

DOE NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 2, 1987

WM Record File

WM Project 60

Dock: No.

PDR

LPDR

Distribution:

Alleg

*Platons

Crignoli

Purgina

WM 623-SS

DOE RELEASES ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ON REMEDIAL ACTIONS FOR RIVERTON SITE

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has published an Environmental Assessment regarding remedial actions on the inactive Susquehanna-Western uranium mill tailings site located near Riverton, Wyoming. The Environmental Assessment has been mailed to local, state, and federal officials involved with the mill tailings issue, as well as private citizens who have expressed an interest in the project.

The document is available for public review at the Central Wyoming College library and the public libraries in Riverton, Lander, and Hudson. Individual copies may be requested by writing the Project Manager at the address below. The request should specify the Riverton, Wyoming, Environmental Assessment.

In the Environmental Assessment, the DOE outlines the various options that are considered for disposal of the residual radioactive material and discusses the environmental consequences of the DOE's preferred option. That option is to move the tailings to an alternate disposal location, in the Gas Hills, approximately fifty miles east of the present location.

Cleanup of the Riverton tailings site is being conducted as part of the DOE Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action (UMTRA) Project. The Riverton site is one of 24 sites around the country to be cleaned up under the UMTRA Project.

The Riverton Environmental Assessment and the Finding of No Significant Impact were published on July 2, 1987. The Finding of No Significant Impact documents the DOE remedial action decision and states that the environmental impacts of the project do not warrant preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement.

Persons wishing to receive a copy of the Environmental Assessment may either send a written request to: James R. Anderson, UMTRA Project Manager, Uranium Mill Tailings Project Office, 5301 Central Avenue, N.E., Suite 1720, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87108, or may call the DOE UMTRA Project toll-free number at 1-800-523-6495 and leave the name, address, and telephone number on an answering machine. A project representative will promptly return the call to confirm the request.

-DOE-

For further information, contact: Ben E. McCarty (505) 844-6938
Jack Hoopes (505) 846-4015