

The United States Department of Energy (DOE), Office of Environmental Management (EM), is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for disposal of Greater-Than-Class C Low-Level Radioactive Waste (GTCC LLRW). The EIS evaluates potential alternatives involving various disposal methods for application at six federally owned sites and generic commercial sites. (See Overview Below).

Upcoming Public Hearings

DOE will hold hearings in the following locations on the following dates and times.

Las Vegas, NV

Desert Research Institute - Frank Rodgers Building
755 East Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, NV 89119
May 9, 2011, 5:30 p.m.—9:30 p.m.

Idaho Falls, ID

Shilo Inn Suites Hotel
780 Lindsay Boulevard, Idaho Falls, ID 83402
May 11, 2011, 5:30 p.m.—9:30 p.m.

Pasco, WA

Red Lion Hotel
2525 N. 20th Avenue, Pasco, WA 99301
May 17, 2011, 5:30 p.m.—9:30 p.m.

Portland, OR

Doubletree Hotel
1000 NE Multnomah Street, Portland, OR 97232
May 19, 2011, 5:30 p.m.—9:30 p.m.

Washington, DC

Hilton Garden Inn
815 14th Street NW, Washington, DC 20005
May 25, 2011, 1:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.

Brief Overview of Draft EIS

- The Draft EIS evaluates the potential environmental impacts associated with constructing and operating a new facility or facilities, or using an existing facility, for the disposal of GTCC LLRW and GTCC-like waste.
- Disposal methods evaluated include geologic repository, intermediate depth borehole, enhanced near surface trench, and above grade vault. Disposal locations evaluated include the Hanford Site in Washington; the Idaho National Laboratory in Idaho; the Los Alamos National Laboratory, the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP), and the WIPP vicinity in New Mexico; the Nevada National Security Site (formerly the Nevada Test Site) in Nevada; and the Savannah River Site in South Carolina. The Draft EIS also evaluates generic commercial disposal sites and the No Action Alternative.
- **DOE does not have, and therefore has not identified, a preferred alternative in the Draft EIS, but will do so in the Final EIS based on further consideration and public comment. The preferred alternative could be a combination of two or more alternatives, based on the characteristics of the waste, its availability for disposal, and other key factors.**
- Pursuant to Section 631 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, before DOE makes a final decision on the disposal alternative, DOE will submit a report to Congress that includes a description of the disposal alternatives under consideration and all of the information required in the comprehensive report on ensuring the safe disposal of GTCC LLRW that was submitted by the Secretary to Congress in February 1987. Section 631 also requires DOE to await Congressional action on the submitted report.