



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

July 22, 2024

MEMORANDUM FOR MATTHEW UDOVITSCH
ACTING FEDERAL CLEANUP DIRECTOR
MOAB UMTRA PROJECT

FROM: TOM CARVER
DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF PUBLIC RADIATION PROTECTION
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AND ES&H REPORTING

SUBJECT: Disposition of Rail Road Materials at MOAB UMTRA Crescent
Junction Disposal Site.

The Moab Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action (UMTRA) project management requested an evaluation of radiological data from railroad equipment at the Crescent Junction Disposal Site and consultation regarding disposal of the equipment at the site. The equipment consists of steel rails, wooden railroad ties, and ancillary rail equipment which includes railroad spikes. This equipment originated from the Department of Energy's (DOE) Fernald Site and was shipped to Crescent Junction in 2006 for their use as needed.

The rail materials were placed at the Crescent Junction Disposal Site for use as needed in laying rails for transport of railroad cars filled with material from the Moab UMTRA Remedial Site for disposal at the Crescent Junction Facility. Survey data of the excess railroad equipment stored at the site indicate that it has fixed low level alpha and beta activity with the highest Radium-226 activity through gamma spec analysis being 57 pCi/gm.

The Remedial Action Plan and Site Design for Stabilization of Moab Title I Uranium Mill Residual Radioactive Material (RRM) at the Crescent Junction, Utah, Disposal Site Remedial Action Selection Report, approved by the DOE and Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) in 2008, states that: "RRM to be placed in the disposal cell include mill tailings, interim cover soils, starter embankment soils, contaminated subsoils beneath the tailings, vicinity property materials, and mill debris. All these materials are from the Moab uranium mill." UMTRA precedence has included placement of contaminated equipment, used in support of site remediation, in UMTRA disposal cells.

Based on the radiological characterization of the rail equipment and association with its long-standing presence and partial use at the Moab UMTRA Project, this equipment is considered RRM and from regulatory, as well as economical considerations, can be disposed of in the Crescent Junction Disposal Site upon concurrence by the NRC.

If you have any questions, please contact me at Tom.Carver@HQ.DOE.GOV or by phone at (865) 304-0074.

Attachment

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