

EPA REVIEW OF STANDARDS FOR URANIUM AND THORIUM MILLING FACILITIES

Public Information Meeting – Tuba City, AZ September 15, 2010, 6:30-9:30 PM

Moenkopi Legacy Inn & Suites
Tsotsvålki Room
Junction 160 & 264
Tuba City, AZ 86045

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is reviewing and potentially revising its regulations for uranium and thorium milling to bring them up-to-date, and welcomes your input at this public information meeting. The regulations under review are—

- 40 CFR Part 61, Subpart W, *National Emission Standards for Radon Emission Standards from Operating Mill Tailings*
- 40 CFR Part 192, *Health and Environmental Protection Standards for Uranium and Thorium Mill Tailings*

About the Regulations

The regulations under review are currently in effect, and establish standards for protection of the public health, safety, and environment from radiological and nonradiological hazards associated with uranium and thorium ore processing, and their associated wastes.

The radon emission standards at 40 CFR Part 61 apply to tailings at operating mills.

The cross-media standards at 40 CFR Part 192 apply to pollution emissions and site restoration. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and their Agreement States use these cross-media standards in their oversight of uranium and thorium facility operations and in issuing licenses for source material. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) uses them in their management of closed uranium mills and in the cleanup of contaminated soil and buildings.

Topics for Public Input

Members of the public are invited to provide five-minute presentations and submit questions to EPA concerning its review on the following topics:

- Changes in uranium industry technologies (such as utilization of the In-Situ Leaching recovery process as the principal current technology for extracting uranium) and their potential environmental impacts
- Revisions in EPA drinking and groundwater protection standards
- Judicial decisions concerning the existing regulations
- Issues relating to children's health, Tribal impacts, and environmental justice
- Dose and risk factors and scenarios for assessing radiological and non-radiological risk
- Facilities proposed in states outside existing uranium mining and milling areas
- Costs and benefits of possible revisions.

Interested parties may sign up to speak at the meeting location. Advance reservations are not required.
