year; in the late spring during breeding and nursing season and during the late fall/winter during migration and shifts to winter range. Species and numbers observed will be recorded. In addition, behavior also will be noted (e.g., fleeing, feeding, resting).

The existing mammalian communities are described in ER Section 3.5.2, General Ecological Conditions of the Site. All data collected will be recorded and compared to the information listed in Table 3.5-1, Mammals Potentially Using the Proposed Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility Site. The initial monitoring will be conducted through at least the first three years of commercial operation. Following this period, program changes may be initiated based on operational experience.

## **Herptiles (Reptiles and Amphibians)**

Herptile populations will be sampled once during the summer, when animals are most active. Species and numbers observed will be recorded. Behavior will also be noted (e.g., breeding display, feeding, resting, thermo-regulating).

The reptile and amphibian communities are described in ER Section 3.5.2, General Ecological Conditions of the Site. The data will be compared to the information listed in Table 3.5-3, Amphibians/Reptiles Potentially Using the Proposed Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility Site. As with the programs for birds and mammals, the initial herptile monitoring program will be conducted through at least the first three years of commercial operation. Following this period, program changes may be initiated based on operational experience.

### **6.3.5 Statistical Validity of Sampling Program**

The proposed sampling program will include descriptive statistics. These descriptive statistics will include the mean, standard deviation, standard error, and confidence interval for the mean. In each case the sampling size will be clearly indicated. The use of these standard descriptive statistics will be used to assess sample variability. A significance level of 5% will be used for the studies, which will result in a 95% confidence level.

### **6.3.6 Sampling Equipment**

Due to the type of ecological monitoring proposed for the EREF site, no specific sampling equipment is necessary.

### **6.3.7 Method of Chemical Analysis**

Due to the type of monitoring proposed for the EREF site, no chemical analysis is proposed for ecological monitoring.

### **6.3.8 Data Analysis and Reporting Procedures**

AES or its contractor will analyze the ecological data collected on the proposed site. The EHS&L Manager or a staff member reporting to the EHS&L Manager will be responsible for the data analysis.

A summary report will be prepared, that will include spatial and temporal information on species composition, distribution, and relative abundance of key species.

### **6.3.9 Agency Consultation**

Consultation was initiated with all appropriate federal and state agencies and affected Native American tribes. Refer to Appendix A, Consultation Documents, for a complete list of consultation documents and comments.

### **6.3.10 Organizational Unit Responsible for Reviewing the Monitoring Program on an Ongoing Basis**

As policy directives are developed, documentation of the environmental monitoring programs will occur. The person or organizational unit responsible for reviewing the program on an ongoing basis will be the EHS&L Manager.

### **6.3.11 Established Criteria**

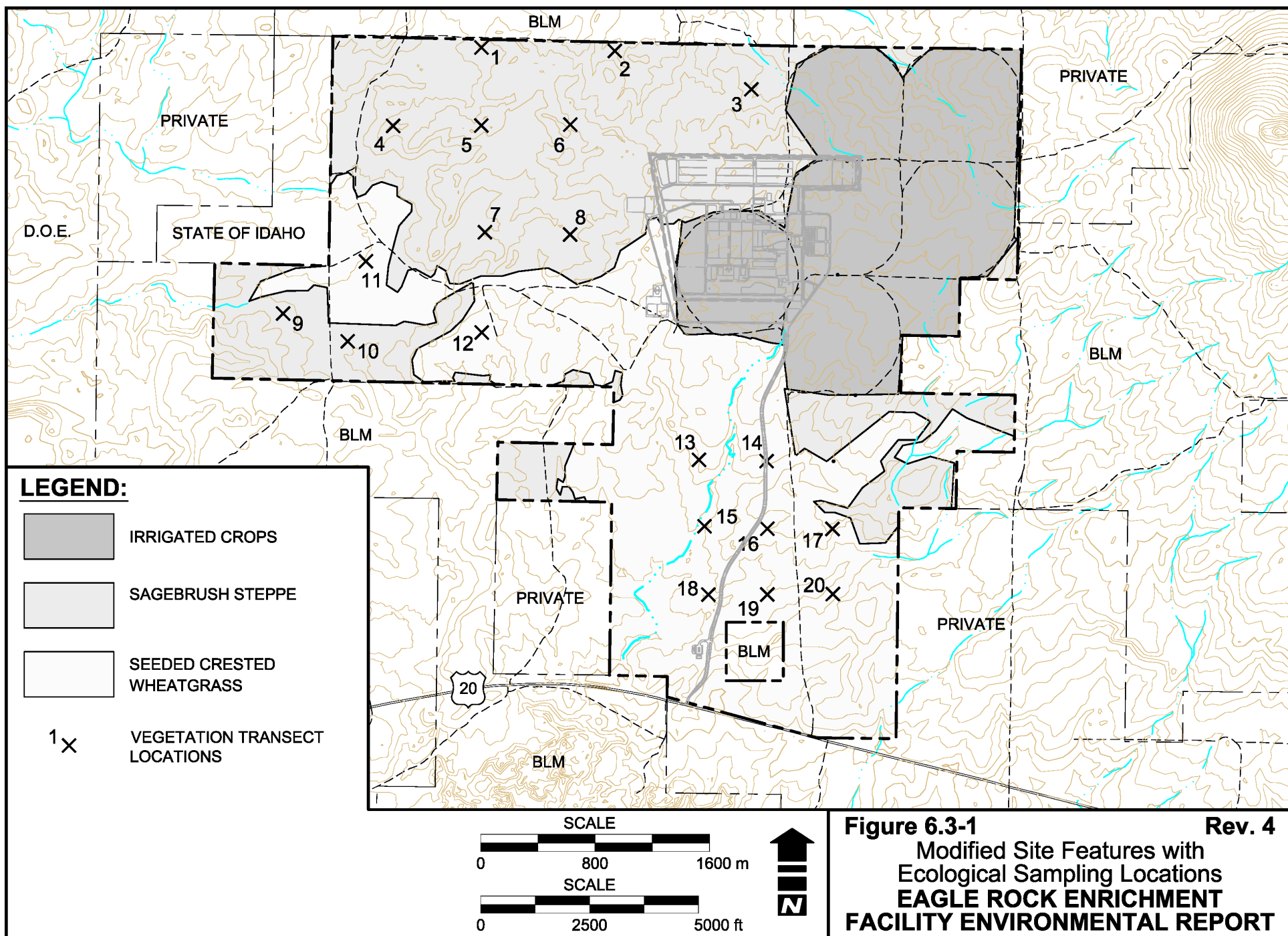
The ecological monitoring program will be conducted in accordance with generally accepted practices and the requirements of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Procedures will be established as appropriate for data collection storage, analysis, reporting, and corrective actions. Data will be collected, recorded, stored, and analyzed. Actions will be taken as necessary to reconcile anomalous results.

#### **6.3.11.1 Data Recording and Storage**

Data relevant to the ecological monitoring program will be recorded in paper and/or electronic forms. These data will be kept on file for the life of the facility.



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## **7.0 COST-BENEFIT ANALYSES**

This chapter describes the costs and benefits for the proposed action, quantitatively and qualitatively. Environmental Report (ER) Section 7.1, Economic Cost-Benefits, Facility Construction and Operation, describes the quantitative direct and indirect economic impacts from facility construction and operation. ER Section 7.2 describes the qualitative socioeconomic and environmental impacts from facility construction and operation. ER Section 7.3, No-Action Alternative Cost-Benefit, describes the impacts of the no-action alternative of not building the proposed Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility (EREF).

## **7.1 ECONOMIC COST-BENEFITS, FACILITY CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION**

This analysis traces the economic impact of the proposed EREF in the 11-county region surrounding the proposed EREF, identifying the direct impacts of the facility construction and operation on revenues of local businesses, on incomes accrued to households, on employment, and on the revenues of state and local government. Further, it explores the indirect impacts of the EREF on local entities using a model showing the interaction of economic sectors in the 11-county region surrounding the proposed EREF.

### **7.1.1 Introduction**

The purpose of ER Section 7.1, Economic Cost-Benefits, Facility Construction and Operation, is to assess the economic impact that construction and operation of the EREF would have on the surrounding area, including Bonneville, Bingham, and Jefferson Counties in Idaho. The analysis estimates the economic impact upon a contiguous 11-county region, comprised of the three previously identified counties, as well as eight more directly affected Idaho counties falling within a 80-km (50-mi) radius of the proposed site, including Bannock, Blaine, Butte, Caribou, Clark, Fremont, Madison, and Power Counties. (See Figure 7.1-1, 11-County Economic Impact Area)

Only a very small part of southeast Lemhi County is included within the 80-km (50-mi) radius of the proposed EREF. The potentially affected area is comprised of Targhee National Forest land, where no one is likely to reside. Including demographic and economic information for the entire county (with a land area of 11,821 km<sup>2</sup> (4,564 mi<sup>2</sup>), 1.7 people per 2.6 km<sup>2</sup> (1 mi<sup>2</sup>), and a population of 7,806 in 2000 and an estimated population of 7,717 in 2007) could skew the results of the analysis by inflating the size of the potentially affected population. Thus, Lemhi County was excluded from the data analysis (USCB, 2000dd) (USCB, 2007).

For the purpose of assessing the economic impact of the EREF, the analysis is divided into two distinct phases: Construction and Operations. For each of these two periods, both the direct and indirect impacts were assessed. Unless otherwise stated, all fiscal impacts are stated in 2007 real dollars based on the estimated costs and wages/benefits data provided, and are not adjusted for anticipated price or wage inflation over the period analyzed.

ER Section 7.1.2, The Economic Model – USBEA RIMS II Multipliers, includes a discussion of the United States Bureau of Economic Analysis model for evaluating industry impacts. ER Section 7.1.3, Regional Economic Outlook, discusses current economic conditions and the existing economic structure of the 11-county region. ER Section 7.1.4, Direct Economic Impact, is a discussion of the direct impacts associated with the EREF, which includes earnings, employment, and tax-related revenues. ER Section 7.1.5, Total Economic Impact Using RIMS II utilizes the Regional Input-Output Modeling System (RIMS) II framework to assess the total (both direct and indirect) economic impact of the EREF on the regional economy. The origin, general operation, and specific application of the RIMS II framework to the proposed action are discussed below.

### **7.1.2 The Economic Model – USBEA RIMS II Multipliers**

A U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (USBEA) RIMS II model provides "multipliers" for approximately 500 industries showing the industry outputs stimulated by new activity, the associated household earnings, and the jobs generated.

The RIMS II model for the Bonneville County, Idaho area is based on the National Input-Output table, employment statistics from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, and the Regional Economic Information System (REIS). The National table is regionalized using location quotients, which compare the local proportion of industry employment to total employment to a similar proportion for the Nation. The model is solved to generate a very large table of multipliers for the entire set of industries existing in a 80 km (50 mi) region of Idaho.

Since the 1970s, the USBEA has provided models designated as RIMS (Regional Input-Output Modeling). RIMS II is the latest version of this system. The following comments are based on Regional Multipliers: A User Handbook for the Regional Input-Output Modeling System (RIMS II) (USBEA, 1997).

As noted in the RIMS II User Handbook, if a one county region is used, impacts at times are underestimated because the RIMS II multipliers do not reflect “feedback” effects. “Feedback” effects can include purchases made by commuters from nearby counties. As such, the choice of a region should account for the specific facility. For this particular facility, workers may choose to live in counties surrounding the proposed location. In addition, non-labor inputs may be purchased from businesses in other counties. A smaller region would be selected if the impacts were expected only in the immediate vicinity of the proposed facility (USBEA, 1997).

RIMS II is based on an accounting framework called an input-output (I-O) table. For each industry, an I-O table shows the distribution of the inputs purchased and the outputs sold. A typical I-O table in RIMS II is derived mainly from two data sources: USBEA's national I-O table, which shows the input and output structure of nearly 500 U.S. industries, and USBEA's regional economic accounts, which are used to adjust the national I-O table in order to reflect a region's industrial structure and trading patterns.

The RIMS II model and its multipliers are prepared in three major steps. First, an adjusted national industry-by-industry direct requirements table is prepared. Second, the adjusted national table is used to prepare a regional industry-by-industry direct requirements table. Third, a regional industry-by-industry total requirements table is prepared, and the multipliers are derived from this table.

Unlike the national I-O tables, RIMS II includes households as both suppliers of labor inputs to regional industries and as purchasers of regional output, because it is customary in regional impact analysis to account for the effects of changes in household earnings and expenditures. Thus, both a household row and a household column are added to the national direct requirements table before the table is regionalized.

The regional industry-by-industry direct requirements table is derived from the adjusted national industry-by-industry direct requirements table. Location quotients (LQ's) are used to “regionalize” the national data. The LQ based on wages and salaries is the ratio of the industry's share of regional wages and salaries to that industry's share of national wages and salaries. The LQ is used as a measure of the extent to which regional supply of an industry's output is sufficient to meet regional demand. If the LQ for a row industry in the regional direct requirements table is greater than, or equal to, one, it is assumed that the region's demand for the output of the row industry is met entirely from regional production. In this instance, all row entries for the industry in the regional direct requirements table are set equal to the corresponding entries in the adjusted national direct requirements table.

Conversely, if the LQ is less than one, it is assumed that the regional supply of the industry's output is not sufficient to meet regional demand. In this instance, all row entries for the industry in the regional direct requirements table are set equal to the product of the corresponding entries in the adjusted national direct requirements table and the LQ for the industry.



The household row and the household column that were added to the national direct requirements table also are adjusted regionally. The household-row entries are adjusted downward, on the basis of commuting data from the Census of Population, in order to account for the purchases made outside the region by commuters working in the region. The household-column entries are adjusted downward, on the basis of tax data from the Internal Revenue Service, in order to account for the dampening effect of State and local taxes on household expenditures.

After the regional direct-requirements table is constructed it is converted into a model using a mathematical process known as "inversion." The resulting model, summarized in a 490-by-490 matrix called the "total requirements" table, now shows the impact of changes in outside sales by each industry on the outputs of every industry in the region. This data can now be manipulated to yield "multipliers."

The output multiplier for an industry measures the total dollar change in output in all industries that results from a \$1 change in final demand by the industry in question.

The earnings multiplier for an industry measures the total dollar change in earnings of households employed by all industries that results from a \$1 change in output delivered to final demand by the industry in question.

### **7.1.3 Regional Economic Outlook**

A socioeconomic profile of the 11-county region surrounding the EREF provides a baseline from which to understand and measure the economic impacts expected to be derived from the EREF. This section includes a discussion of recent regional trends in output and employment, income, and other socioeconomic measures and concludes with a brief discussion on the industry structure of the region. Data was not available for all counties within the 11-county region.

#### **7.1.3.1 Recent Trends in Economic Growth and Employment**

The 11-county Idaho region had a total estimated population of 323,348 in 2006 (USCB, 2006j). Economic growth in Idaho slowed from 2005 to 2006; despite a decline over the year in the level of unemployment, the annual growth rate in gross state product was 2.5% in 2006 (IDL, 2008b). This was a drop from 7.4% in 2005 (IDL, 2008a). According to data published by the USBEA, a sharp decline in construction dropped the overall state growth rate. Strength in the manufacture of durable goods and moderate expansion in real estate, health care, retail trade, professional and business services, and agriculture offset the decline (IDL, 2008b). The unemployment rate in Idaho was 5.3% in 2006, which was above the national average of 4.6% (USBLS, 2008). In Bonneville County, the unemployment rate was 5.0% in 2006, which was just below the statewide average. Data was not available in 2006 for Bingham County and Jefferson County due to their small population levels (USCB, 2006c).

#### **7.1.3.2 Recent Trends in Income**

Per capita income in Idaho in 2006 was \$21,000, below the national average of \$25,267. For this region as a whole, per capita income information was available from the U.S. Census Bureau 2006 Community Survey only for Bonneville County and Bannock County. Bonneville County had a 2006 per capita income of \$20,933, which was 99.7% of the state average and 82.8% of the national average. Bannock County had a 2006 per capita income of \$19,135, which was 91.1% of the state average and 75.7% of the national average (USCB, 2006i).

While median household income generally has increased in Bonneville County, it has not increased as quickly as for the state. The county's median household income was 11.3% greater than the state median in 2000, but only 5.7% greater than the state in 2006. Additionally, the poverty rate in Bonneville County was 12.3% in 2006, about equal to the 12.6% in the state of Idaho (USCB, 2006c; USCB, 2006d). The U.S. Census Bureau defines poverty as those living under specified income thresholds (defined by the Office of Management and Budget) that vary by size of family and composition.

According to AREVA Enrichment Services (AES) estimates, the construction craft jobs created by the EREF would pay wages significantly higher than the regional average income. The USBEA data reported that the 2006 average wage per job in Bonneville County was \$32,490, \$27,568 in Bingham County, \$23,000 in Jefferson County, and \$32,968 in the 11-county region (USBEA, 2008b). In contrast, AES expects to pay an average salary of \$65,144 to its construction craft employees, which is over 2.0 times more than the average wage per job in Bonneville, 2.4 times more than in Bingham County, 2.8 times more than in Jefferson County, and 2.0 times more than in the 11-county region (USBEA, 2008b).

Similarly, AES expects to pay an average salary of \$65,983.

### **7.1.3.3 Regional Industry Analysis**

The distribution of jobs by occupation in Bonneville County has differed in some industries from Bingham County, Jefferson County and the State of Idaho. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the top three industries in 2000 were education, health, and social services (18.4%); followed by the professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste services industries (17.3%); and the retail trade industry (14.1%). By 2006, this had changed somewhat to 17.0%, 15.8%, and 12.2%, respectively.

Bingham County's employment in 2000 consisted of 19.6% of the workforce employed in education, health, and social services, while 15.4% were employed in manufacturing and 10.9% in retail trade. These were the same top three employment industries as existed for the state of Idaho in 2000, but with slight variations for the percentages of employment (USCB, 2000d; USCB, 2000e; USCB, 2000f).

Jefferson County's employment in 2000 consisted of 19.4% of the workforce employed in education, health, and social services, while 12.1% were employed in agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining, and 11.3% of the workforce was employed in retail trade (USCB, 2000z). The top three employment industries for Jefferson County were different than those in Bonneville and Bingham Counties.

While agriculture is important in the economy of the three counties, in 2000 only 3.0% of the jobs in Bonneville County, 8.8% in Bingham County, and 12.1% of Jefferson County were in the agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining industry, as compared to approximately 5.8% for the state of Idaho (USCB, 2000d; USCB, 2000e; USCB, 2000f; USCB, 2000z).

The State of Idaho's labor force has grown since 2000. In 2006, the top eight nonfarm industry jobs were within trade, utilities, and transportation (20%); government (18%); professional and business services (12%); education and health services (11%); manufacturing (10%); leisure and hospitality (9%); construction (8%); and financial activities (5%). In 2006, there were 51,895 private sector establishments that provided 532,849 jobs in Idaho. (IDL, 2008c) (See Figure 7.1-2, Private Employment in Idaho.)

The construction and operation of the EREF would help to diversify the general economy of the three-county ROI (i.e., Bonneville, Bingham, and Jefferson Counties). The construction and

operation of the facility requires a skilled labor force of craftsmen, as well as administrative and management personnel.

## **7.1.4 Direct Economic Impact**

### **7.1.4.1 Introduction**

In building the EREF, AES would spend approximately [ \* ] locally over the seven-year heavy construction period and four-year assemblage and testing period. It also would spend [ \* ] nationally and [ \* ] internationally. The total construction cost is approximately \$4.1 billion. During operations, approximately \$23.8 million would be spent each year on local purchases. (See Figure 7.1-3, Total Present Value of Expected AREVA Enrichment Services Construction Purchases).

An estimated [ \* ] is expected to be spent locally over the entire construction and operational periods. Of this amount, 60.0%, or approximately [ \* ], would go to households in the form of employee salaries and benefits. Approximately [ \* ], or 40.0%, would go to local businesses from the purchase of goods and services. Annual income, property, and sales and use tax payments are estimated to range from [ \* ], for a total of \$323.6 million over the life of the facility.

AES has estimated the economic impacts to the local economy during the seven-year heavy construction period to occur over eight calendar years (2011-2018) and the 30-year license period of the EREF (through 2041). This includes an eight year period when both construction and operation are simultaneous. This analysis identifies the direct impacts of the facility on revenues of local businesses, on incomes accruing to households, on employment, and on the revenues of state and local government. The analysis also estimates the indirect impacts of the EREF within an 80-km (50-mi) radius of the EREF. Details of the analysis are provided below.

\* Proprietary Commercial Information withheld in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390

### **7.1.4.2 Construction Expenditures**

AES estimates that it would spend [ \* ] locally on construction expenditures over the seven-year heavy construction period beginning in early 2011 and ending in early 2018 and followed by four years of assemblage and testing. The local payroll would include approximately [ \* ] for craft workers, with an additional [ \* ] for management. This amount would be augmented with the inclusion of the [ \* ] in benefits paid to construction craft employees and [ \* ] for management (based on the assumption of 35% of the average salary).

AES estimates that the construction phase would create an annual average of 304 new construction craft jobs over this period, with peak construction employment estimated at 590 jobs in 2012 (see Table 4.10-2, Estimated Number of Construction Craft Workers by Annual Pay Ranges). A majority of these craft jobs would exist in the first five years of construction, and would be at an annual salary range of [ \* ]. Craft jobs would also exist within the upper pay range of [ \* ]. Figure 7.1-4, Estimated Construction Craft Jobs by Annual Pay, depicts direct employment during the total eleven-year construction period, grouping jobs by salary range.

The regional construction workforce appears to be large enough to support the employment needs for the construction of the EREF. According to U.S. Census Bureau 2000 data, Bonneville County had 2,843 construction workers, Bingham County had 1,410 workers, and Jefferson County had 735 workers (USCB, 2008a; USCB, 2008b; USCB, 2000z). Thus, the construction labor force in the three-county ROI (Bonneville County, Bingham County, and Jefferson County) totaled more than 4,988 employees. The entire 11-county region had

approximately 10,335 construction sector employees (IDC, 2008b). The estimated annual average of 304 new construction craft jobs would represent employment of 6.1% of the existing construction labor force in the three-county ROI and 2.9% of the existing 11-county region construction labor force. AES estimates that most construction craft employees would come from the local labor pool; however, a few positions that require specialized skills might be filled by non-local residents.

A portion of the total expenditures would be spent locally on construction goods and services, benefiting local businesses. This would amount to approximately [ \* ] per year during the seven years of heavy construction. (See Table 7.1-3, Total Impact of Local Spending for Construction Goods and Services in the 11-County Area, for additional details of local construction expenditures.)

\* Proprietary Commercial Information withheld in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390

#### **7.1.4.3 Operation Expenditures**

During the operation period, AES estimates that it would spend \$36.3 million annually for payroll and an additional \$12.7 million in benefits. The operation of the facility is expected to generate approximately 550 permanent, full-time jobs. AES would pay an average annual salary of approximately \$65,983 to its operating facility workers, which is 2.0 times greater than the average wage per job for Bonneville County, 2.4 times greater than for Bingham County, 2.9 times greater than for Jefferson County, and 2.0 times greater than for the 11-county region.

In addition, as shown in Table 7.1-1, Operating Facility Payroll Estimates, 90% of the jobs would have an annual salary of \$48,407 or greater. According to AES, employment opportunities would range from facility operations, maintenance, and health physics positions to clerical and security-related jobs. AES plans to provide extensive training for employees, and approximately 20% of employment opportunities would involve an advanced understanding of the EREF. Refer to Table 7.1-4 for additional information about the annual impact of operations payroll.

The local labor force appears to be well positioned for these types of jobs. In 2000, the total Bonneville County civilian labor force was 40,321, the Bingham County civilian labor force was an additional 18,935, and the Jefferson County civilian labor force was 8,669. The total 11-county labor force was 148,204 (IDC, 2008b). Within the 11-county region, between 12% and 43% of the individual county residents have at least a bachelor's degree and between 64% and 90% of the individual county residents have graduated from high school (IDC, 2008b).

Approximately \$23.8 million per year would be spent locally on goods and services, benefiting local businesses. (See Table 7.1-5, Annual Impact of EREF Purchases in the 11-County Area, below for additional details of local EREF purchases.)

#### **7.1.4.4 Other Expenditures**

The tax revenue to the state of Idaho and Bonneville and Bingham Counties resulting from the construction and operation of the EREF is estimated to be approximately \$323.6 million over the life of the facility. Refer to Table 4.10-3, Estimated Annual Tax Payments, for further details.)

Using the State of Idaho and Bonneville County income tax rates, the average number of workers per year, and average salaries from the EREF, it is estimated that income taxes could be [ \* ] each year during the seven-year heavy construction period and four-year assemblage and testing period and approximately [ \* ] each year during the anticipated 30-year license period. Additionally, annual sales and use taxes paid within the State of Idaho are estimated to

range from [ \* ] from 2012 through 2019. Refer to Table 4.10-3, Estimated Annual Tax Payments, for details.

Of course, not all of the economic benefits from the construction and operation of the EREF can be quantified. For example, due to the relatively small size of the manufacturing sector in this 11-county region, the opening of the EREF should have positive spillover effects throughout the region, such as increasing the skill level of the local labor force and potentially attracting other manufacturing firms.

In addition to increasing the role of the manufacturing sector within the region, the EREF would help to diversify the regional economy. Additionally, housing values have the potential to increase from current levels as income and relatively high-paying job opportunities in the area grow, potentially attracting new residents. In 2000, the median housing value in the 11-county region was \$103,664 (IDC, 2008b), which was less than the U.S. level of \$119,600 (USCB, 2000f).

\* Proprietary Commercial Information withheld in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390

## **7.1.5 Total Economic Impact Using RIMS II**

### **7.1.5.1 Introduction**

The RIMS II Methodology, first created by the USBEA in the 1970s, is based on an accounting framework called an Input-Output (I-O) table. For each industry, an I-O table shows the distribution of the inputs purchased and the outputs sold among individual sectors of a national or regional economy. Using RIMS II for impact analysis has several advantages. RIMS II multipliers can be estimated for any region composed of one or more counties and for any industry or group of industries characterized in the national I-O table. According to empirical tests, the estimates based on RIMS II are similar in magnitude to the estimates based on relatively expensive surveys. This analysis utilized the RIMS II regional I-O multipliers for the 11-county area around and including Bonneville County, Idaho based on data obtained from the USBEA (USBEA, 2008a).

### **7.1.5.2 Construction Impacts**

AES estimates that it would spend [ \* ] on payroll (excluding benefits) over the eleven-year construction, assemblage and testing periods for construction craft workers and management. It is possible to compute the total annual impact by converting this amount into an average annual number and using RIMS II multipliers. An annual payroll of approximately [ \* ] is expected to generate a total impact on household earnings equal to [ \* ] (i.e., [ \* ] in direct impacts and [ \* ] in indirect impacts) within the 11-county region (See Table 7.1-2, Annual Impact of Construction Payroll in the 11-County Area). The initial annual average [ \* ] direct jobs ([ \* ] craft workers and [ \* ] management positions) created during the eleven-year total construction period are expected to produce a total employment increase of [ \* ] jobs.

AES estimates that it would spend [ \* ] on construction goods and services in the local economy over the seven-year heavy construction period. Using the minimum amount of expected purchases and RIMS II Final Demand Multipliers, these expenditures are expected to generate a total annual output amounting to [ \* ] and total annual earnings of [ \* ] (See Table 7.1-3, Total Impact of Spending for Construction Goods and Services in the 11-County Area). Additionally, these expenditures are expected to produce a total of [ \* ] new jobs per year (i.e., [ \* ] total new jobs for the seven-year heavy construction period).

To summarize, the construction phase of the project is expected to generate a total impact of [ \* ] in output for local businesses, [ \* ] in household earnings, and [ \* ] new jobs. The total impact figures from the construction period are derived from adding the total impacts from construction payroll and employment and local construction expenditures. The output figure comes directly from Table 7.1-3, Total Impact of Local Spending for Construction Goods and Services in the 11-County Area, and the household earnings figures and the total new jobs figure come from adding the total annual impact on earnings from and new jobs, respectively, Table 7.1-2, Annual Impact of Construction Payroll in the 11-County Area, and Table 7.1-3, Total Impact of Local Spending for Construction Goods and Services in the 11-County Area, as does the total new jobs figure.

\* Proprietary Commercial Information withheld in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390

### **7.1.5.3 Operations Impact**

Upon completion of the EREF's construction, AES estimates that it would spend \$36.3 million annually for facility operations payroll and an additional \$12.7 million for benefits. Using the RIMS II Multipliers, total additional earnings of \$119.1 million would be produced (i.e., \$36.3 million in direct impacts and \$82.8 million in indirect impacts). Additionally, a total employment of 3,289 new jobs would be created during the operational period (Table 7.1-4, Annual Impact of Operations Payroll in the 11-County Area).

The estimated \$23.8 million in annual purchases by AES for goods and services associated with facility operation are expected to have a total annual impact on local business revenues equal to \$35.6 million, \$8.9 million for household income, and an increase in employment of 248 jobs (Table 7.1-5, Total Annual Impact of EREF Purchases During Operations in the 11-County Area).

To summarize, the operational phase of this project is expected to generate a total annual impact of \$35.6 million in output for local businesses, \$128.0 million in household earnings, and 3,537 new jobs including those indirect jobs created by annual purchases by AES. The total impact estimates from the operations period are derived from adding the total impacts from operations payroll and local expenditures. The output estimate comes directly from Table 7.1-5, Total Annual Impact of EREF Purchases During Operations in the 11-County Area, the household earnings estimate and new jobs figure come from adding the total annual impact on earnings and new jobs, respectively, from Table 7.1-4, Annual Impact of Operations Payroll in the 11-County Area, and Table 7.1-5, Total Annual Impact of EREF Purchases During Operations in the 11-County Area

## TABLES

**Table 7.1-1 Operating Facility Payroll Estimates**  
(Page 1 of 1)

<b>Job Level</b>	<b>Proportion of Jobs</b>	<b>Number of Jobs</b>	<b>Average Annual Pay</b>
Management	10%	55	\$109,491
Professional	20%	110	\$71,457
Skilled	60%	330	\$48,407
Administrative	10%	55	\$34,576
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>Not Applicable*</b>
<b>Average Annual Salary</b>			<b>\$65,983</b>
<b>Total Annual Payroll**</b>			<b>\$36,290,650</b>

\* This figure is not applicable because a total of average annual salaries is not an appropriate measurement, and it is not used in the remainder of the analysis.

\*\* Total Annual payroll = Total Number of Jobs x Average Annual Salary



**Table 7.1-2 Annual Impact of Construction Payroll in the 11-County Area  
(Page 1 of 1)**

	<b>RIMS II Direct Effect Multipliers</b>	<b>Impact</b>
<b>Direct Impact On:</b>		
Earnings by Households		\$ [    ]
<b>Indirect Impact On:</b>		
Earnings by Households	1.7251	\$ [    ]
<b>Total Impact On:</b>		
Earnings by Households	2.7251	\$ [    ]
<b>Direct Impact On:</b>		
Employment (jobs)		[    ]
<b>Indirect Impact On:</b>		
Employment (jobs)	1.8596	[    ]
<b>Total Impact On:</b>		
Employment (jobs)	2.8596	[    ]

Information in “[    ]” is Proprietary Commercial Information withheld in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390

**Table 7.1-3 Total Impact of Local Spending for Construction Goods and Services in the 11-County Area**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Industry	Local Purchases	Final Demand Multipliers			Total Impact			
		Output	Earnings	Employment*	Output	Earnings	Job-years	Jobs/year
Concrete	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Reinforcing Steel	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Structural Steel	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Lumber	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Site Preparation - Total	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Transportation (freight on all materials)	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
<b>Subcontracts by type of service</b>								
Metal Siding	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Multiple Arch/Bldg. Packages	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Equipment Installation Packages	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Mechanical/Piping/HVAC Packages	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Electrical/Controls Packages	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
<b>Total</b>	[ ]				[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	
<b>Per Year (over 6-year period)</b>	[ ]	* The employment multiplier is measured on the basis of \$1-million change in output delivered to final demand			[ ]	[ ]		[ ]
		<b>Indirect Impact</b>			[ ]			

Note: The "Local Purchases" displayed in this table include local material and labor costs.

Source: USBEA, 2008a.

Information in "[ ]" is Proprietary Commercial Information withheld in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390

**Table 7.1-4 Annual Impact of Operations Payroll in the 11-County Area  
(Page 1 of 1)**

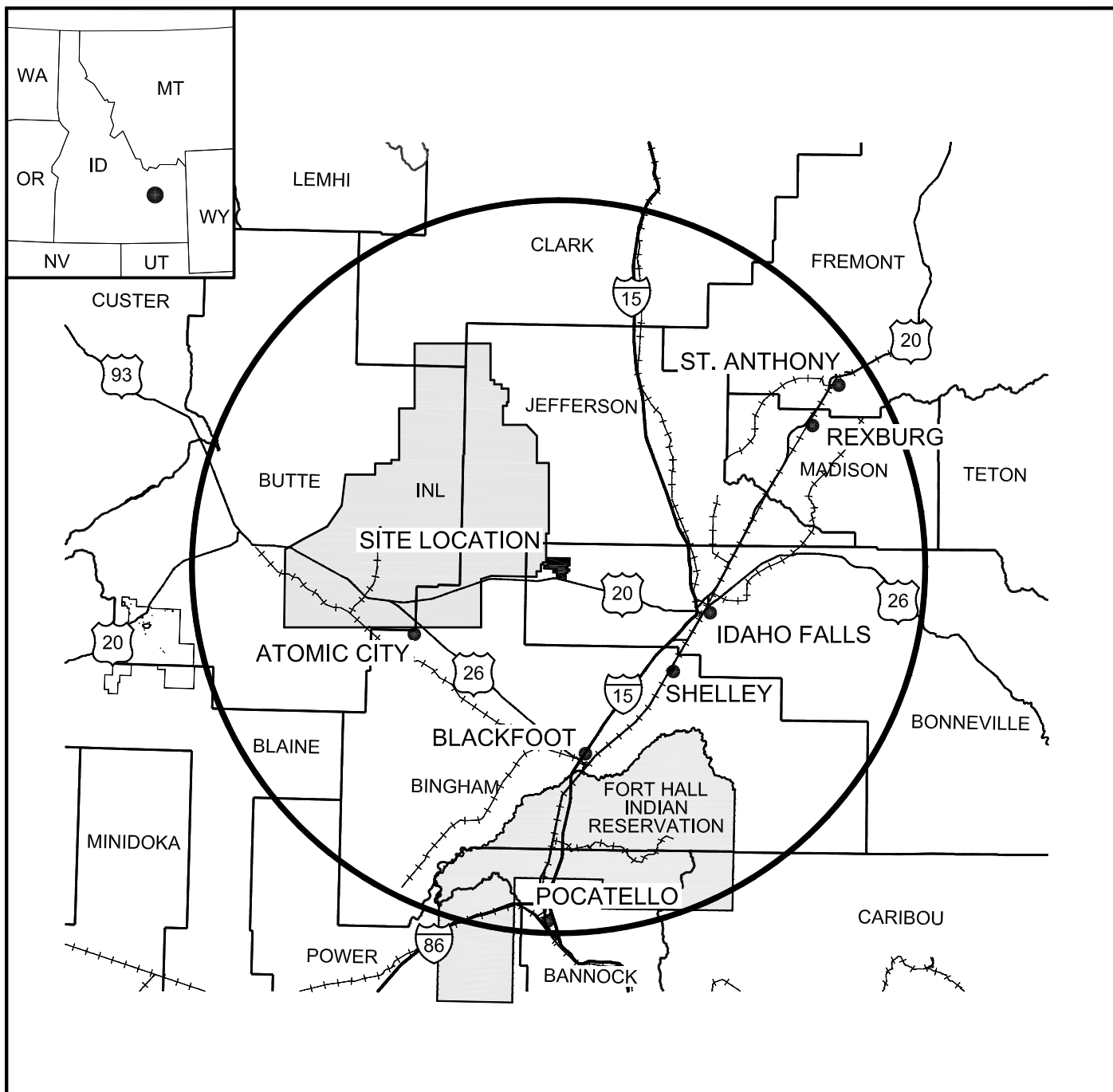
	<b>RIMS II Direct Effect Multipliers</b>	<b>Impact</b>
<b>Direct Impact On:</b>		
Earnings by Households		\$ 36,290,650
<b>Indirect Impact On:</b>		
Earnings by Households	2.2806	\$ 82,764,456
<b>Total Impact On:</b>		
Earnings by Households	3.2806	\$ 119,055,106
<b>Direct Impact On:</b>		
Employment (jobs)		550
<b>Indirect Impact On:</b>		
Employment (jobs)	4.9804	2,739
<b>Total Impact On:</b>		
Employment (jobs)	5.9804	3,289

**Table 7.1-5 Total Annual Impact of EREF Purchases During Operations in the 11-County Area**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Item	Local Purchases	Final Demand Multipliers			Total Impact		
	(Direct Impact-2007 dollars-Provided by AES)	Output	Earnings	Employment*	Output	Earnings	Employment
Landscaping	\$60,000	1.7339	0.5908	33.0365	\$104,034	\$35,448	2
Protective Clothing	\$72,000	1.4548	0.3210	10.6240	\$104,746	\$23,112	1
Laboratory Chemicals	\$140,000	1.9313	0.3405	9.1357	\$270,382	\$47,670	1
Plant Spare Equipment	\$500,000	1.4839	0.3308	9.5108	\$741,950	\$165,400	5
Office Equipment	\$183,000	1.6636	0.4518	15.1490	\$304,439	\$82,679	3
Engineered Parts	\$400,000	1.5593	0.4076	10.9617	\$623,720	\$163,040	4
Electrical/Electronic Parts	\$640,000	1.6299	0.4222	10.1705	\$1,043,136	\$270,208	7
Electricity	\$18,500,000	1.4492	0.3282	6.8767	\$26,810,200	\$6,071,700	127
Natural Gas	\$0	1.4756	0.2690	5.8119	\$0	\$0	0
Waste Water	\$170,000	1.6529	0.4546	13.2552	\$280,993	\$77,282	2
Solid Waste Disposal	\$60,000	1.8148	0.5391	17.5413	\$108,888	\$32,346	1
Insurance	\$0	1.6957	0.4722	13.6573	\$0	\$0	0
Catering	\$92,000	1.8266	0.6153	43.9806	\$168,047	\$56,608	4
Building Maintenance	\$650,000	1.7339	0.5908	33.0365	\$1,127,035	\$384,020	21
Custodial Services	\$3390,000	1.7339	0.5908	33.0365	\$676,221	\$230,412	13
Professional Services	\$360,000	1.7562	0.6916	18.9169	\$632,232	\$248,976	7
Security Services	\$942,500	1.7204	0.7588	39.8107	\$1,621,477	\$715,169	38
Mail, Document Services	\$170,000	1.6236	0.5383	25.3657	\$276,012	\$91,511	4
Office Supplies	\$236,000	1.6580	0.5356	23.0050	\$391,288	\$126,402	5
Diesel**	\$205,000	1.6300	0.5112	14.6460	\$334,150	\$104,769	3
<b>Total</b>	\$23,770,500	* The employment multiplier is measure on the basis of \$1-million change in output delivered to final demand			<b>\$35,618,950</b>	<b>\$8,926,779</b>	<b>248</b>

\*\*This is diesel fuel consumed by on-site diesel generators. Vehicle fuel purchases are not included in this table.

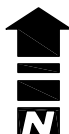
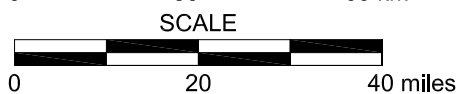
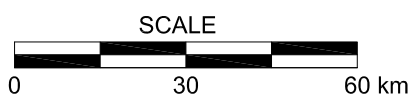
## FIGURES



**LEGEND:**

———— 80 km (50 mi) RADIUS

+++++ RAILROAD LINES

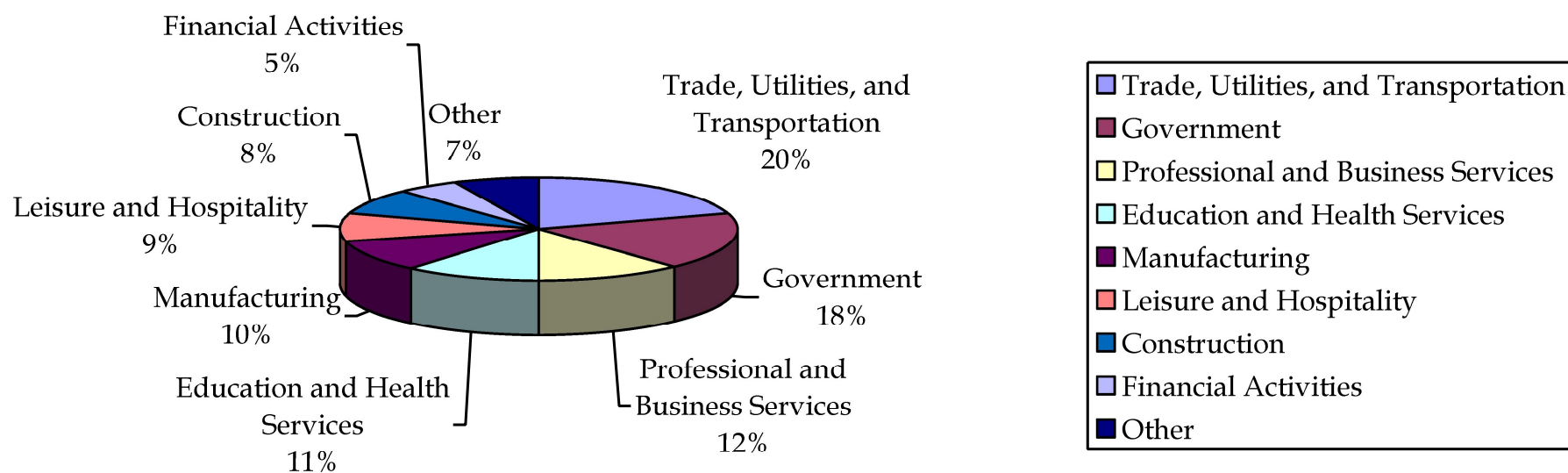


**Figure 7.1-1**

**Rev. 2**

11-County Economic Impact Area

**EAGLE ROCK ENRICHMENT FACILITY  
ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT**



**Figure 7.1-2**

**Rev. 2**

Private Employment in Idaho in 2006

**EAGLE ROCK ENRICHMENT FACILITY  
ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT**

**Figure 7.1-3, Total Present Value of Expected AES Construction Purchases,  
is Proprietary Commercial Information  
Withheld in Accordance with 10 CFR 2.390**



**Figure 7.1-4, Estimated Construction Craft Jobs by Annual Pay,  
is Proprietary Commercial Information  
Withheld in Accordance with 10 CFR 2.390**

## **7.2      ENVIRONMENTAL COST – BENEFIT, PLANT CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION**

This section qualitatively describes the environmental costs and benefits of the proposed Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility (EREF) in Bonneville County, Idaho. It identifies the impacts of the plant construction and operation on the site and adjacent environment. Table 7.2-1, Qualitative Environmental Costs/Benefits of EREF During Construction and Operation, summarizes the results.

### **7.2.1      Site Preparation and Plant Construction**

#### **7.2.1.1      Existing Site**

There will be minimal disturbance to existing site features at the project site from construction activities. Only 240 ha (592 ac) within the 1,700-ha (4,200-ac) proposed site would be impacted by clearing and earthmoving activities. Site property outside the primary plant area would generally remain in its preconstruction condition or improved through stabilization as needed.

#### **7.2.1.2      Land Conservation and Erosion Control Measures**

AREVA Enrichment Services, LLC (AES) anticipates that there would be some short-term increases in soil erosion at the site due to construction activities. Erosion impacts due to site clearing, excavation, and grading would be mitigated through the use of proper construction and erosion best management practices (BMPs). These practices would include minimizing the construction footprint to the extent possible, mitigating discharge, including stormwater runoff (i.e., the use of detention and retention ponds), the protection of all unused natural areas, and site stabilization practices to reduce the potential for erosion. Only about 14% of the site would be used for construction activities. Cleared areas would be stabilized as soon as practicable, and watering would be used to control fugitive dust.

#### **7.2.1.3      Aesthetic Changes**

Noise levels during construction of the highway entrances, access roads, and visitor center would range from 80 to 95 dBA. One highway entrance and access road would be visible off site on portions of the Wilderness Study Area (WSA), south of the proposed EREF site. Construction noise would be temporary and be reduced to about 51 to 66 dBA at the nearest hiking trail point on the WSA. Therefore, noise impacts would be small from construction of the visitor center, highway entrances, and access roads. Construction noise from the EREF footprint would have a small impact because the footprint would be about 2.4 km (1.5 mi) from public viewing areas, such as U.S. Highway 20 and the WSA.

The nearest resident would not hear the construction noise on the proposed EREF site since the residence is approximately 7.7 km (4.8 mi) east of the proposed site. The nearest resident would hear noise from construction traffic on U.S. Highway 20. Noise from construction traffic along U.S. Highway 20 would be similar to existing highway noise levels because construction activities largely occur during weekday daylight hours. Existing noise levels were recorded at the proposed site at 57 dBA, at 15 m (50 ft) from U.S. Highway 20, during peak commute times. This noise level likely would be similar during construction when construction traffic is included. However, the duration of noise that is associated with peak commute traffic would increase.

Construction of the proposed EREF would be out of character with current uses and features due to the size of the construction site and the type of buildings. However, similarly sized

industrial facilities have been constructed west of the proposed site. Construction cranes, transmission line structures, and the form of taller buildings would be observable off-site. The construction area of the proposed facility would be about 2.4 km (1.5 mi) from public viewing areas such as U.S. Highway 20 and the WSA, making details of the construction of the proposed facility difficult to observe. Therefore, the impact on views would be small.

The Wasden Complex, an important group of archaeological sites, is about 1.0 km (0.6 mi) from the boundary of the proposed EREF site. AES has assessed the potential visual impact of the EREF on the Wasden Complex viewshed and has provided the results to the Idaho SHPO. The assessment of the viewshed looking from the Wasden Complex to the EREF indicates most of the facilities when constructed would be obscured due to an intervening ridgeline, and due to distance. Construction activities should also be difficult to observe due to this topographical feature. As a result of consultation between AES and the Idaho State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), AES is considering planting 2 to 3 m (7 to 10 ft) tall native vegetation to further mask the portion of the EREF buildings that may be visible from the Wasden Complex of sites. Therefore, the construction of the proposed EREF would have a small impact on the Wasden Complex.

#### **7.2.1.4 Ecological Resources**

Pre-construction and construction activities at the site would have a small impact on vegetation and wildlife. AES anticipates that construction activities would remove some shrub vegetation and cause wildlife to relocate on the site. Similarly, some wildlife that were using the immediate area would be displaced due to noise, lighting, traffic, and human presence. Limited direct mortality of wildlife may occur from vehicle collisions or collisions with construction cranes and fences. Proposed activities would not impact communities or habitats defined as rare or unique, or that support threatened and endangered species, since no such communities or habitats have been identified anywhere within or adjacent to the proposed site.

#### **7.2.1.5 Access Roads and Local Traffic**

All traffic into and out of the site would be along U.S. Highway 20. U.S. Highway 20 is dedicated to heavy-duty use and built to industrial standards; it would be able to handle increased heavy-duty traffic adequately. Traffic volume is low except during commute times. Therefore, the proposed EREF would potentially add to commute traffic and durations but would result in little effect during non-commute times.

#### **7.2.1.6 Water Resources**

Water quality impacts would be controlled during construction by compliance with the State of Idaho's and EPA Region 10's water quality regulations and the use of BMPs as detailed in the site Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). In addition, a Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) plan would be implemented to minimize the possibility of spills of hazardous substances, minimize the environmental impact of any spills, and promptly initiate appropriate remediation. Spills that may occur during construction would most likely occur near vehicle maintenance and fueling operations, storage tanks, painting operations, and warehouses. The SPCC plan will identify sources, locations and quantities of potential spills, and response measures. The plan will also identify individuals and their responsibilities for implementation of the plan and provide for prompt notifications of state and local authorities as needed.

#### **7.2.1.7 Noise and Dust Control Measures**

Shrub and vegetation outside of the construction areas would be left in place and, combined with the distances from construction areas to the public, would reduce noise. There is considerable existing traffic already present on U.S. Highway 20. Therefore, maximum noise levels from EREF traffic would not increase noise levels along U.S. Highway 20, although the duration of noise that is associated with peak commute traffic may increase.

Dust resulting from traffic and excavation activities during construction would be abated by water spraying as necessary. All potential air pollution and dust emission conditions would be monitored to demonstrate compliance with applicable health, safety, and environmental regulations.

AES will minimize and manage noise and vibration impacts during construction and decommissioning by:

1. Performing construction or decommissioning activities with the potential for noise or vibration at residential areas that could have a negative impact on the quality of life during the day-time hours (7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.). If it is necessary to perform an activity that could result in excessive noise or vibration in a residential area after hours, the community will be notified in accordance with the site procedures.
2. Engineered and administrative controls for equipment noise abatement, including the use of equipment and vehicle mufflers, acoustic baffles, shrouding, barriers and noise blankets.
3. Sequencing construction or decommissioning activities to minimize the overall noise and vibration impact (e.g., establishing the activities that can occur simultaneously or in succession).
4. Utilizing blast mats, if necessary.
5. Creating procedures for notifying State and local government agencies, residents, and businesses of construction or decommissioning activities that may produce high noise or vibration that could affect them.
6. Posting appropriate State highway signs warning of blasting.
7. Creating a Complaint Response Protocol for dealing with and responding to noise or vibration complaints, including entering the complaint into the site's Corrective Action Program.

#### **7.2.1.8 Historic and Cultural Resources**

A pedestrian cultural resource survey of the area where the proposed EREF is to be located was conducted. The survey resulted in the recording of 11 sites and 17 isolated occurrences (finds); there are three prehistoric, four historic, and four multi-component sites. Further investigation was conducted to determine the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility for the prehistoric components of three sites (MW002, MW012, and MW015). Subsequent testing of these sites resulted in a recommendation of not eligible. This historic component of one site (MW004) is recommended as eligible. Seven sites (MW003, MW006, MW007, MW009, MW011, MW013, and MW014) are recommended not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. The potentially eligible site is within the proposed plant footprint. A treatment mitigation plan for MW004 will be developed by AES in consultation with the Idaho State Historic Officer (SHPO) to recover significant information.

### **7.2.1.9 Socioeconomic**

Construction of the EREF is expected to have positive socioeconomic impacts on the region. The Regional Input-Output Modeling System (RIMS II) allows estimation of various indirect impacts associated with each of the expenditures associated with the EREF. According to the RIMS II analysis, the region's residents can anticipate an annual impact of [ \* ] in increased economic activity for local businesses, [ \* ] in increased earnings by households, and [ \* ] new jobs during the 7-year heavy construction period and four-year assemblage and testing period. The temporary influx of labor is not expected to overload local services and facilities within the Bonneville-BinghamJefferson Idaho area.

\* Proprietary Commercial Information withheld in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390

#### **7.2.1.9.1 Yearly Purchases of Steel, Concrete, and Related Construction Materials**

The initial construction period for EREF is approximately three years. This period will encompass site preparation and construction of most site structures. Due to the phased installation of centrifuge equipment, production will commence in the fourth year of the construction period (2014). The manpower and materials used during this phase of the project will vary depending on the construction plan. Table 7.2-2, Estimated Construction Material Yearly Purchases, provides the estimated total quantities of purchased construction materials and Table 7.2-3, Estimated Yearly Labor Costs for Construction, provides the estimated labor that will be required to install these materials. The scheduling of materials and labor expenditures is subject to the provisions of the project construction execution plan, which has not yet been developed.

Approximately [ \* ] in local expenditures (e.g., buildings, equipment, and other materials) will be made in the local EREF site area. According to the labor survey conducted as part of the conceptual estimate, the major portion of the required craft labor forces will come from the eleven counties around the project area.

\* Proprietary Commercial Information withheld in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390

### **7.2.2 Plant Operation**

#### **7.2.2.1 Surface and Groundwater Quality**

Liquid effluents at the EREF will include stormwater runoff and sanitary wastewater. Any radiologically contaminated, potentially radiologically contaminated, or non-radiologically contaminated aqueous liquid effluents are collected for filtration and precipitation treatment to remove uranium and fluorine. Through repeat treatments, the contamination levels are reduced to acceptable levels, at which time the liquid is sent to an evaporator for vaporization and final discharge to the atmosphere. Any removed solids are shipped for off-site low-level radioactive waste disposal.

Stormwater runoff from the Cylinder Storage Pads will be collected in the Cylinder Storage Pads Stormwater Retention Basins. General site runoff will be routed to the Site Stormwater Detention Basins. During operation, stormwater discharges will be regulated, as required, by the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for the EREF. Approximately 65,240 m<sup>3</sup> (17,234,700 gal) of stormwater from the Cylinder Storage Pads are expected to be released, based on mean annual precipitation discharging to the Cylinder Storage Pads Stormwater Retention Basins. There is no infiltration in the site soils. Approximately 85,175 m<sup>3</sup> (22,501,000 gal) of stormwater from the site is expected to be released annually (mean) to the

detention basins after taking into account infiltration into the area soils associated with landscaped areas, natural areas, and loose gravel areas of the developed portion of the site. The estimated annual release of treated sanitary effluents to the domestic SSTP Basin is 18,700 m<sup>3</sup> (4,927,500 gal).

#### **7.2.2.2 Terrestrial and Aquatic Environments**

No communities or habitats defined as rare or unique, or that support threatened or endangered species have been found or are known to occur on the proposed site. Operation of the EREF is therefore not expected to impact such communities or habitats.

#### **7.2.2.3 Air Quality**

No adverse air quality impacts to the environment, either on or off site, are anticipated to occur. Air emissions from the facility during normal facility operations will be limited to the plant ventilation air and gaseous effluent systems. All plant process/gaseous air effluents are to be filtered and monitored on a continuous basis for chemical and radiological contaminants, which could be derived from the UF<sub>6</sub> process system. If any UF<sub>6</sub> contaminants are detected in these systems' exhaust, the air is treated by appropriate filtration methods prior to its venting to the environment.

On-site diesel engines include four standby diesel generators for backup power supply, a security diesel generator, and a fire pump diesel. These engines will be used exclusively for emergency purposes. Their use will be administratively controlled and they will only run a limited number of hours per year. As a result, these engines will be exempt from air permitting requirements of the State of Idaho. Due to their limited use, the diesel generators will have negligible health and environmental impacts.

An on-site fueling facility consisting of two 2,000-gallon above ground storage tanks, dispenser pumps, and appurtenances will service the facility. One above ground tank will store unleaded gasoline. The other above ground tank will store diesel fuel. Because of the low estimated petroleum hydrocarbon emissions from the fueling facility and the associated estimated ambient air concentrations, the fueling facility is exempt from air permitting requirements of the State of Idaho and presents no significant impact to the environment.

#### **7.2.2.4 Visual/Scenic**

No impairments to local visual or scenic values will result due to the operation of the EREF. The facility and associated structures will be relatively compact, and located in a rural location. No offensive noises or odors will be produced as a result of facility operations.

#### **7.2.2.5 Socioeconomics**

AREVA Enrichment Services (AES) applied the Regional Input-Output Modeling System (RIMS) II to estimate the socioeconomic impact from operation of the EREF. The results of the analysis are presented below and are in 2007 dollars. The EREF is expected to employ up to 550 people in high paying jobs relative to the region. Its operation's payroll will generate \$36.3 million annually in earnings for households and another \$82.8 million in additional household earnings due to indirect impacts. Annual purchases for goods and services are expected to add another \$8.9 million in household income for a total increase in household earnings of \$128.0 million. An annual increase of 2,987 indirect new jobs (3,537 minus the 550 direct jobs at the EREF) is anticipated during operation.

In general, no significant impacts are expected to occur on population characteristics, economic trends, housing, community services and the tax structure and tax distribution in Bonneville and Bingham Counties.

#### **7.2.2.6 Radiological Impacts**

Potential radiological impacts from operation of the EREF would result from controlled releases of small quantities of  $\text{UF}_6$  during normal operations and releases of  $\text{UF}_6$  under hypothetical accident conditions. As described in ER 4.12.2, Radiological Impacts, the major sources of potential radiation exposure are the gaseous effluent from the Separations Buildings, Technical Support Building and direct radiation from the Cylinder Storage Pads. It is anticipated that the total amount of uranium released to the environment via airborne effluent discharges from the EREF will be less than 20 grams (13.7  $\mu\text{Ci}$  or 0.506 MBq) per year. Due to the anticipated low volume of contaminated liquid waste and the effectiveness of the treatment processes, no waste in the form of liquid effluent are expected.

The estimated maximum annual effective dose equivalent and maximum annual organ (lung) committed dose to transient individuals at the maximum site boundary for the ground plane (NNE sector at 1.1 km (0.67 mi)), cloud immersion (N sector at 1.1 km (0.67 mi)), and inhalation exposure (N sector at 1.1 km (0.67 mi)) pathways are  $1.5 \text{ E-}04 \text{ mSv/yr}$  ( $1.5 \text{ E-}02 \text{ mrem/yr}$ ) and  $1.2 \text{ E-}03 \text{ mSv/yr}$  ( $1.2 \text{ E-}01 \text{ mrem/yr}$ ), respectively. Although there are no residences within 8 km (5 mi) from the center of the EREF structures, for a hypothetical residence at the site boundary, the maximum annual effective dose equivalent and maximum annual organ dose (lung) to an individual for all airborne exposure pathways are  $8.8 \text{ E-}04 \text{ mSv/yr}$  ( $8.8 \text{ E-}02 \text{ mrem/yr}$ ) and  $6.4 \text{ E-}03 \text{ mSv/yr}$  ( $6.4 \text{ E-}01 \text{ mrem/yr}$ ), respectively.

The dose equivalent due to external radiation (direct and sky shine) from the Northern Cylinder Storage Pads and direct dose from product cylinders stored on the Full Product Cylinder Storage Pad, to an individual (2,000 hrs/yr) at the maximum impacted site boundary (North), is  $0.0142 \text{ mSv/yr}$  ( $1.42 \text{ mrem/yr}$ ). The annual dose equivalent (2000 hrs/yr) at the nearest actual off-site work location (Southwest at 4.0 km (2.5 mi)) is estimated to be  $<1 \text{ E-}12 \text{ mSv/yr}$  ( $<1 \text{ E-}10 \text{ mrem/yr}$ ) and that to the nearest actual residence (8,766 hrs/yr) at over 8 km (5 mi) from facility structures, is less than  $1 \text{ E-}12 \text{ mSv/yr}$  ( $1 \text{ E-}10 \text{ mrem/yr}$ ).

These dose equivalents due to normal operations are small fractions of the normal background radiation range of 2.0 to 3.0 mSv (200 to 300 mrem) dose equivalent that an average individual receives in the U.S., and within regulatory limits.

#### **7.2.2.7 Other Impacts of Plant Operation**

The EREF water supply will be from on-site wells. The anticipated normal water usage rate for the EREF is  $68.2 \text{ m}^3/\text{d}$  (18,000 gal/d) and the peak water usage requirement is 42 L/sec (664 gpm). The normal annual water usage rate will be 24,870,000 L/yr (6,570,000 gal/yr), which is a very small fraction (i.e., about 4%) of the water appropriation value of 625,000,000 L/yr (165,000,000 gal/yr) for industrial use. The appropriation for seasonal irrigation use will be  $147 \text{ m}^3/\text{d}$  (38,800 gal/d). The peak water usage is developed based on the assumption that all water users are operating simultaneously. Furthermore, the peak water usage assumes that each water user is operating at maximum demand. This combination of assumptions is very unlikely to occur during the lifetime of the EREF. Nevertheless, the peak water usage is used to size the piping system and pumps. Given that the normal annual water usage rate for the EREF is a very small fraction of the appropriation value, momentary usages of water beyond the expected

normal water usage rate is expected to be well within the water appropriation value for the EREF.

Non-hazardous and non-radioactive solid waste is expected to be approximately 70,307 kg (155,000 lbs)] annually. It will be collected and disposed of off-site by a County licensed solid waste disposal contractor and disposed of in a licensed landfill that has adequate capacity to accept EREF non-hazardous waste.

The EREF is expected to generate approximately 146,500 kg (323,000 lbs) of low-level waste annually. In addition, the EREF is expected to generate approximately 5,062 kg (11,160 lbs) of hazardous wastes and 100 kg (220 lbs) of mixed waste annually. These wastes will be collected, inspected, volume-reduced, and transferred off-site to licensed low-level waste facilities.

#### **7.2.2.8 Decommissioning**

The plan for decommissioning is to decontaminate or remove all materials promptly from the site that prevent release of the facility for unrestricted use. This approach avoids the need for long-term storage and monitoring of wastes on site. Only building shells and the site infrastructure will remain. All remaining facilities, including site basins, will be decontaminated where needed to acceptable levels for unrestricted use. Excavations and berms will be leveled to restore the land to a natural contour.

Radioactive wastes will be disposed of in licensed low-level radioactive waste disposal sites. Hazardous wastes will be treated or disposed of in licensed hazardous waste facilities.

Depleted UF<sub>6</sub>, if not already sold or otherwise disposed of prior to decommissioning, will be disposed of in accordance with regulatory requirements.

Following decommissioning, all parts of the facility and site will be unrestricted to any specific type of use.



## TABLES

**Table 7.2-1 Qualitative Environmental Costs/Benefits of EREF During Construction and Operation**  
(Page 1 of 1)

<b>Qualitative Costs</b>	<b>Determination/Evaluation</b>
Change in real estate values in areas/communities adjacent to the facility (e.g., land, homes, rental property etc.)	Unlikely to occur
Traffic increases on U.S. Highway 20	Small impacts mainly associated with Increased traffic during shift changes
Air emissions from construction dust and vehicles	Small impact
Demand on local police and fire services, public utilities, schools, etc.	Some increased utilization and some increased need for additional staff expected
Impact to natural environmental components (e.g., ecology, water quality, air quality, etc.)	Small impacts
Alteration of aesthetic, scenic, historic, or archaeological areas or values	Small impact
Change in local recreational potential	Small impact
Site soil erosion during construction	Small impact
<b>Qualitative Benefits</b>	
Incentive for development of other ancillary/support business development resulting from presence of EREF facility	Beneficial
Change in real estate values in areas/communities adjacent to the facility (e.g., land, homes, rental property etc.)	Potentially beneficial
Increase in local employment opportunities	Beneficial
Impacts to local retail trade and services	Beneficial
Development of local workforce capabilities	Beneficial

**Table 7.2-2 Estimated Construction Material Yearly Purchases**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Commodity	Quantity	Total Value (Material Cost)	Yearly Purchase
Concrete/Forms/Rebar	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Metal Siding	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Structural Steel	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Architectural Items	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
HVAC Systems	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Utility Piping	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Electrical Conduit & Wire	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

Note: Material purchases displayed in this table are for local and non-local (e.g., national and elsewhere) purchases of materials only and do not include associated labor costs.

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**Table 7.2-3 Estimated Yearly Labor Costs for Construction**  
(Page 1 of 1)

<b>Type of Work</b>	<b>Number of Craft-Hours</b>	<b>Approx. No. People</b>	<b>Total Value</b>	<b>Yearly Purchases</b>
Civil & Site Work	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Concrete Work	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Structural Steel	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Metal Siding	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Architectural Finishes	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Utility Equipment	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
HVAC Sys, & Ductwork	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Electrical Conduit & Wire	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

Information in “[ ]” is Proprietary Commercial Information withheld in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390

### **7.3 NO-ACTION ALTERNATIVE COST-BENEFIT**

The no-action alternative would be to not build the proposed Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility (EREF). Under the no-action alternative, the NRC would not approve the license application to construct and operate the proposed facility. As a result, it is assumed that the current owners of the private property upon which the proposed facility would be sited would be free to continue the current uses of the property and the potential impacts of constructing and operating the proposed EREF would not occur. Although the no-action alternative would avoid impacts to the EREF area, it could lead to impacts at other locations.

Under the no-action alternative, for example, reactor licensees would be required to meet their uranium enrichment service needs through existing suppliers. In the United States, this would mean that the one remaining operating enrichment facility, the gaseous diffusion facility operated by the United States Enrichment Corporation (USEC) at Paducah, Kentucky, which is expected to shut down in June 2012, would be the only domestic facility currently available to serve this purpose. Therefore, USEC in the near term would remain the sole current domestic supplier of low-enriched uranium.

In the longer term, two companies, Louisiana Energy Services (LES) and USEC, submitted applications to the NRC and received licenses to build and operate new centrifuge-based uranium enrichment plants in the United States. Construction is presently underway on both facilities, the National Enrichment Facility (NEF) and the American Centrifuge Plant (ACP). In addition, General Electric-Hitachi Nuclear Energy (GEH) has initiated work that is based on Silex laser enrichment technology. On January 30, 2009, GEH delivered its environmental report to the NRC with the rest of the license application to be submitted by June 2009 (SILEX, 2009). If GEH ultimately makes the decision to deploy Global Laser Enrichment (GLE) commercially, following results of testing that is scheduled to occur during 2009, GEH then expects to have a commercial Lead Cascade operational by 2012 or 2013.

Nonetheless, if the NEF and ACP are completed and operate in the U.S., then together with small contributions of equivalent supply from down blended U.S. Highly Enriched Uranium (HEU), and limited recycle, they would be capable of supplying only 61% of the U.S. requirements during the period of AREVA's Reference Nuclear Power Growth forecast (ER Section 1.1.2.4.2, Scenario B). In addition, these potential enrichment services alone would be inconsistent with the clear federal policy of fostering the development of additional, secure, reliable, and economical domestic enrichment capacity to promote both U.S. energy security and national security. The Department of Energy (DOE) has recognized that these energy security concerns are due, in large part, to the lack of available replacement for the aging, electric power intensive and high cost gaseous diffusion enrichment plant.

These circumstances, and the expiration of the U.S.-Russian HEU agreement in 2013, have combined to raise concerns among U.S. purchasers of enrichment services with respect to the security of their supplies. They see a world supply and requirements situation for economical uranium enrichment services that is presently in balance, exhibiting a potential for significant shortfall if plans that have been announced by two of the primary enrichers are not executed.

Not building the EREF, therefore, could have the following consequences:

- Failure to satisfy important considerations of energy and national security policy, namely the development of additional, secure, reliable, and economical domestic enrichment capacity.
- Continued reliance on the high-cost and power-intensive technology now in use at the aging Paducah gaseous diffusion plant, or, alternatively, reliance on the NEF and the proposed

USEC gas centrifuge technology which, at present, has yet to be deployed on a commercial scale.

- Continued extensive reliance on uranium enriched in foreign countries.
- The inability to ensure both security of supply and diverse domestic suppliers for U.S. purchasers of enrichment services.
- Increased risk of a uranium enrichment supply deficit with respect to the uranium enrichment requirements forecasts set forth in ER Section 1.1.2, Market Analysis of Enriched Uranium Supply and Requirements.

ER Section 2.4, Comparison of the Predictive Environmental Impacts, describes the environmental impacts of the no-action alternatives and compares them to the proposed action. Table 2.4-1, Comparison of Potential Impacts for the Proposed Action and the No-Action Alternative Scenarios, and Table 2.4-2, Comparison of Environmental Impacts for the Proposed Action and the No-Action Alternative Scenarios, summarize that comparison in tabular form for the 13 environmental categories, described in detail in ER Chapter 4, Environmental Impacts. AES anticipates the effects to the environment of all no-action alternatives to be about the same or greater than the proposed action in the short and long term. There are potentially lesser impacts in some environmental categories, which are offset by greater environmental impacts in other categories due to, for instance, the concentration of larger enrichment plants in one location. In addition, under the no-action alternative, attainment of both important national policy and commercial objectives would be, at best, delayed.

The following types of impacts would be avoided in the Bonneville County area by the no-action alternative (see Table 2.1-7, Summary of Environmental Impacts for the Proposed Action, and Table 7.2-1, Qualitative Environmental Costs/Benefits of EREF during Construction and Operation). During construction, there is the potential short-term impacts of soil erosion and fugitive emissions from dust and construction equipment; disruption to ecological habitats; noise from equipment; and traffic from worker transportation and supply deliveries. These impacts, as discussed in ER Chapter 4, are temporary and limited in scope due to construction Best Management Practices (BMPs), but, in any event, would be avoided under the no-action alternative. During operation, the no-action alternative would avoid increased traffic due to uranium cylinder deliveries and shipments and worker transportation, increased demand on utility and waste services and public and occupational exposure from effluent releases. These impacts, however, will be minimal because the area already has traffic from general trucking commerce, there is sufficient capacity of utility and waste services in the region and effluent releases will be strictly controlled, maintained on-site, monitored, and maintained below regulatory limits.

The proposed action would have moderate to significant beneficial effects (see Tables 7.1-1 through 7.1-5). Under the no-action alternative, however, these beneficial effects would not occur. The results of the economic analysis show that more fiscal impacts (i.e., 57% of total present value impacts) will derive from the eleven-year construction period associated with the proposed facility. The largest impact on local business revenues stems from local construction expenditures. Operation of the facility will also have a net positive impact on the 11-county area and will help diversify the regional economy. The most significant impact on household earnings and jobs is associated with payroll and employment projected during the operational period.

AES estimates the construction payroll will total [ \* ], with an additional [ \* ] in employee benefits, and approximately [ \* ] on goods and services in direct benefits to the local economy over the eleven-year construction period.

AES anticipates the annual operating payroll to be \$36.3 million, with an additional \$12.7 million in employee benefits once the plant is operational. Approximately \$23.8 million will be spent annually on local goods and services required for operation of the EREF.

The tax revenue to the state of Idaho and Bonneville County and Bingham County resulting from the construction and operation of the EREF is estimated to be \$323.6 million over the life of the facility. Refer to Table 4.10-3, Estimated Annual Tax Payments, for further details.

The Regional Input-Output Modeling System (RIMS) II allows estimation of various indirect impacts associated with each of the expenditures associated with the operation of EREF. According to the RIMS II analysis, the region's residents can anticipate a total impact of [ \* ] in output for local businesses, [ \* ] in household earnings, and [ \* ] new jobs during the construction period. Over the anticipated 30-year license period of the EREF, the project is anticipated to generate a total annual impact of \$35.6 million in output for local businesses, \$128.0 million in household earnings, and 3,537 new jobs directly or indirectly relating to the EREF. In general, minor and temporary impacts on community services are expected to occur for local infrastructure areas (e.g., schools, housing, water, and emergency responders). Costs of operation should be diffused sufficiently to be indistinguishable from normal economic growth.

Based on the above information, cost-benefit analyses in ER Section 7.1, Economic Cost-Benefits, Plant Construction and Operation, and ER Section 7.2, Environmental Cost-Benefit, Plant Construction and Operation, and the minimal impacts to the affected environment demonstrated in ER Chapter 4, AES has concluded that the preferred alternative is the proposed action, construction and operation of the EREF.

\* Proprietary Commercial Information withheld in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390

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## LIST OF FIGURES

None

## **8.0 SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES**

### **8.1 INTRODUCTION**

This Environmental Report (ER) was prepared by AREVA Enrichment Services (AES) to assess the potential environmental impacts of licensing the construction and operation of a uranium enrichment facility to be located in Bonneville County, approximately 32 km (20 mi) west northwest of the city of Idaho Falls (the proposed action). The proposed facility will use the centrifuge enrichment process, which is an energy-efficient, proven advanced technology. The Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility (EREF) will be owned and operated by AES, as described in Safety Analysis Report (SAR) Chapter 1, General Information, which is a Delaware limited partnership company. AES prepared this ER in accordance with 10 CFR 51 (CFR, 2008a), which implements the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended (USC, 2008a). This ER also reflects the applicable elements of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) guidance, including format, in NUREG-1748, Environmental Review Guidelines for Licensing Actions Associated with NMSS Programs, Final Report (NRC, 2003a). This ER analyzes the potential environmental impacts of the proposed action and eventual Decontamination and Decommissioning (D&D) of the facility, and discusses the effluent and environmental monitoring programs proposed to assess the potential environmental impacts of facility construction and operation. The ER also considers a no-action alternative.

## 8.2 PROPOSED ACTION

The proposed action is to license the construction and operation of the Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility (EREF) in Bonneville County, Idaho. The EREF will use the gas centrifuge enrichment process to separate natural uranium hexafluoride,  $\text{UF}_6$ , feed material containing 0.71  $\text{w/o } ^{235}\text{U}$  into a product stream enriched up to 5.0  $\text{w/o } ^{235}\text{U}$  and a depleted  $\text{UF}_6$  stream containing approximately 0.15 to 0.30  $\text{w/o } ^{235}\text{U}$ . Production capacity at design throughput is nominally six million separative work units (SWU) per year. Construction for the proposed EREF is scheduled for the beginning of 2011, with heavy construction continuing for seven years over eight calendar years (2011-2018). This will be followed by four years of testing and assemblage (2018-2022). Operation would commence after the completion of the first cascade. The facility is licensed for 30 years. Decontamination and Decommissioning (D&D) is projected to take nine years. AES estimates the cost of the plant to be approximately \$4.1 billion (in 2007 dollars) excluding escalation, contingency, interest, tails disposition, decommissioning, and any replacement equipment required during the operational life of the facility.

### **8.3 NEED FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION**

The proposed action will serve the clear and well-substantiated need for additional reliable and economical uranium enrichment capacity in the United States (U.S.). This underlying need for the proposed Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility (EREF) stems directly from important U.S. energy and national security concerns and the continuing demand for reliable and economical uranium enrichment services. As the Department of Energy (DOE) has noted (DOE, 2002a), these energy and national security concerns "...are due, in large part, to the lack of available replacement for the inefficient and non-competitive gaseous diffusion enrichment plants. These concerns highlight the importance of identifying and deploying an economically competitive replacement domestic enrichment capacity in the near term." By providing this needed additional domestic enrichment capacity, the EREF would also serve important commercial objectives related to the security of supply of enriched uranium in the U.S. At present, the enrichment services needs of U.S. utilities are susceptible to "a supply disruption from either the Paducah plant production or the highly-enriched uranium (HEU) Agreement deliveries."

## 8.4 NO-ACTION ALTERNATIVE

Under the no-action alternative, the NRC would not approve the license application to construct and operate the proposed Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility (EREF). As a result, the additional domestic source and supply of enrichment services that would result from the issuance of the license to Areva Enrichment Services (AES) would not become available to utility customers. The only domestic suppliers would be the National Enrichment Facility and the American Centrifuge Plant (an unproven commercially demonstrated technology), which are currently under construction. The latter is assumed to replace the aging, electric power intensive and high cost Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant, which is expected to shutdown in June 2012, the only currently operating source of domestic enrichment services. As described in ER Section 1.1, this situation would result in a deficit between the available supply of low-enriched uranium and domestic requirements. In addition, these potential enrichment services alone would be inconsistent with the clear federal policy of fostering the development of additional, secure, reliable, and economical domestic enrichment capacity to promote both U.S. energy security and national security.

Section 2.4, Comparison of the Predicted Environmental Impacts, describes the environmental impacts of the no-action alternative scenarios and compares them to the proposed action. ER Table 2.4-1, Comparison of Potential Impacts for the Proposed Action and the No-Action Alternative Scenarios and Table 2.4-2, Comparison of Environmental Impacts for the Proposed Action and the No-Action Alternative Scenarios, summarizes that comparison in tabular form for the thirteen environmental categories that are described in detail in ER Chapter 4, Environmental Impacts. In Summary, AES anticipates that the effects to the environment of all alternative no-action scenarios would either have about the same or greater environmental impact than the proposed action in both the short and long term. The no-action alternative would also result in an increased uranium supply deficit and increased dependence on foreign suppliers. In addition, the important objective of security of supply is delayed.

The following types of impacts would be avoided in Bonneville County, Idaho and the surrounding area by the no-action alternative (see ER Table 2.4-2). During construction, the potential short-term impacts are soil erosion and fugitive emissions from dust and construction equipment; minor disruption to ecological habitats and cultural resources, noise from equipment; and traffic from worker transportation and supply deliveries. These impacts, as discussed in Chapter 4, are temporary and limited in scope due to the use of construction best management practices (BMPs). During operation, the no-action alternative would avoid increased traffic due to feed/product deliveries and shipments, and worker transportation; increased demand on utility and waste services; and public and occupational exposure from effluent releases. The impacts of traffic volume increases associated with construction of the EREF would be moderate to large, while the impacts of traffic volume increases associated with operation of the EREF would be small. The moderate to large impact of traffic volume increases associated with construction of the EREF may be mitigated by constructing the two highway entrances (designed to minimize the disruption of traffic flow) early in the construction process, encouraging car pooling, setting shift change times and shipment times to and from the facility to occur at times when the traffic flow on U.S. Highway 20 is low. See Section 4.2.4, Traffic Impacts.

There is sufficient capacity of utility and waste services in the region; and effluent releases will be strictly controlled, monitored, and maintained below regulatory limits (CFR, 2008x; CFR, 2008n).

While the no-action alternative would have no impact on the socioeconomic structure of the Bonneville County, Idaho area, the proposed action would have moderate to significant beneficial effects on the entire eleven-county region surrounding the plant including Bonneville county as well as the contiguous counties falling within an 80 km (50 mi) radius (see Table 7.1-2, Annual Impact of Construction Payroll in the 11-County Area, Table 7.1-3, Total Impact of Local Spending for Construction Goods and Services in the 11-County Area, Table 7.1-4, Annual Impact of Operations Payroll in the 11-County Area, and Table 7.1-5, Total Annual Impact of EREF Purchases During Operations in the 11-County Area). The results of the economic analysis show that the greatest fiscal impacts will derive from the seven-year period of heavy construction associated with the proposed facility.

The largest impact on local business revenues stems from local construction expenditures, while the most significant impact on household earnings and jobs is associated with construction payroll and employment projected during the seven-year period of heavy construction. Operation of the facility will also have a net positive impact on the eleven-county area and will help diversify the regional economy.

AES has estimated the economic impacts to the local economy during the seven-year heavy construction period to occur over eight calendar years (2011-2018), the four years of testing and assemblage, and the remaining period of the 30-year license of the EREF. This includes an eight-year period when both construction and operation are ongoing simultaneously. The analysis traces the economic impact of the proposed EREF, identifying the direct and indirect impacts of the plant on revenues of local businesses, on incomes accruing to households, on employment, and on the revenues of state and local government. The analysis also explores the indirect impacts of the EREF within an 80 km (50 mi) radius of the EREF. Details of the analysis are provided in Section 7.1, Economic Cost-Benefits, Facility Construction and Operation, and are summarized below.

AES estimates that it would spend [ \* ] locally on construction expenditures over the seven-year heavy construction period beginning in early 2011 and ending in early 2018 and followed by four years of assemblage and testing. The local payroll would include approximately [ \* ] for craft workers, with an additional [ \* ] for management. This amount would be augmented with the inclusion of the [ \* ] in benefits paid to construction craft employees and [ \* ] for management (based on the assumption of 35% of the average salary).

A portion of the total expenditures would be spent locally on construction goods and services, benefiting local businesses. This would amount to approximately [ \* ] per year during the seven years of heavy construction.

AES anticipates annual payroll to be \$36.3 million with additional \$12.7 million expenditure in employee benefits once the plant is operational. Approximately \$23.8 million will be spent annually on local goods and services required for operation of the EREF.

The tax revenue to the State of Idaho and Bonneville and Bingham Counties resulting from the construction and operation of the EREF is estimated to be approximately \$323.6 million over the life of the facility. Refer to Table 4.10-3, Estimated Annual Tax Payments, for further details.

Based on the cost-benefit analyses in Sections 7.1 and 7.2, and the minimal impacts to the affected environment demonstrated in Chapter 4, AES has concluded that the preferred alternative is the proposed action, construction and operation of the EREF.

\* Proprietary Commercial Information withheld in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390



## **8.5 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF CONSTRUCTION**

The construction of the Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility (EREF) involves the clearing of approximately 240 ha (592 ac) of previously undisturbed area within a 1700-ha (4200-acre) site. Most of this area will be graded and will form the Controlled Area that includes all support buildings and the Cylinder Storage Pads. Numerous environmental protection measures will be taken to mitigate potential construction impacts. The measures will include controls for noise, oil and hazardous material spills, and dust. Potential impacts associated with the construction phase of the EREF are primarily limited to increased dust (degraded air quality) and noise from vehicular traffic, and potential soil erosion during excavations. It is unlikely that EREF construction activities will impact water resources since the site does not have any surface water and no discharges shall be made to groundwater. Up to two wells will be used to obtain groundwater for construction activities.

During the construction phase of the EREF, standard clearing methods (i.e., the use of heavy equipment) in combination with excavation will be used. Only about 14% of the total site area will be disturbed, affording the biota of the site an opportunity to move to undisturbed areas within the EREF site as well as to additional areas of suitable habitat bordering the EREF site. Trenching associated with plant construction will be in accordance with all applicable regulations so as to minimize any direct or indirect impacts on the environment.

The anticipated effects on the soil during construction activities are limited to a potential short-term increase in soil erosion. However, this will be mitigated by proper construction best management practices (BMPs). These practices include minimizing the construction footprint to the extent possible, mitigating discharge, including stormwater runoff (i.e., the use of detention and retention ponds), the protection of all unused naturalized areas, and site stabilization practices to reduce the potential for erosion and sedimentation. Other temporary stormwater detention basins will be constructed and used as sedimentation collection basins during construction and stabilized afterwards. After construction is complete, the site will be stabilized with natural, low-water consumption landscaping, pavement, and crushed stone to control erosion.

Water quality impacts will be controlled during construction by compliance with the requirements of a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Construction General Permit and BMPs detailed in the site Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). In addition, a Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) plan will be implemented to minimize the possibility of spills of hazardous substances, minimize environmental impact of any spills, and ensure prompt and appropriate remediation. Spills during construction are more likely to occur around vehicle maintenance and fueling operations, storage tanks, painting operations and warehouses. The SPCC plan will identify sources, locations and quantities of potential spills, as well as response measures. The plan will also identify individuals and their responsibilities for implementation of the plan and provide for prompt notifications of state and local authorities.

The construction phase impacts on air quality, land use, and socioeconomics are localized, temporary, and small. The temporary influx of labor is not expected to overload community services and facilities. The impacts of traffic volume increases associated with construction of the EREF would be moderate to large. This impact can be mitigated by constructing the two highway entrances (designed to minimize the disruption of traffic flow) early in the construction process, encouraging car pooling, setting shift change times and shipment times to and from the facility to occur at times when traffic flow on U.S. Highway 20 is low.

Dust will be generated to some degree during the various stages of construction activity. The amount of dust emissions will vary according to the types of activity. The first five months of

earthwork will likely be the period of highest emissions with the greatest number of construction vehicles operating on an unprepared surface. However, no more than 14% of the site, or about 240 ha (592 ac), will be involved in this type of work. Airborne dust will be controlled through the use of BMPs such as surface water sprays by ensuring trucks' loads and soil piles are covered, and by promptly removing construction wastes from the site. The application of water sprays for dust suppression will be applied at least twice daily (when needed). Other dust control BMPs will also be implemented.

Increased visual modifications to the landscape would be expected due to the addition of transmission poles (resulting in more contrast of form, line color, and texture). A number of existing transmission lines and telephone lines and the resulting visual impacts are present within the region and in the immediate vicinity of the eastern and western extents of the site. The proposed transmission line would not dominate the landscape and would meet the Bureau of Land Management Visual Resource Management objectives.

Construction of the EREF is expected to have generally positive socioeconomic impacts on the region. No radioactive releases (other than natural radioactive materials, for example, in soil) will result from site development and facility construction activities.

Pre-construction activities are those that are not considered construction activities under the definition of construction currently provided in 10 CFR 51.4. AES considers the following activities and facilities as pre-construction:

- Clearing the site
- Site grading and erosion control
- Excavating the site including rock blasting and removal
- Installing parking areas
- Constructing the storm water detention basins
- Constructing the highway access roadways and site roads
- Installing utilities (e.g., temporary and permanent power) and storage tanks
- Installing fences for investment protection (not used to implement the Physical Security Plan)
- Installing construction buildings, offices (including construction trailers), warehouses and guardhouses.

Table 8.5-1 provides estimates of the percentage of impacts attributable to pre-construction and construction activities as well as a summary of the basis for the estimates and a qualitative impact significance level.

The estimated pre-construction and construction related impacts presented in the table were based on the following factors:

- Construction Area – the area that will be impacted for pre-construction and construction activities is estimated to be approximately 240 ha (592 ac) which includes 37 ha (92 ac) used for temporary construction activities. It is assumed that pre-construction activities of clearing, grubbing, and site preparation will impact 95% of the land area to be occupied by both pre-construction and construction structures and activities.

- Construction Duration – pre-construction activities (i.e., work that can be performed without any prior NRC approval) is estimated to occur during the first eight (8) months or approximately 10% of the 84 month construction schedule.
- Construction Workforce – the pre-construction workforce is approximately 60%, which the percentage of pre-construction workers compared to the peak number of workers estimated on-site related to all phases of EREF site development.
- Water Usage – the quantity of water to be used for pre-construction is estimated to be 10% of the total construction water requirements based on ER Table 3.4-15 and additional information. Pre-construction activities were assumed to use eight (8) months of Year 1 (2011) water usage to align with the assumption that pre-construction activities comprise 10% of the construction duration.

The qualitative significance levels in Table 8.5-1, denoted as SMALL, MODERATE, or LARGE, were assigned based on deployment and effective implementation of mitigation measures and controls required by local, state and federal regulations. The significance levels are defined in 10 CFR 51, Subpart A, Appendix B, Table B-1, Footnote 3:

- SMALL – Environmental effects are not detectable or are so minor that they will neither destabilize nor noticeably alter any important attribute of the resource.
- MODERATE – Environmental effects are sufficient to alter noticeably, but not to destabilize, any important attribute of the resource.
- LARGE – Environmental effects are clearly noticeable and are sufficient to destabilize important attributes of the resource.

**TABLES**

**Table 8.5-1 Summary of Pre-Construction and Construction Related Impacts**

(Page 1 of 4)

Potential Impact (ER Section Reference)	Significance <sup>(a)</sup>	Estimated Impacts (%)		Basis of Estimate
		Pre-Construction <sup>(b)</sup>	Construction	
Land Use (Sections 4.1 and 5.1.1)	SMALL	95	5	Based on the proposed EREF site area of 240 ha (592 ac), including the temporary area of 37 ha (92 ac), being disturbed during pre-construction and construction activities.  Greater than 80% of the property would remain undeveloped and current activities on nearby properties would not change.
Transportation (Sections 4.2 and 5.1.2)	MODERATE	60	40	Based on the percentage of pre-construction workers compared to the peak number of workers estimated on-site related to all phases of development for EREF, as listed in ER Tables 3.4-15 and 3.4-16, and the approximate number of truck deliveries and waste shipments per day as listed in ER Tables 4.2-3 and 4.2-4.  Impact due to increased highway traffic associated with construction duration.
Geology and Soils (Sections 4.3 and 5.1.3)	SMALL	95	5	Geology impacts based on pre-construction land use, during which the majority of blasting may occur to develop foundations.  Greater than 80% of the property would remain undeveloped and current activities on nearby properties would not change.  Soils impacts based on the pre-construction area impacted as described previously in Land Use.

**Table 8.5-1 Summary of Pre-Construction and Construction Related Impacts**  
(Page 2 of 4)

Potential Impact (ER Section Reference)	Significance <sup>(a)</sup>	Estimated Impacts (%)		Basis of Estimate
		Pre-Construction <sup>(b)</sup>	Construction	
				Potential short-term erosion during pre-construction, but enhanced afterward due to soil stabilization.
Water Resources (Sections 4.4 and 5.1.4)	SMALL	10	90	Based on the quantity of water to be used during pre-construction being 10% of the total water requirement, as shown in ER Table 3.4-15.
Ecological Resources (Sections 4.5 and 5.1.5)	SMALL	95	5	Based on the pre-construction area impacted, as described previously in Land Use, and the effects of noise and fugitive emissions occurring principally during pre-construction.  Impact is to both local community and migratory species.
Air Quality (Sections 4.6 and 5.1.6)	SMALL	20	80	Based on fugitive dust emissions, of which approximately 20% are expected during pre-construction, with the remainder occurring evenly for the remainder of the planned construction duration.
Noise (Sections 4.7 and 5.1.7)	SMALL	20	80	Based on approximately 20% of noise, due to earth-moving equipment and blasting, occurring during pre-construction, with the remainder occurring evenly over the planned construction duration.
Historic and Cultural Resources (Sections 4.8 and 5.1.8)	SMALL	95	5	Based on the percentage of the pre-construction area impacted during pre-construction estimated to be 95%, as described previously in Land Use, with

**Table 8.5-1 Summary of Pre-Construction and Construction Related Impacts**  
(Page 3 of 4)

Potential Impact (ER Section Reference)	Significance <sup>(a)</sup>	Estimated Impacts (%)		Basis of Estimate
		Pre-Construction <sup>(b)</sup>	Construction	
				potential historic properties being identified and mitigation plans established prior to land clearing and other pre-construction activities.
Visual/Scenic Resources (Sections 4.9 and 5.1.9)	SMALL	10	90	Based on the assumption that aesthetic and scenic quality impacts will be small during pre-construction.
Socioeconomic (Sections 4.10 and 5.1.10)	SMALL	60	40	Based on the percentage of pre-construction workers compared to the peak number of workers estimated on-site related to all phases of development for EREF.  Impact due to increased number of people associated with construction duration.
Environmental Justice (Sections 4.11 and 5.1.11)	SMALL	10	90	Based on the planned 84 months of construction, of which approximately 10% is for pre-construction.
Public and Occupational Health (Sections 4.12 and 5.1.12)	SMALL	60	40	Based on the percentage of pre-construction workers compared to the peak number of workers estimated on-site related to all phases of development for EREF.
Waste Management (Rad/Nonrad) (Sections 4.13 and 5.1.13)	SMALL	10	90	Based on the estimated waste type and volume, as described in ER Section 3.12.2.2, during the planned 84 months of construction, of which approximately 10% occurs during pre-construction.

**Table 8.5-1 Summary of Pre-Construction and Construction Related Impacts**  
**(Page 4 of 4)**

Potential Impact (ER Section Reference)	Significance <sup>(a)</sup>	Estimated Impacts (%)		Basis of Estimate
		Pre-Construction <sup>(b)</sup>	Construction	
Notes:				
(a)	The qualitative significance levels of SMALL, MODERATE, or LARGE have been assigned based on 10 CFR 51, Subpart A, Appendix B, Table B-1, Footnote 3:			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- SMALL – Environmental effects are not detectable or are so minor that they will neither destabilize nor noticeably alter any important attribute of the resource.</li><li>- MODERATE – Environmental effects are sufficient to alter noticeably, but not to destabilize, any important attribute of the resource.</li><li>- LARGE – Environmental effects are clearly noticeable and are sufficient to destabilize important attributes of the resource.</li></ul>			
(b)	“Construction,” as defined in 10 CFR 50.2 “Definitions” refers to the construction of “safety-related structures, systems, or components (SSCs) of a facility.” For the EREF, construction is defined as work that can only be performed with the issuance of the NRC Materials License.			



## 8.6 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF OPERATION

Operation of the Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility (EREF) would result in the production of gaseous effluent, liquid effluent, and solid waste streams. Each stream could contain small amounts of hazardous and radioactive compounds, either alone or in a mixed form. Based on the experience gained from operation of European plants, the aggregate routine airborne uranium gaseous releases to the atmosphere are estimated to be less than 20 g (0.71 ounces) annually. Extremely minute amounts of uranium and hydrogen fluoride (all well below regulatory limits) could potentially be released at the roof-top through the gaseous effluent exhaust vents. The eight exhaust vents for the eight separate and independent Separations Building (SB) Gaseous Effluent Vent Systems (GEVS) (i.e., two GEVS in each Separations Building Module); the single exhaust vent for the Technical Support Building (TSB) GEVS; and the single exhaust vent for Centrifuge Test and Post Mortem Facilities GEVS are located atop the SBMs, TSB and Centrifuge Assembly Building (CAB), respectively. Three additional exhaust vents that discharge any gaseous effluent from the Centrifuge Test and Post Mortem Facilities Exhaust Filtration System; the Technical Support Building (TSB) Contaminated Area HVAC System; and the Ventilated Room HVAC System, are located atop the CAB, TSB, and Blending, Sampling, and Preparation Building (BSPB), respectively. Gaseous effluent discharges from each of the thirteen exhaust vents are filtered for particulates and hydrogen fluoride (HF), and are continuously monitored prior to release.

Liquid effluents consist of stormwater runoff and treated domestic sanitary wastewater. All liquid effluents are discharged to retention and detention basins and the Domestic SSTP Basin.

The three Site Stormwater Detention Basins are each designed with an outlet structure for drainage. Local terrain serves as the receiving area for these basins. During a rainfall event larger than the design basis, the potential exists to overflow the basins if the outfall capacity is insufficient to pass beyond design basis inflows to the basins. Overflow of the basins is an unlikely event. The additional impact to the surrounding land, over that which would occur during such a flood alone, is assumed to be small. Therefore, potential overflow of the Site Stormwater Detention Basins during an event beyond their design basis is expected to have a minimal impact to surrounding land.

The two Cylinder Storage Pad Stormwater Retention Basins collect stormwater runoff from the Cylinder Storage Pads. They are lined to prevent infiltration and designed to retain a volume more than twice that for the 24-hour, 100-year frequency storm. These lined basins have no flow outlet and all effluents are dispositioned through evaporation. Treated domestic sanitary effluent is discharged to a lined basin allowing for evaporation.

The EREF design precludes operational process discharges from the facility to the lined Cylinder Storage Pad basins. There are, therefore, no anticipated impacts on natural water systems quality due to facility water use. Control of surface water runoff will be required for EREF activities covered by the NPDES General Permit. As a result, no significant impacts are expected for either surface water bodies or groundwater.

Solid waste that would be generated at EREF is grouped into nonhazardous, radioactive, hazardous, and mixed waste categories. All these wastes will be collected and transferred to authorized offsite treatment or disposal facilities. All solid radioactive waste generated will be Class A low-level waste as defined in 10 CFR 61 (CFR, 200800). This waste consists of industrial waste, filters and filter material, resins, gloves, shoe covers, and laboratory waste. Approximately 146,500 kg (323,000 lbs) of low-level waste would be generated annually. In addition, annual hazardous and mixed wastes generated at EREF are expected to be about 5,062 kg (11,160 lbs) and 100 kg (220 lbs), respectively. These wastes will be collected,

inspected, volume-reduced, and transferred to treatment facilities or disposed of at authorized waste disposal facilities. Non-hazardous waste, including miscellaneous trash, filters, resins, and paper will be shipped offsite for compaction and then sent to a licensed landfill. The EREF is expected to produce approximately 70,307 kg (155,000 lbs) of this waste annually. Local landfill capacity is more than adequate to accept this mass of nonhazardous waste.

Operation of the EREF would also result in the annual nominal production of approximately 15,270 metric tons (16,832 tons) of depleted  $\text{UF}_6$  at full production. The depleted  $\text{UF}_6$  would be stored temporarily onsite in cylinders that will have little or no impact while in storage. AES will utilize the DOE deconversion facilities that are currently under construction for the final disposition and removal of the depleted  $\text{UF}_6$  from the site.

## 8.7 RADIOLOGICAL IMPACTS

The assessment of potential impacts considers the entire population surrounding the proposed EREF within a distance of 80 km (50 mi).

Radiological impacts are regulated under 10 CFR 20 (CFR, 2008x), which specifies a total effective dose equivalent (TEDE) limit for members of the public of 1 mSv/yr (100 mrem/yr) from all sources and pathways from the EREF, excluding natural background sources. In addition, 10 CFR 20.1101(d) (CFR, 2008x) requires that constraints on atmospheric releases be established for the EREF such that no member of the public would be expected to receive a total effective dose equivalent in excess of 0.1 mSv/yr (10 mrem/yr) from these releases. Further, the EREF would be subject to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) standards, including: standards contained in 40 CFR 190 (CFR, 2008f) that require that dose equivalents under routine operations not exceed 0.25 mSv (25 mrem) to the whole body, 0.75 mSv (75 mrem) to the thyroid, and 0.25 mSv (25 mrem) to any other organ from all pathways.

The general public and the environment may be impacted by radiation and radioactive material from the EREF as the result of discharges of gaseous and liquid effluent discharges, including controlled releases from the uranium enrichment process lines during decontamination and maintenance of equipment. In addition, radiation exposure to the public may result from the transportation and storage of uranium hexafluoride ( $\text{UF}_6$ ) feed cylinders,  $\text{UF}_6$  product cylinders, low-level radioactive waste, and depleted  $\text{UF}_6$  cylinders.

Potential radiological impacts from operation of the EREF would result from controlled releases of small quantities of  $\text{UF}_6$  during normal operations and releases of  $\text{UF}_6$  under hypothetical accident conditions. Normal operational release rates to the atmosphere from both gaseous and liquid effluent streams are expected to be less than 19.5 MBq/yr (528  $\mu\text{Ci}/\text{yr}$ ) and 9.0E-04 MBq/yr (0.243  $\mu\text{Ci}/\text{yr}$ ), respectively. The estimated maximum annual effective dose equivalent and maximum annual organ (lung) committed dose equivalents to transient individuals at the maximum site boundary for the ground plane (in the north-northeast (NNE)) sector at 1.1 km (0.67 mi), cloud immersion (in the north (N)) sector at 1.1 km (0.67 mi) and inhalation exposure (in the north (N)) sector at 1.1 km (0.67 m) pathways are 1.5E-04 mSv/yr (1.5E-02 mrem/yr) and 1.2E-03 mSv/yr (1.2E-01 mrem/yr), respectively. The estimated maximum annual effective dose equivalent and maximum annual organ (lung) committed dose equivalents from discharged atmospheric effluent (gaseous and liquid waste streams combined and released as airborne effluent) to a hypothetical resident (teen) located at the plant site North Northeast (NNE) boundary are 8.8E-04 mSv (8.8E-02 mrem) and 6.4E-03 mSv (6.4E-01 mrem), respectively. The maximum effective dose equivalent and maximum annual organ (lung) dose equivalent from gaseous effluent to the nearest resident (teenager) located at least 8 km (5 mi) in any sector are expected to be less than 3.5E-05 mSv (3.5E-03 mrem) and 2.6E-04 mSv (2.6E-02 mrem), respectively.

The dose equivalent due to external radiation (skyshine and direct) from the Northern Cylinder Storage Pads and direct dose from product cylinders on the Full Product Cylinder Storage Pad is estimated to be less than 1.5E-02 mSv (1.5 mrem) to the maximally exposed person on the site boundary (2,000 hrs/yr), and less than 1E-12 mSv (less than 1E-10 mrem) to the maximally exposed resident (8,766 hrs/yr) located at least 8 km (5 mi) in any direction from EREF.

With respect to the impact from the transportation of  $\text{UF}_6$  as feed, product, or depleted material and solid low level waste, the cumulative dose impact has been found to be small. The cumulative dose equivalent to the general public (persons living near a highway route) from the combination of all transport material categories combined equaled 1.5E-01 person-Sv/year (15 person-rem/year). Similarly, the dose equivalent to the onlooker (persons driving the highway

routes, plus rest-stops and inspections) and transport workers totaled 3.48 and 1.05 person-Sv/year (3.48E+02 and 1.05E+02 person-rem/year), respectively.

The dose equivalents due to normal operations are small fractions of the normal background range of 2.0 to 3.0 mSv (200 to 300 mrem) that an average individual receives in the US, and well within regulatory limits. Given the conservative assumptions used in estimating these values, these concentrations and resulting dose equivalents are insignificant and their potential impacts on the environment and health are inconsequential.

Since the EREF will operate with only natural and low enriched uranium in the form of uranium hexafluoride (UF<sub>6</sub>), it is unlikely that an accident could result in any significant offsite radiation doses. The only chemical exposures that could impact safety are those associated with the potential release of hydrogen fluoride (HF) to the atmosphere. The possibility of a nuclear criticality occurring at the EREF is highly unlikely. The facility has been designed with operational safeguards common to the most up-to-date chemical plants. All systems are highly instrumented and abnormal conditions are alarmed in the facility Control Room.

Postulated accidents are those accidents described in the Integrated Safety Analysis (ISA) that have, for the uncontrolled case, been categorized as having the potential to exceed the performance criteria specified in 10 CFR 70.61(b) (CFR, 2008oo). No significant exposure to offsite individuals is expected from any of the accidents, since many barriers are in place to prevent or mitigate such events.

Evaluation of potential accidents at the EREF included identification and selection of a set of candidate accidents and analysis of impacts for the selected accidents. The ISA team identified UF<sub>6</sub> as the primary hazard at the facility. An example of an uncontrolled accident sequence is a seismic event which produces loads on the UF<sub>6</sub> piping and components beyond their capacity. This accident is assumed to lead to release of gaseous UF<sub>6</sub>, with additional sublimation of solid UF<sub>6</sub> to gas. The UF<sub>6</sub> gas, when in contact with moisture in the air, will produce HF gas.

For the controlled fire accident sequence, the mitigating measures include automatic trip off for the ventilation system servicing the Chemical Trap Workshop during a fire event. This mitigating measure is designed to contain the gaseous UF<sub>6</sub> and HF within the room and attenuate the release of effluent to the environment. This mitigating measure will reduce the consequences of a fire event to a low consequence category as specified in 10 CFR 70.61(b) (CFR, 2008d).

For the controlled seismic accident sequence, the preventive measures include (1) seismically designed buildings (Separations Building Modules; Blending, Sampling and Preparation Building; Cylinder Receipt and Shipping Building; and the Technical Support Building) designed to withstand a Design Basis Earthquake (DBE) and (2) design features in the Separations Building Modules to preclude the release of UF<sub>6</sub> from the process piping and components that would exceed a low consequence category as specified in 10 CFR 70.61(b) (CFR, 2008oo).

Exposures to workers would most likely be higher than those to offsite individuals and highly dependent on the workers proximity to the incident location. All workers at the EREF are trained in the physical characteristics and potential hazards associated with facility processes and materials. Therefore, facility workers know and understand how to lessen their exposures to chemical and radiological substances in the event of an incident at the facility.

Liquefied UF<sub>6</sub> is present only in the Product Liquid Sampling System, where safety process control systems are backed up by redundant safety protection circuits to preclude the occurrence of cylinder overheating. Fire protection systems, administrative controls, and limits on cylinder transporter fuel inventory limit the likelihood of cylinder-overheating in a fire. Thus, this accident scenario is highly unlikely. AES concludes that through the combined result of

plant and process design, protective controls, and administrative controls, operation of the EREF does not pose a significant threat to public health and safety.

## 8.8 NONRADIOLOGICAL IMPACTS

Numerous design features and administrative procedures are employed to minimize gaseous and liquid effluent releases and keep them within regulatory limits. Potential nonradiological impacts of operation of the EREF include releases of inorganic and organic chemicals to the atmosphere and surface water impoundments during normal operations. Other potential impacts involve land use, transportation, soils, water resources, ecological resources, air quality, historic and cultural resources, socioeconomic and public health. Impacts from hazardous, radiological, and mixed wastes and radiological effluents have been discussed earlier.

The other potential nonradiological impacts from the construction and operation of EREF are discussed below:

### Land-Use Impacts

The anticipated effects on the soil during construction activities are limited to a potential short-term increase in soil erosion. However, this will be mitigated by proper construction best management practices (BMPs). These practices include minimizing the construction footprint to the extent possible, limiting site slopes, using a sedimentation detention basin, protecting undisturbed areas with silt fencing and straw bales as appropriate, and employing site stabilization practices such as placing crushed stone on top of disturbed soil in areas of concentrated runoff. In addition, onsite construction roads will be periodically watered (at least twice daily, when needed) to control fugitive dust emissions. After construction is complete, the site will be stabilized with natural, low-water maintenance landscaping, and pavement.

A Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasures (SPCC) plan will also be implemented during construction to minimize environmental impacts from potential spills and ensure prompt and appropriate remediation. Spills during construction are likely to occur around vehicle maintenance and fueling locations, storage tanks, and painting operations. The SPCC plan will identify sources, locations and quantities of potential spills, and response measures. The plan will also identify individuals and their responsibilities for implementation of the plan and provide for prompt notification of state and local authorities, as required.

Waste management BMPs will be used to minimize solid waste and hazardous materials. These practices include the placement of waste receptacles and trash dumpsters at convenient locations and the designation of vehicle and equipment maintenance areas for the collection of oil, grease and hydraulic fluids. Where practicable, materials suitable for recycling will be collected. If external washing of construction vehicles is necessary, no detergents will be used, and the runoff will be diverted to onsite detention basins. Adequately maintained sanitary facilities will be provided for construction crews.

The EREF facility will require the installation of water well(s) and an electrical utility line. In lieu of connecting to a public sewer system, an on-site domestic sanitary sewage treatment plant will be installed for the treatment of sanitary and non contaminated wastes.

Potable water will be provided from one or more site wells. Since there are no bodies of surface water on the site, no waterways will be disturbed. No natural gas will be used at the EREF.

An electrical transmission line that will provide the source of electrical feed to the EREF will be constructed entirely along privately-owned lands. The transmission will originate at an existing substation and replace an existing line, and then continues a short distance to the EREF property. To the extent possible, the new structures will be placed in the same locations as the existing structures along the existing line. In locations where the transmission structures cross agricultural and grazing land, title for the land within the right-of-way will normally remain with

the landowner and activities such as farming and grazing could be continued on the property by the landowner. Transmission line structures will not interfere with existing center-pivot agricultural systems on the agricultural lands. In this way, land use impacts will be minimized.

Overall land use impacts to the site and vicinity will be changing the use from agriculture to industrial. However, a majority of the site (approximately 86%) will remain undeveloped, and the placement of most utility installations will be along highway easements. Therefore, the impacts to land use would be small.

### Transportation Impacts

Impacts from construction and operation on transportation will include the generation of fugitive dust, changes in scenic quality, added environmental noise and small radiation dose to the public from the transport of UF<sub>6</sub> feed and product cylinders, as well as low-level radioactive waste.

Dust will be generated to some degree during the various stages of construction activity. The amount of dust emissions will vary according to the types of activity. AES estimated that fugitive dust emissions are expected to be below the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (CFR, 2008nn).

Impacts to visual and scenic resources from construction of the highway entrances and access roads would include the presence of construction equipment and dust. Although construction equipment would be out of character with the current uses and features of the site and the surrounding properties, road and road access construction would be relatively short-term. Additionally, construction equipment would not be tall, thereby minimizing the potential for the equipment to obstruct views, and dust suppression mitigations would be used to minimize visual impacts. Therefore, impacts to visual resources from construction of the highway entrances and access roads would be small.

Noise levels from construction of the highway entrances would be louder and of longer duration during the day than existing noise generated by traffic along U.S. Highway 20. However, these elevated noise levels would occur only during the construction of the highway entrances and a short portion of the access roads. Noise levels would be heard on adjacent properties as well, including on portions of the WSA. These areas, in general, are used for grazing and few visitors or users would likely be present on a regular basis along the WSA. Overall impacts from noise generated by construction of the highway entrances and access roads, therefore, would be small.

### Water Resources

The EREF water supply will be obtained from on-site wells. The anticipated normal water usage rate for the EREF is 68.2 m<sup>3</sup>/d (18,000 gal/d) and the peak water usage rate is 42 L/S (664 gpm). The average annual water usage rate is 2.49 E+04 m<sup>3</sup>/yr (6.57 E+06 gal/yr), which is below the water appropriation value of 6.25 E+05 m<sup>3</sup>/yr (1.65 E+08 gal/yr).

Liquid effluents consists of stormwater runoff and treated domestic sanitary sewage. The EREF design precludes operational process discharges from the plant to surface or groundwater at the site. All liquid effluents are discharged to the Stormwater Detention Basins, Cylinder Storage Pad Retention Basins, or the Domestic SSTP Basin.

The Site Stormwater Detention Basins will collect stormwater runoff from areas of the facility that do not involve cylinder storage activities. These areas include parking lots, roofs, roads, and diversions from unaltered areas around the facilities. The detention basins will be unlined and designed to contain runoff for a volume equal to a 24-hour, 100-year return frequency rain storm of 5.70 cm (2.24 inch) rainfall. The combined total design capacity of the three basins,

maintaining a freeboard of 0.6 m (2 ft), is approximately 32,835 m<sup>3</sup> (26.6 acre-ft). The basins will have approximately 49,000 m<sup>3</sup> (40.2 acre-ft) of storage capacity available with 0.3 m (1.0 ft) of freeboard for unlikely extreme events. They will also be designed to discharge post-construction peak flow runoff rates from the outfalls that are equal to or less than the pre-construction runoff rates from the site area.

Stormwater from the Cylinder Storage Pads will be discharged onsite to the two single-lined Cylinder Storage Pad Retention Basins. The ultimate disposal of the liquid effluent will be through evaporation of water and impoundment of the residual dry solids, if any, after evaporation. They are designed to contain runoff from a volume equal to two times the 24-hour, 100-year return frequency rain storm.

Daily treated domestic sanitary effluent will be discharged to a Domestic SSTEP Basin. This basin will be designed to meet applicable state requirements for a two cell system.

In summary, the runoff control and water treatment systems incorporated into the facility design are expected to prevent impacts to the qualities of surface water and groundwater.

### Ecological Resources

No communities or habitats that have been defined as rare or unique, or that support threatened or endangered species have been identified as occurring on the 1700-ha (4200-acre) EREF site. Thus, no proposed activities are expected to impact communities or habitats defined as rare or unique or that support threatened and endangered species within the site area.

Several practices and procedures have been designed to minimize adverse impacts to the ecological resources of the EREF site. These practices and procedures include the use of BMPs, i.e., minimizing the construction footprint to the extent possible, channeling site stormwater to temporary detention basins during construction, the protection of all unused naturalized areas, and site stabilization practices to reduce the potential for erosion and sedimentation. No special maintenance practices would be required to construct or operate the proposed EREF.

### Historic and Cultural Resources

A pedestrian cultural resource survey of the 381-ha (941-acre) EREF site identified 11 sites and 17 isolated occurrences (finds); there are three prehistoric, four historic, and four multi-component sites. Further investigation was conducted to determine the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility for the prehistoric components of three sites (MW002, MW012, and MW015). Subsequent testing of these sites resulted in a recommendation of not eligible. The historic component of one site (MW004) is recommended as eligible. Seven sites (MW003, MW006, MW007, MW009, MW011, MW013, and MW014) are recommended not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. The potentially eligible site is within the proposed plant footprint. A treatment/mitigation plan for MW004 will be developed by AES in consultation with the Idaho State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) to recover significant information.

Given the small number of archaeological sites located in the study area, and no other projects within 16 km (10 mi) of the proposed EREF site, there would be no significant impact on historic and cultural resources.

### Environmental Noise

Noise generated during construction of the proposed EREF footprint would be audible on adjacent properties, primarily north, east, southeast, and southwest of the proposed EREF footprint. (Section 4.7.1.1, Construction Impacts) While heavy construction would continue for about seven years, the impacts would be small since nearby land use is limited to grazing and



few regular users or visitors on the WSA; the nearest residence is approximately 7.7 km (4.8 mi) east of the proposed site; and noise levels would be within the sound levels identified by HUD as “clearly acceptable” or “normally acceptable.”

Noise generated during operation of EREF would be primarily limited to truck movements on the road. Potential impacts to local schools, churches, hospitals, and residences are expected to be insignificant because of the large distance to the nearest sensitive receptors. The nearest home, for example, is located approximately 7.7 km (4.8 mi) from the proposed site. The nearest school, hospital, church, and other sensitive noise receptors are beyond this distance. Although the noise from the plant and the additional traffic would generally be noticeable, the operational noise from the plant is not expected to have a significant impact on adjacent properties.

### Socioeconomics

The economic impacts of the construction and operation of the EREF have been estimated for the 30-year license period of the EREF. Construction of the EREF site is scheduled to begin in 2011, with heavy construction continuing for seven years over a duration of eight calendar years. This will be followed by four years of assemblage and testing. This includes an eight-year period when both construction and operation are ongoing simultaneously. The analysis traces the economic impact of the proposed EREF, identifying the direct impacts of the facility on revenues of local businesses, on incomes accruing to households, on employment, and on the revenues of the state and local government. The analysis also explores the indirect impacts of the EREF within an 80-km (50-mi) radius of the EREF. Details of the analysis are provided in ER Sections 4.10, Socioeconomic Impacts, and 7.1, Economic Cost-Benefits, Plant Construction and Operation, and are summarized below.

AES estimates that it would spend [ \* ] locally on construction expenditures over the seven-year heavy construction period beginning in early 2011 and ending in early 2018 and followed by four years of assemblage and testing. The local payroll would include approximately [ \* ] for craft workers, with an additional [ \* ] for management. This amount would be augmented with the inclusion of the [ \* ] in benefits paid to construction craft employees and [ \* ] for management (based on the assumption of 35% of the average salary).

A portion of the total expenditures would be spent locally on construction goods and services, benefiting local businesses. This would amount to approximately [ \* ] per year during the seven years of heavy construction. See ER Section 7.1, Economic Cost-Benefits, Plant Construction and Operation.

AES anticipates the EREF annual payroll to be \$36.3 million with additional \$12.7 million expenditure in employee benefits once the plant is operational. Approximately \$23.8 million will be spent annually on local goods and services required for operation of the EREF.

The tax revenue to the State of Idaho and Bonneville and Bingham Counties resulting from the construction and operation of the EREF is estimated to be approximately \$323.6 million over the life of the facility. Refer to Table 4.10-3, Estimated Annual Tax Payments, for further details.

The Regional Input-Output Modeling System (RIMS) II allows estimation of various indirect impacts associated with each of the expenditures listed above. According to the RIMS II analysis, the region's residents can anticipate a total impact of [ \* ] in increased economic activity, [ \* ] in increased earnings by households, and [ \* ] new jobs during the heavy seven-year construction period and 4-year assemblage and testing period. See 7.1.5.2, Construction Impacts. Over the anticipated 30-year license period of the EREF, residents can anticipate an annual total of \$35.6 million in increased economic activity for local businesses, \$128.0 million

in increased earnings by households, and 3,537 new jobs directly or indirectly relating to EREF. Table 8.8-1, Estimated Annual Economic Impacts from the Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility, summarizes the impact economic by the facility on Bonneville County and the surrounding area. A more detailed discussion of the RIMS II methodology and results is found in ER Section 7.1.5, Total Economic Impact Using RIMS II.

The major impact of facility construction on human activities is expected to be a result of the influx of labor into the area on a daily or semi-permanent basis. AES estimates that approximately 15% of the 590-person peak construction work force (89 workers), including management is expected to move into the Idaho Falls vicinity as new residents. Previous experience regarding construction for the nuclear industry projects suggests that of those who move, approximately 65% (58 of the 89 workers) will bring their families, which on average consist of the worker, a spouse, and one school-aged child. The likely increase in area population during peak construction, therefore, will total 205 (31 workers without their families plus 58 workers with their families). This is less than 0.25% of the Bonneville County's population of 82,522 in 2000, and less than 0.15% of the three-county region of influence (ROI) population of 143,412 in 2000. This minimal increase and impact would be manageable and the overall change in population density and characteristics in Bonneville County due to construction of the EREF would be small. Refer to Section 4.10.1.2, Community Characteristic Impacts.

The increase in jobs and population would lead to a need for additional housing and an increased level of community services, such as schools, fire and police protection, and medical services. However, because the growth in jobs and population would occur over a period of several years, providers of these services should be able to accommodate the projected population growth and demand for services. For example, the estimated peak increase in school-age children due to EREF construction worker families is 58, or less than 1% of Bonneville County's public enrollment of 14,254 students and the three-county ROI enrollment of 29,896. Based on the local area teacher-student ratio of approximately 1:18, the midpoint of traditional schools in the counties, and assuming an even distribution of students among all grade levels, the increase in students represents four classrooms. Because the growth in jobs and population would occur over a period of several years, providers of the above services should be able to accommodate the projected population growth and demand for services. (Refer to Section 4.10.1.2)

Similarly, an estimated 89 housing units would be needed to accommodate the new EREF construction workforce. In 2006, Bonneville County had 2,603 vacant housing units (7.2%) (estimates were not available for Bingham County and Jefferson County for 2006). In 2000, Bonneville County had 1,731 vacant units, Bingham County had 986 vacant units, and Jefferson County had 386 vacant units for a total of 3,103 in the ROI. Even if all of the in-migrating construction workforce were to reside in Bonneville County, it would only represent a 3.4% reduction in the number of vacant houses available in 2006. If they were to reside throughout the three-county region of influence, it would only represent a 2.9% reduction in the number of vacant houses available in 2000. Accordingly, there should be no measurable impact related to the need for EREF construction worker housing. (ER 4.10.1.2)

While additional investment in staff, facilities, and equipment may be necessary, local government revenues would also increase (Section 7.1 and discussion above concerning AES' anticipated payments to the State of Idaho and Bonneville County). For example, AES would pay an estimated [ \* ] in annual property taxes to Bonneville County during the last three years of the seven-year heavy construction period for the EREF, representing a [ \* ] increase in annual county property tax revenues and a [ \* ] increase in total annual county revenues. AES would also pay an estimated [ \* ] to the State of Idaho in annual sales and use taxes during the

seven-year heavy construction period for the EREF. These payments would provide the source for additional government investment in facilities and equipment. That revenue increase may lag somewhat behind the need for new investment, but the incremental nature of the growth should allow local governments to more easily accommodate the increase. Consequently, minor and temporary negative impacts on community services would be expected. Refer to ER 4.10.1.2, Community Characteristic Impacts.

\* Proprietary Commercial Information withheld in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390

#### Public Health Impacts

Trace quantities of hydrogen fluoride (HF) are released to the atmosphere during normal separation operations. The annual HF release rate is estimated as less than 2 kg (< 4.4 lb). The HF emissions from the plant will not exceed the strictest of regulatory limits at the point of release. Standard dispersion modeling techniques estimated the HF concentration at the nearest site boundary to be  $2.7 \times 10^{-4} \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  and  $3.2 \times 10^{-5} \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  at the nearest business, located 4.7 km (2.9 mi) southwest (Reference 4.1-1). At 8 km (5 mi), the concentration is calculated to be  $1.3 \times 10^{-5} \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ . The nearest resident to the site, or other sensitive receptor (e.g., schools and hospitals) is located beyond 8 km (5 mi). These concentrations are well below the strictest HF exposure standards in use today (Refer to Section 4.12.1.1, Routine Gaseous Effluent).

Radiological public health impacts were summarized previously in ER Section 8.7, Radiological Impacts.

Methylene chloride is used in small bench-top quantities to clean certain components. All chemicals at EREF will be used in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. All chemicals are used in quantities that are considered de minimus with respect to air emissions outside the EREF. Its use and the resulting emissions have been evaluated and determined to pose minimal or no public risk. All regulated gaseous effluents will be below regulatory limits as specified in permits issued by the Idaho DEQ, Air Quality Division.

AES has concluded that the public health impacts from radiological and nonradiological constituents used within EREF are minimal and well below regulatory limits at the point of discharge. All hazardous materials and waste streams will be managed and disposed of in accordance with the permit requirements issued by the EPA Region 10 and the Idaho DEQ.

**TABLES**

**Table 8.8-1 Estimated Annual Economic Impacts from the Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility (Bonneville County and Nearby)**  
(Page 1 of 1)

Impact	Construction	Operations
Local Businesses Additional Revenues	[       ]	\$35.6 Million
Household Additional Income	[       ]	\$128.0 Million
State & Local Government Additional Tax Revenue	[       ]*	\$273.0 Million**
Employment	[       ]	3,537 Jobs

\*Total during period 2011-2022 (Construction of the EREF is scheduled to begin in early 2011, with heavy construction continuing for seven years followed by four years of assemblage and testing. Construction is complete in February 2022. The total eleven year construction period includes an eight-year period when both construction and operation are ongoing simultaneously.)

\*\*Total during period 2023-2040

Information in “[       ]” is Proprietary Commercial Information withheld in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390

## **8.9     DECONTAMINATION AND DECOMMISSIONING**

Decontamination and decommissioning of the facility will be staged during facility operations and is projected to take approximately nine years. Releases will be maintained such that associated impacts are the same order of magnitude or less than normal operational impacts. Decommissioning would also result in release of the facilities and land for unrestricted use, discontinuation of water and electrical power usage, and reduction in vehicular traffic.

As European plant experience has demonstrated, conventional decontamination techniques are entirely effective for all plant items. All recoverable items will be decontaminated except for a relatively small amount of intractably contaminated material. The majority of materials requiring disposal will include centrifuge rotor fragments, trash, and residue from the effluent treatment systems. No problems are anticipated which will prevent the site from being released for unrestricted use. Additional details concerning decommissioning are provided in SAR Chapter 10, Decommissioning.

## **8.10 DEPLETED URANIUM DISPOSITION**

Enrichment operations at the Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility (EREF) will generate an average 15,270 metric tons (16,832 tons) of depleted  $\text{UF}_6$  ( $\text{DUF}_6$ ) per year at full production. After temporary storage onsite, AES will utilize the DOE deconversion facilities that are currently under construction at the sites of the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant (GDP) and the former Portsmouth GDP for final disposition of  $\text{DUF}_6$ . As discussed in Section 4.13, Waste Management Impacts, the DOE has determined that any of the disposal options that would be considered for the products of the deconversion process would adequately protect human health and the environment. On this basis, AES estimates that the environmental impacts associated with such a strategy will be small.

AES is committed to ensuring that there will be no long-term disposal or long-term storage (beyond the life of the plant) of  $\text{DUF}_6$  onsite. As described in SAR Section 10.2, Financial Assurance Mechanism, AES will put in place as part of the NRC license a financial assurance mechanism that assures funding will be available to safely dispose of the  $\text{DUF}_6$  generated by the EREF.

## 8.11 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

An analysis of census block groups (CBGs) within a 6.4-km (4-mi) radius of the site was conducted to assess whether any disproportionately large minority or low-income populations were present that warranted further analysis of the potential for disproportionately high and adverse environmental impacts upon those populations. The analysis is more fully described in ER Section 4.11.1, Census Block Group Procedure and Evaluation Criteria. As stated in Section 4.11, the evaluation was performed using the 2000 population and economic data available from the U.S. Census Bureau for that area, and was done in accordance with the procedures contained in NUREG-1748 (NRC, 2003a). This guidance was endorsed by the NRC Policy Statement on the Treatment of Environmental Justice Matters in NRC Regulatory and Licensing Actions (FR, 2004).

The nearest residence is approximately 7.7 km (4.8 mi) from the proposed site (see Section 3.1, Land Use). Because this is outside of the 6.4-km (4-mi) radius (130-km<sup>2</sup> [50-mi<sup>2</sup>] area) required by the NRC to be examined (NRC, 2003a), no environmental justice disproportionate adverse impacts would occur to minority or low-income populations. However, the proposed site does extend across four census block groups and to show additional compliance with the NRC requirements, a census block group analysis was conducted to determine whether the remainder of those census block groups (i.e., the portions lying outside of the 6.4-km [4-mi] radius) had potential minority or low-income populations. The analysis demonstrates that none of these four CBGs are comprised of more than 50% of any individual or aggregate minority population. The percentages for the Hispanic or Latino population, the largest minority population in the four census block groups, are as follows:

- Census Tract 9715, CBG Bonneville 1 – 23.4%
- Census Tract 9715, CBG Bonneville 2 – 8.2%
- Census Tract 9503, CBG Bingham 1 – 18.2%
- Census Tract 9601, CBG Jefferson 3 – 23.1%

Moreover, none of these percentages exceeds the State of Idaho or applicable county percentages for this minority population by more than 20 percentage points.

In addition, the AREVA analysis demonstrates that no individual CBG is comprised of more than 50% of low-income households. The percentages of low-income households are as follows:

- Census Tract 9715, CBG Bonneville 1 – 15.8%
- Census Tract 9715, CBG Bonneville 2 – 6.6%
- Census Tract 9503 CBG Bingham 1 – 11.7%
- Census Tract 9601, CBG Jefferson 3 – 23.3%.

None of these populations exceeds the percentage of low-income households in the State of Idaho or applicable county by more than 20%.

In addition to the percentage of minority and low-income populations within the census tracts contained in Bonneville, Bingham, and Jefferson Counties, the presence of subsistence activities also can be used to assess whether any disproportionately large minority or low-income populations are located within a specified radius of the site.



As noted in Section 4.11.3, Recreational/Subsistence Harvest, subsistence is the use of natural resources as food for consumption and for ceremonial and traditional cultural purposes. Often these types of activities are discussed for minority populations and at times for low-income populations. Common classifications of subsistence activities include gathering plants for consumption; for medicinal purposes and use in ceremonial activities; fishing; and hunting. These activities are in addition to or to replace portions of the foods that might be bought from businesses, and thus can represent reduced costs of living. They also often represent an important part of the cultural identity or lifestyle of the participants.

The proposed EREF site is to be located on privately-owned land and, thus, collection of subsistence resources do not occur on the site. Any recreational activities involving subsistence activities would be limited to those conducted by the property owner. Consequently, these types of activities do not seem very likely for the 6.4 km (4 mi) study area, because it is private land.

Based on this analysis, AREVA has concluded that no disproportionately high minority or low income populations exist that would warrant further examination of disproportionately high and adverse environmental impacts upon such populations.

## **8.12 CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, analysis of the potential environmental impacts associated with construction and operation of the EREF indicates that adverse impacts are small and are outweighed by the socioeconomic benefits associated with plant construction and operation. Additionally, the EREF will meet the underlying need for additional reliable and economical uranium enrichment capacity in the United States, thereby serving important energy and national security policy objectives. Accordingly, because the impacts of the proposed EREF are minimal and acceptable, and the benefits are desirable, the no-action alternative may be rejected in favor of the proposed action. AES has also completed a safety analysis of the proposed facility which demonstrates that EREF operation will be conducted in a safe and acceptable manner.

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Donald Johnson	C	C														
Adam Mancini				C					C							
Theodore Messier			C	C					C							
Jo-Ann Pelczar				C												
Glen Seeburger				C												
Mark Strum				C		L			C							
William Thiesing	C	C	C	C		C										
Stacy T. Thomson			C/R	R	R	R	C	C		C	R	R	R			
Scott Tyler		C														
<b>Clearwater Geosciences</b>																
Erick Neher			C	C					C							
Robert Podgorney			C	C					C							
Michael S. Roddy			C	C					C							
Thomas R. Wood, Ph D.			C	C					C							
<b>Curtiss Law / Counsel of Record</b>																
Jim Curtiss	R	R	R	R			R									
<b>Environmental Resources Management</b>																
Tanya Gregg			C	C					C							
Greg A. Poremba, Ph D.			C	C			C		C							
John C. Roberts			C	C					C							
<b>EXCEL Services Corporation (Licensing Consultant)</b>																
Philip G. Ballard	R	R	C	C	R	R	C	C	L	L					R	
Rod M. Cook	R	R	C	C	R	R	R	C								
Terry E. Cribbe	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R								
Stan T. Day		R		R												
Daniel G. Green	C/R	R	L	L	L	R	L									
Rod Krich, Licensing Director	L	C/R	C/R	C/R	C		C/R	R		R	L					
<b>GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc.</b>																
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<b>Integrated Science Solutions, Inc.</b>																
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Tim Leahy		C	C	C												
Govind Modi		C	C	C												

**Table 10-1 Principal Contributors to the ER**

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	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	A	B	C	D	E	F
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