



APPENDIX D Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel Management Part A

Department of Energy
 Programmatic Spent Nuclear
 Fuel Management
 and
 Idaho National Engineering Laboratory
 Environmental Restoration and
 Waste Management Programs
 Environmental Impact Statement
 Volume 1
 Appendix D
 Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel Management
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Appendix D
 to Volume 1 of
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 Programmatic Spent Nuclear Fuel Management
 and
 Idaho National Engineering Laboratory
 Environmental Restoration and
 Waste Management Programs
 Environmental Impact Statement
 Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel Management

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SUMMARY	S-1
1. INTRODUCTION	1-1
2. BACKGROUND	2-1
2.1 Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program Overview	2-1
2.2 History and Mission of the Program	2-2
2.3 Regulatory Framework	2-5
2.4 Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel	2-6
2.4.1 Summary of Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel Operations	2-6
2.4.2 Facilities Related to Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel	2-9
2.5 Planned Reductions in the Number of Nuclear-powered Naval Vessels	2-10
2.6 References	2-12
3. ALTERNATIVES	3-1
3.1 No Action	3-2
3.2 Decentralization	3-4
3.2.1 Store Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel at or Close to Locations Where Removed Without Examination	3-4
3.2.2 Examine a Limited Amount of Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel in the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard Water Pit Facility and Store All Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel at Navy Facilities	3-5
3.2.3 Examine All Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel at the INEL and Return to Naval Facilities for Storage	3-6
3.3 1992/1993 Planning Basis	3-7
3.4 Regionalization	3-7
3.4.1 Regionalization Using Storage at Three Sites (Hanford,	

	INEL, and Savannah River)	3-8
3.4.2	Regionalization Using Storage at Only Two Sites	3-8
3.5	Centralization	3-9
3.6	Alternatives Eliminated from Detailed Analysis	3-11
3.6.1	Use Other Combinations of Sites for Examination and Storage of Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel	3-11
3.6.2	Examine or Store Spent Nuclear Fuel from Naval Reactors in Foreign Facilities	3-12
3.6.3	Do Not Remove Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel from Nuclear-powered Ships	3-13
3.7	Comparison of Alternatives	3-16
3.7.1	Summary of Impacts	3-17
3.7.1.1	Human Health Impacts	3-17
3.7.1.2	Other Impacts	3-21
3.7.2	Impacts Due to Normal Operations	3-24
3.7.3	Impacts Due to Most Severe Accidents	3-26
3.7.4	Cumulative, Socioeconomic, and Cost Impacts	3-29
3.8	Transition Period	3-36
3.9	Preferred Alternative for Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel	3-37
3.10	References	3-40
4.	AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT	4.1.1-1
4.1	Navy and Prototype Sites for Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel	4.1.1-1
4.1.1	Puget Sound Naval Shipyard: Bremerton, Washington	4.1.1-1
4.1.1.1	Overview	4.1.1-1
4.1.1.2	Land Use	4.1.1-2
4.1.1.3	Socioeconomics	4.1.1-5
4.1.1.4	Cultural Resources	4.1.1-8
4.1.1.5	Aesthetic and Scenic Resources	4.1.1-11
4.1.1.6	Geology	4.1.1-11
4.1.1.7	Air Resources	4.1.1-14
4.1.1.8	Water Resources	4.1.1-15
4.1.1.9	Ecological Resources	4.1.1-18
4.1.1.10	Noise	4.1.1-21
4.1.1.11	Traffic and Transportation	4.1.1-21
4.1.1.12	Occupational and Public Health and Safety	4.1.1-23
4.1.1.13	Utilities and Energy	4.1.1-27
4.1.1.14	Materials and Waste Management	4.1.1-28
4.1.2	Norfolk Naval Shipyard: Portsmouth, Virginia	4.1.2-1
4.1.2.1	Overview	4.1.2-1
4.1.2.2	Land Use	4.1.2-1
4.1.2.3	Socioeconomics	4.1.2-6
4.1.2.4	Cultural Resources	4.1.2-8
4.1.2.5	Aesthetic and Scenic Resources	4.1.2-11
4.1.2.6	Geology	4.1.2-12
4.1.2.7	Air Resources	4.1.2-13
4.1.2.8	Water Resources	4.1.2-14
4.1.2.9	Ecological Resources	4.1.2-20
4.1.2.10	Noise	4.1.2-22
4.1.2.11	Traffic and Transportation	4.1.2-23
4.1.2.12	Occupational and Public Health and Safety	4.1.2-24
4.1.2.13	Utilities and Energy	4.1.2-29
4.1.2.14	Materials and Waste Management	4.1.2-30
4.1.3	Portsmouth Naval Shipyard: Kittery, Maine	4.1.3-1
4.1.3.1	Overview	4.1.3-1
4.1.3.2	Land Use	4.1.3-1
4.1.3.3	Socioeconomics	4.1.3-4
4.1.3.4	Cultural Resources	4.1.3-8
4.1.3.5	Aesthetic and Scenic Resources	4.1.3-11
4.1.3.6	Geology	4.1.3-12
4.1.3.7	Air Resources	4.1.3-13
4.1.3.8	Water Resources	4.1.3-15
4.1.3.9	Ecological Resources	4.1.3-18
4.1.3.10	Noise	4.1.3-21
4.1.3.11	Traffic and Transportation	4.1.3-22

	4.1.3.12 Occupational and Public Health and Safety	4.1.3-23
	4.1.3.13 Utilities and Energy	4.1.3-27
	4.1.3.14 Materials and Waste Management	4.1.3-27
4.1.4	Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard: Pearl Harbor, Hawaii	4.1.4-1
	4.1.4.1 Overview	4.1.4-1
	4.1.4.2 Land Use	4.1.4-1
	4.1.4.3 Socioeconomics	4.1.4-5
	4.1.4.4 Cultural Resources	4.1.4-10
	4.1.4.5 Aesthetic and Scenic Resources	4.1.4-10
	4.1.4.6 Geology	4.1.4-11
	4.1.4.7 Air Resources	4.1.4-13
	4.1.4.8 Water Resources	4.1.4-15
	4.1.4.9 Ecological Resources	4.1.4-17
	4.1.4.10 Noise	4.1.4-19
	4.1.4.11 Traffic and Transportation	4.1.4-19
	4.1.4.12 Occupational and Public Health and Safety	4.1.4-20
	4.1.4.13 Utilities and Energy	4.1.4-24
	4.1.4.14 Materials and Waste Management	4.1.4-26
4.1.5	Kenneth A. Kesselring Site: West Milton, New York	4.1.5-1
	4.1.5.1 Overview	4.1.5-1
	4.1.5.2 Land Use	4.1.5-1
	4.1.5.3 Socioeconomics	4.1.5-5
	4.1.5.4 Cultural Resources	4.1.5-7
	4.1.5.5 Aesthetic and Scenic Resources	4.1.5-10
	4.1.5.6 Geology	4.1.5-10
	4.1.5.7 Air Resources	4.1.5-12
	4.1.5.8 Water Resources	4.1.5-15
	4.1.5.9 Ecological Resources	4.1.5-17
	4.1.5.10 Noise	4.1.5-18
	4.1.5.11 Traffic and Transportation	4.1.5-18
	4.1.5.12 Occupational and Public Health and Safety	4.1.5-20
	4.1.5.13 Utilities and Energy	4.1.5-25
	4.1.5.14 Materials and Waste Management	4.1.5-26
4.2	Idaho National Engineering Laboratory	4.2-1
	4.2.1 Overview	4.2-1
	4.2.2 Land Use	4.2-1
	4.2.3 Socioeconomics	4.2-2
	4.2.4 Cultural Resources	4.2-2
	4.2.5 Aesthetic and Scenic Resources	4.2-3
	4.2.6 Geology	4.2-3
	4.2.7 Air Resources	4.2-4
	4.2.8 Water Resources	4.2-4
	4.2.9 Ecological Resources	4.2-4
	4.2.10 Noise	4.2-5
	4.2.11 Traffic and Transportation	4.2-5
	4.2.12 Occupational and Public Health and Safety	4.2-5
	4.2.13 Utilities and Energy	4.2-8
	4.2.14 Materials and Waste Management	4.2-8
4.3	Savannah River Site	4.3-1
	4.3.1 Overview	4.3-1
	4.3.2 Land Use	4.3-1
	4.3.3 Socioeconomics	4.3-3
	4.3.4 Cultural Resources	4.3-3
	4.3.5 Aesthetic and Scenic Resources	4.3-4
	4.3.6 Geology	4.3-4
	4.3.7 Air Resources	4.3-4
	4.3.8 Water Resources	4.3-5
	4.3.9 Ecological Resources	4.3-6
	4.3.10 Noise	4.3-6
	4.3.11 Traffic and Transportation	4.3-7
	4.3.12 Occupational and Public Health and Safety	4.3-7
	4.3.13 Utilities and Energy	4.3-7
	4.3.14 Materials and Waste Management	4.3-7
4.4	Hanford Site	4.4-1

4.4.1	Overview	4.4-1
4.4.2	Land Use	4.4-1
4.4.3	Socioeconomics	4.4-3
4.4.4	Cultural Resources	4.4-3
4.4.5	Aesthetic and Scenic Resources	4.4-4
4.4.6	Geology	4.4-4
4.4.7	Air Resources	4.4-5
4.4.8	Water Resources	4.4-5
4.4.9	Ecological Resources	4.4-6
4.4.10	Noise	4.4-6
4.4.11	Traffic and Transportation	4.4-7
4.4.12	Occupational and Public Health and Safety	4.4-7
4.4.13	Utilities and Energy	4.4-8
4.4.14	Materials and Waste Management	4.4-8
4.5	Oak Ridge Reservation	4.5-1
4.5.1	Overview	4.5-1
4.5.2	Land Use	4.5-1
4.5.3	Socioeconomics	4.5-3
4.5.4	Cultural Resources	4.5-3
4.5.5	Aesthetic and Scenic Resources	4.5-4
4.5.6	Geology	4.5-4
4.5.7	Air Resources	4.5-4
4.5.8	Water Resources	4.5-5
4.5.9	Ecological Resources	4.5-5
4.5.10	Noise	4.5-6
4.5.11	Traffic and Transportation	4.5-6
4.5.12	Occupational and Public Health and Safety	4.5-6
4.5.13	Utilities and Energy	4.5-6
4.5.14	Materials and Waste Management	4.5-7
4.6	Nevada Test Site	4.6-1
4.6.1	Overview	4.6-1
4.6.2	Land Use	4.6-1
4.6.3	Socioeconomics	4.6-3
4.6.4	Cultural Resources	4.6-3
4.6.5	Aesthetic and Scenic Resources	4.6-4
4.6.6	Geology	4.6-4
4.6.7	Air Resources	4.6-4
4.6.8	Water Resources	4.6-5
4.6.9	Ecological Resources	4.6-5
4.6.10	Noise	4.6-5
4.6.11	Traffic and Transportation	4.6-6
4.6.12	Occupational and Public Health and Safety	4.6-6
4.6.13	Utilities and Energy	4.6-6
4.6.14	Materials and Waste Management	4.6-6
4.7	References	4.7-1
5.	ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES	5.1.1-1
5.1	Navy and Prototype Sites for Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel	5.1.1-1
5.1.1	Puget Sound Naval Shipyard: Bremerton, Washington	5.1.1-1
5.1.1.1	Overview of Environmental Impacts	5.1.1-1
5.1.1.1.1	Overview of Environmental Impacts	5.1.1-1
5.1.1.1.2	Land Use	5.1.1-1
5.1.1.1.3	Socioeconomics	5.1.1-2
5.1.1.1.4	Cultural Resources	5.1.1-4
5.1.1.1.5	Aesthetic and Scenic Resources	5.1.1-4
5.1.1.1.6	Geology	5.1.1-5
5.1.1.1.7	Air Resources	5.1.1-5
5.1.1.1.8	Water Resources	5.1.1-7
5.1.1.1.9	Ecological Resources	5.1.1-8
5.1.1.1.10	Noise	5.1.1-9
5.1.1.1.11	Traffic and Transportation	5.1.1-9
5.1.1.1.12	Occupational and Public Health and Safety	5.1.1-10
5.1.1.1.13	Utilities and Energy	5.1.1-12
5.1.1.1.14	Facility and Transportation Accidents	5.1.1-13
5.1.1.1.15	Waste Management	5.1.1-17
5.1.1.1.16	Cumulative Impacts	5.1.1-17

	5.1.1.17 Unavoidable Adverse Effects	5.1.1-21
	5.1.1.18 Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitments of Resources	5.1.1-22
5.1.2	Norfolk Naval Shipyard: Portsmouth, Virginia	5.1.2-1
	5.1.2.1 Overview of Environmental Impacts	5.1.2-1
	5.1.2.2 Land Use	5.1.2-1
	5.1.2.3 Socioeconomics	5.1.2-2
	5.1.2.4 Cultural Resources	5.1.2-3
	5.1.2.5 Aesthetic and Scenic Resources	5.1.2-4
	5.1.2.6 Geology	5.1.2-4
	5.1.2.7 Air Resources	5.1.2-4
	5.1.2.8 Water Resources	5.1.2-7
	5.1.2.9 Ecological Resources	5.1.2-8
	5.1.2.10 Noise	5.1.2-9
	5.1.2.11 Traffic and Transportation	5.1.2-9
	5.1.2.12 Occupational and Public Health and Safety	5.1.2-10
	5.1.2.13 Utilities and Energy	5.1.2-12
	5.1.2.14 Facility and Transportation Accidents	5.1.2-13
	5.1.2.15 Waste Management	5.1.2-17
	5.1.2.16 Cumulative Impacts	5.1.2-17
	5.1.2.17 Unavoidable Adverse Effects	5.1.2-21
	5.1.2.18 Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitments of Resources	5.1.2-22
5.1.3	Portsmouth Naval Shipyard: Kittery, Maine	5.1.3-1
	5.1.3.1 Overview of Environmental Impacts	5.1.3-1
	5.1.3.2 Land Use	5.1.3-1
	5.1.3.3 Socioeconomics	5.1.3-2
	5.1.3.4 Cultural Resources	5.1.3-3
	5.1.3.5 Aesthetic and Scenic Resources	5.1.3-4
	5.1.3.6 Geology	5.1.3-4
	5.1.3.7 Air Resources	5.1.3-4
	5.1.3.8 Water Resources	5.1.3-7
	5.1.3.9 Ecological Resources	5.1.3-7
	5.1.3.10 Noise	5.1.3-8
	5.1.3.11 Traffic and Transportation	5.1.3-8
	5.1.3.12 Occupational and Public Health and Safety	5.1.3-10
	5.1.3.13 Utilities and Energy	5.1.3-12
	5.1.3.14 Facility and Transportation Accidents	5.1.3-12
	5.1.3.15 Waste Management	5.1.3-16
	5.1.3.16 Cumulative Impacts	5.1.3-17
	5.1.3.17 Unavoidable Adverse Effects	5.1.3-21
	5.1.3.18 Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitments of Resources	5.1.3-21
5.1.4	Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard: Pearl Harbor, Hawaii	5.1.4-1
	5.1.4.1 Overview of Environmental Impacts	5.1.4-1
	5.1.4.2 Land Use	5.1.4-1
	5.1.4.3 Socioeconomics	5.1.4-2
	5.1.4.4 Cultural Resources	5.1.4-3
	5.1.4.5 Aesthetic and Scenic Resources	5.1.4-4
	5.1.4.6 Geology	5.1.4-4
	5.1.4.7 Air Resources	5.1.4-4
	5.1.4.8 Water Resources	5.1.4-7
	5.1.4.9 Ecological Resources	5.1.4-8
	5.1.4.10 Noise	5.1.4-9
	5.1.4.11 Traffic and Transportation	5.1.4-9
	5.1.4.12 Occupational and Public Health and Safety	5.1.4-10
	5.1.4.13 Utilities and Energy	5.1.4-12
	5.1.4.14 Facility and Transportation Accidents	5.1.4-13
	5.1.4.15 Waste Management	5.1.4-17
	5.1.4.16 Cumulative Impacts	5.1.4-17
	5.1.4.17 Unavoidable Adverse Effects	5.1.4-21
	5.1.4.18 Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitments of Resources	5.1.4-22
5.1.5	Kenneth A. Kesselring Site: West Milton, New York	5.1.5-1

5.1.5.1	Overview of Environmental Impacts	5.1.5-1
5.1.5.2	Land Use	5.1.5-1
5.1.5.3	Socioeconomics	5.1.5-1
5.1.5.4	Cultural Resources	5.1.5-3
5.1.5.5	Aesthetic and Scenic Resources	5.1.5-3
5.1.5.6	Geology	5.1.5-4
5.1.5.7	Air Resources	5.1.5-4
5.1.5.8	Water Resources	5.1.5-6
5.1.5.9	Ecological Resources	5.1.5-7
5.1.5.10	Noise	5.1.5-8
5.1.5.11	Traffic and Transportation	5.1.5-8
5.1.5.12	Occupational and Public Health and Safety	5.1.5-9
5.1.5.13	Utilities and Energy	5.1.5-11
5.1.5.14	Facility and Transportation Accidents	5.1.5-12
5.1.5.15	Waste Management	5.1.5-16
5.1.5.16	Cumulative Impacts	5.1.5-16
5.1.5.17	Unavoidable Adverse Effects	5.1.5-20
5.1.5.18	Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitments of Resources	5.1.5-21
5.2	Idaho National Engineering Laboratory	5.2-1
5.2.1	Overview of Environmental Impacts	5.2-1
5.2.2	Land Use	5.2-1
5.2.3	Socioeconomics	5.2-2
5.2.4	Cultural Resources	5.2-2
5.2.5	Aesthetic and Scenic Resources	5.2-3
5.2.6	Geology	5.2-3
5.2.7	Air Resources	5.2-3
5.2.8	Water Resources	5.2-4
5.2.9	Ecological Resources	5.2-5
5.2.10	Noise	5.2-5
5.2.11	Traffic and Transportation	5.2-5
5.2.12	Occupational and Public Health and Safety	5.2-6
5.2.13	Utilities and Energy	5.2-9
5.2.14	Facility and Transportation Accidents	5.2-9
5.2.15	Waste Management	5.2-12
5.2.16	Cumulative Impacts	5.2-13
5.2.17	Unavoidable Adverse Effects	5.2-16
5.2.18	Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitments of Resources	5.2-16
5.3	Savannah River Site	5.3-1
5.3.1	Overview of Environmental Impacts	5.3-1
5.3.2	Land Use	5.3-1
5.3.3	Socioeconomics	5.3-2
5.3.4	Cultural Resources	5.3-3
5.3.5	Aesthetic and Scenic Resources	5.3-3
5.3.6	Geology	5.3-4
5.3.7	Air Resources	5.3-4
5.3.8	Water Resources	5.3-4
5.3.9	Ecological Resources	5.3-5
5.3.10	Noise	5.3-6
5.3.11	Traffic and Transportation	5.3-6
5.3.12	Occupational and Public Health and Safety	5.3-7
5.3.13	Utilities and Energy	5.3-10
5.3.14	Facility and Transportation Accidents	5.3-10
5.3.15	Waste Management	5.3-13
5.3.16	Cumulative Impacts	5.3-14
5.3.17	Unavoidable Adverse Effects	5.3-18
5.3.18	Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitments of Resources	5.3-19
5.4	Hanford Site	5.4-1
5.4.1	Overview of Environmental Impacts	5.4-1
5.4.2	Land Use	5.4-1
5.4.3	Socioeconomics	5.4-2
5.4.4	Cultural Resources	5.4-3
5.4.5	Aesthetic and Scenic Resources	5.4-3
5.4.6	Geology	5.4-4

5.4.7	Air Resources	5.4-4
5.4.8	Water Resources	5.4-5
5.4.9	Ecological Resources	5.4-6
5.4.10	Noise	5.4-7
5.4.11	Traffic and Transportation	5.4-8
5.4.12	Occupational and Public Health and Safety	5.4-8
5.4.13	Utilities and Energy	5.4-11
5.4.14	Facility and Transportation Accidents	5.4-11
5.4.15	Waste Management	5.4-15
5.4.16	Cumulative Impacts	5.4-15
5.4.17	Unavoidable Adverse Effects	5.4-18
5.4.18	Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitments of Resources	5.4-19
5.5	Oak Ridge Reservation	5.5-1
5.5.1	Overview of Environmental Impacts	5.5-1
5.5.2	Land Use	5.5-1
5.5.3	Socioeconomics	5.5-1
5.5.4	Cultural Resources	5.5-3
5.5.5	Aesthetic and Scenic Resources	5.5-3
5.5.6	Geology	5.5-3
5.5.7	Air Resources	5.5-3
5.5.8	Water Resources	5.5-4
5.5.9	Ecological Resources	5.5-5
5.5.10	Noise	5.5-6
5.5.11	Traffic and Transportation	5.5-6
5.5.12	Occupational and Public Health and Safety	5.5-6
5.5.13	Utilities and Energy	5.5-9
5.5.14	Facility and Transportation Accidents	5.5-9
5.5.15	Waste Management	5.5-13
5.5.16	Cumulative Impacts	5.5-13
5.5.17	Unavoidable Adverse Effects	5.5-17
5.5.18	Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitments of Resources	5.5-18
5.6	Nevada Test Site	5.6-1
5.6.1	Overview of Environmental Impacts	5.6-1
5.6.2	Land Use	5.6-1
5.6.3	Socioeconomics	5.6-2
5.6.4	Cultural Resources	5.6-3
5.6.5	Aesthetic and Scenic Resources	5.6-3
5.6.6	Geology	5.6-3
5.6.7	Air Resources	5.6-4
5.6.8	Water Resources	5.6-4
5.6.9	Ecological Resources	5.6-5
5.6.10	Noise	5.6-6
5.6.11	Traffic and Transportation	5.6-6
5.6.12	Occupational and Public Health and Safety	5.6-6
5.6.13	Utilities and Energy	5.6-9
5.6.14	Facility and Transportation Accidents	5.6-10
5.6.15	Waste Management	5.6-13
5.6.16	Cumulative Impacts	5.6-13
5.6.17	Unavoidable Adverse Effects	5.6-16
5.6.18	Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitments of Resources	5.6-18
5.7	Relationship Between Short-term Use of the Environment and the Maintenance and Enhancement of Long-term Productivity	5.7-1
5.8	Potential Mitigation Measures	5.8-1
5.8.1	Pollution Prevention	5.8-1
5.8.1.1	Radiological Pollution Prevention Actions	5.8-1
5.8.1.2	Non-radiological Pollution Prevention Actions	5.8-2
5.8.1.3	Prevention of Mixed Wastes	5.8-4
5.8.2	Construction	5.8-4
5.8.3	Normal Operations	5.8-5
5.8.4	Accidents	5.8-6
5.9	References	5.9-1
Attachment A - Transportation of Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel		
Attachment B - Description of Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel Receipt and Handling at the Core Facility at the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory		

Attachment C - Comparison of Storage in New Water Pools versus Dry Container Storage
 Attachment D - Description of Storage of Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel at Servicing Locations
 (Shipyards and Prototypes)
 Attachment E - Description of Receipt, Handling, and Examination of Naval Spent Nuclear
 Alternate DOE Facilities
 Attachment F - Analysis of Normal Operations and Accident Conditions
 Attachment G - Comparison of the Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel Storage Environmental Assessment
 and This Environmental Impact Statement

GLOSSARY

GL-1

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AA-1

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure No.	Title	
Executive Summary		
S-1	Risk from normal operations by alternative (fatal cancers to the general population over 40 years from facility operations and transportation)	S-9
S-2	Summary of costs by alternative (facility and transportation costs over 40 years)	S-12
Section 2		
2-1	Total Number of Nuclear-powered Ships in the United States Navy	
Section 4.1.1 - Puget Sound Naval Shipyard		
4.1.1-1	Location of Puget Sound Naval Shipyard within Washington	4.1.1-3
4.1.1-2	Puget Sound Naval Shipyard vicinity map	4.1.1-3
4.1.1-3	Puget Sound Naval Shipyard site map	4.1.1-4
4.1.1-4	50-mile population distribution around Puget Sound Naval Shipyard	4
4.1.1-5	Minority population distribution within 50 miles of the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard	4.1.1-9
4.1.1-6	Low-income population distribution within 50 miles of the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard	4.1.1-10
Section 4.1.2 - Norfolk Naval Shipyard		
4.1.2-1	Location of Norfolk Naval Shipyard within Virginia	4.1.2-2
4.1.2-2	Norfolk Naval Shipyard vicinity map	4.1.2-2
4.1.2-3	Norfolk Naval Shipyard site map	4.1.2-3
4.1.2-4	Location of Newport News Shipbuilding within Virginia	4.1.2-4
4.1.2-5	Newport News Shipbuilding vicinity map	4.1.2-4
4.1.2-6	50-mile population distribution around Norfolk Naval Shipyard	4.1.2-7

LIST OF FIGURES (Cont)

Figure No.	Title	
4.1.2-7	Minority population distribution within 50 miles of the Norfolk Naval Shipyard	4.1.2-9
4.1.2-8	Low-income population distribution within 50 miles of the Norfolk Naval Shipyard	4.1.2-10
Section 4.1.3 - Portsmouth Naval Shipyard		
4.1.3-1	Location of Portsmouth Naval Shipyard within New Hampshire and Maine	4.1.3-2
4.1.3-2	Portsmouth Naval Shipyard site map	4.1.3-3
4.1.3-3	50-mile population distribution around Portsmouth Naval Shipyard	4.1.3-5
4.1.3-4	Minority population distribution within 50 miles of the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard	4.1.3-9
4.1.3-5	Low-income population distribution within 50 miles of the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard	4.1.3-10
Section 4.1.4 - Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard		
4.1.4-1	Location of Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard in Hawaii	4.1.4-2
4.1.4-2	Pearl Harbor vicinity with average annual rainfall gradient	4.1.4-3
4.1.4-3	Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard site map	4.1.4-4
4.1.4-4	Population distribution within 50 miles of the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard	4.1.4-6
4.1.4-5	Minority population distribution within 50 miles of the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard	4.1.4-8

4.1.4-6	Low-income population distribution within 50 miles of the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard	4.1.4-9
Section 4.1.5 - Kenneth A. Kesselring Site		
4.1.5-1	Kesselring Site vicinity map	4.1.5-2
4.1.5-2	Kesselring Site location map	4.1.5-3
4.1.5-3	Kesselring Site map	4.1.5-4
4.1.5-4	50-mile population distribution around the Kesselring Site	4.1.5-6
4.1.5-5	Minority population distribution within 50 miles of the Kesselring Site	4.1.5-8
4.1.5-6	Low-income population distribution within 50 miles of the Kesselring Site	4.1.5-9
Section 4.3 - Savannah River Site		
4.3-1	Candidate sites for an Expanded Core Facility	4.3-2
Section 4.4 - Hanford Site		
4.4-1	Hanford Site map	4.4-2

LIST OF FIGURES (Cont)

Figure No.	Title	
Section 4.5 - Oak Ridge Reservation		
4.5-1	Oak Ridge Reservation site map	4.5-2
Section 4.6 - Nevada Test Site		
4.6-1	Candidate site for an Expanded Core Facility at the Nevada Test Site	

LIST OF TABLES

Table No.	Title	
Executive Summary		
S-1	Summary of potential socioeconomic impacts	S-11
Section 3 - Alternatives		
3-1	Risk (fatal cancers to the general population per year) by alternative	
3-2	Fatal cancers per year to the general population from normal operations	3-25
3-3	Most severe consequences (fatal cancers to the general population) from an accident	3-27
3-4	Most severe risk to the general population from a facility accident	
3-5	Summary of cumulative impacts (fatal cancers to the general population)	3-30
3-6	Likelihood of fatal cancer from cumulative radiation dose	3-31
3-7	Summary of potential socioeconomic impacts	3-33
3-8	Summary of cost impacts over 40 years	3-34
Section 4.1.1 - Puget Sound Naval Shipyard		
4.1.1-1	Regional employment factors at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard	4.1.1-6
Section 4.1.2 - Norfolk Naval Shipyard		
4.1.2-1	Regional employment factors at Norfolk Naval Shipyard	4.1.2-8
4.1.2-2	Aquifers that underlie the Columbia aquifer	4.1.2-18
Section 4.1.3 - Portsmouth Naval Shipyard		
4.1.3-1	Regional employment factors at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard	4.1.3-7

LIST OF TABLES (Cont)

Table No.	Title	
Section 4.1.4 - Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard		
4.1.4-1	Regional employment factors at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard	4.1.4-7
Section 4.1.5 - Kenneth A. Kesselring Site		
4.1.5-1	Regional employment factors at the Kesselring Site	4.1.5-5
Section 5.1.1 - Puget Sound Naval Shipyard		
5.1.1-1	Number of construction and operating jobs created at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard for each alternative	5.1.1-3
Section 5.1.2 - Norfolk Naval Shipyard		
5.1.2-1	Number of construction and operating jobs created at Norfolk Naval Shipyard for each alternative	5.1.2-2
Section 5.1.3 - Portsmouth Naval Shipyard		
5.1.3-1	Number of construction and operating jobs created at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard for each alternative	5.1.3-2
Section 5.1.4 - Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard		
5.1.4-1	Number of construction and operating jobs created at	

	Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard for each alternative	5.1.4-2
Section 5.1.5 -	Kenneth A. Kesselring Site	
5.1.5-1	Number of construction and operating jobs created at the Kesselring Site for each alternative	5.1.5-2
Section 5.2 -	Idaho National Engineering Laboratory	
5.2-1	Summary of direct jobs (closure of INEL-ECF)	5.2-2
5.2-2	Summary of direct jobs (operation of INEL-ECF)	5.2-2
Section 5.3 -	Savannah River Site	
5.3-1	Summary of direct jobs due to the Savannah River ECF	5.3-2
	LIST OF TABLES (Cont)	
Table No.	Title	
Section 5.4 -	Hanford Site	
5.4-1	Summary of direct jobs due to the Hanford ECF	5.4-2
Section 5.5 -	Oak Ridge Reservation	
5.5-1	Summary of direct jobs due to Oak Ridge ECF construction and operation	5.5-2
Section 5.6 -	Nevada Test Site	
5.6-1	Summary of direct jobs due to the Nevada ECF	5.6-2

SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

Volume 1 to the Department of Energy's Programmatic Spent Nuclear Fuel Management Idaho National Engineering Laboratory Environmental Management Programs Environment Statement evaluates a range of alternatives for managing naval spent nuclear fuel removed from U.S. Navy nuclear-powered vessels and prototype reactors through the y Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) considers a range of alternatives for examininn naval spent nuclear fuel, including alternatives that terminate examination and inv the refueling or defueling site. The EIS covers the potential environmental impact alternative, as well as cost impacts and impacts to the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Pr

This Appendix covers aspects of the alternatives that involve managing naval spent nuclear fuel at four naval shipyards and the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program Kesselring Site at West Valley, New York. This Appendix also covers the impacts of alternatives that involve managing naval spent nuclear fuel at the Expanded Core Facility in Idaho and the potential impacts of constructing and operating an inspection facility at any of the Department of Energy sites considered in the EIS. This Appendix also considers the impacts of the alternative of managing naval spent nuclear fuel examinations at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard. This Appendix does not consider impacts associated with storing naval spent nuclear fuel after it has been inspected and approved for use at DOE facilities. These impacts are addressed in separate appendices for each DOE site.

BACKGROUND

The Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program is a joint U.S. Navy and DOE program responsible for all matters pertaining to naval nuclear propulsion. The Program is responsible for the propulsion plants aboard over 120 nuclear-powered warships powered by over 140 naval nuclear reactors. Nuclear propulsion work performed at six naval shipyards and two private shipyards. Nuclear fuel from ships is ending at two of those shipyards as a result of reactor base closures, and nuclear propulsion work at one of the private shipyards has not been performed for more than 15 years. The Program is also responsible for two government-owned, contractor-operated laboratories, two moored training ships, three land-based reactors, and the Expanded Core Facility located at the Naval Reactors Facility. The Expanded Core Facility is located at the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory (INEL).

NAVAL SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL MANAGEMENT

Naval spent nuclear fuel is the fuel removed from naval nuclear propulsion plants. The program is designed to meet the demanding requirements needed to support long-term operations.

To meet these requirements, it is designed to withstand battle shock and to retain as to minimize radiation dose to the ships' operating personnel who must live and work in proximity to the reactor. Even after decades of service, the spent nuclear fuel retains high integrity.

For nearly 40 years, naval spent nuclear fuel has been shipped by rail in shipping containers from naval shipyards and prototypes to the Expanded Core Facility in Idaho. Fuel removed from the shipping containers and placed into water pools at the Expanded Core Facility is examined for specific characteristics and for abnormalities. Selected fuel is examined for detailed examination. Naval fuel examinations provide assurance that operations can continue without restriction. These examinations have significantly contributed to the lives and continued safe performance of current naval reactor designs. This work has resulted in a substantial reduction in the amount of spent nuclear fuel generated by the Naval Nuclear Fuel Management Program.

DESCRIPTION OF ALTERNATIVES

The EIS considers five general alternatives for spent nuclear fuel management. The alternatives are described in Chapter 3 of Volume 1. Naval spent nuclear fuel would be managed under each of these general alternatives as follows.

No Action

Naval reactors would be refueled and defueled as planned. Naval spent nuclear fuel would be stored in transport casks at the Navy or DOE facility where defueling was conducted. Fuel generated from ships at Newport News Shipbuilding would be transferred to Norfolk Naval Shipyard. No further spent nuclear fuel examination would be conducted. This alternative requires a phase-in period while additional containers are procured for spent nuclear fuel. During an approximately 3-year period, spent nuclear fuel would be transported in shipping containers to the Expanded Core Facility in Idaho. The containers would be unloaded and used to support additional refuelings and defuelings.

Decentralization

For naval spent nuclear fuel, three options are considered. Each option would require a phase-in period while facilities are developed. The length of the phase-in period would be determined by the option and mode of storage selected. During the phase-in period, spent nuclear fuel would be transported in shipping containers to the Expanded Core Facility in Idaho. The containers would be unloaded and used to support additional refuelings and defuelings.

a. Store naval spent nuclear fuel at the Navy or DOE facility where defueling is conducted. (Fuel generated from ships at Newport News Shipbuilding would be transferred to Norfolk Naval Shipyard.) At each storage location, dry storage in shipping containers and dry casks as well as wet storage in a water pool facility are considered.

b. Modify the existing water pool facility at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard to contain a maximum practical amount of naval spent nuclear fuel examinations at that site. Spent nuclear fuel at the Navy or DOE facility where defueling is conducted. (Fuel generated from ships at Newport News Shipbuilding would be transferred to Norfolk Naval Shipyard.) At each storage location, dry storage in shipping containers and dry casks as well as wet storage in a water pool facility are considered.

c. Ship naval spent nuclear fuel to the Expanded Core Facility for examination. After examination, the fuel would be returned to the Navy or DOE facility where defueling is conducted. Fuel generated from ships at Newport News Shipbuilding would be transferred to Norfolk Naval Shipyard. At each storage location, dry storage in shipping containers and dry casks as well as wet storage in a water pool facility are considered.

1992/1993 Planning Basis

The historic practice of transporting all spent nuclear fuel removed from naval reactors to the Expanded Core Facility in Idaho for examination would resume. Following examination, the fuel would be transferred to DOE for management at the Idaho Chemical Processing Plant pending disposition.

Regionalization

The overall Regionalization alternative includes two options. The first option managing spent nuclear fuel at three DOE sites (Hanford Site, the INEL, and the Savannah Site) based on fuel type. Under this option, the historical practice of transporting removed from naval reactors to the Expanded Core Facility in Idaho for examination. Following examination, fuel would be transferred to DOE for management at the Idaho Processing Plant pending final disposition.

The second overall option involves managing spent nuclear fuel at a Western Region and an Eastern Regional Site, based primarily on the originating location of the fuel option, naval fuel would be allocated to one site, either the western or the eastern examination and storage. This Appendix evaluates the potential impacts of examining nuclear fuel at all of the potential sites.

Centralization

The Centralization alternative would collect all of the DOE's current and future fuel at one DOE site. The Hanford Site, the INEL, the Nevada Test Site, the Oak Ridge and the Savannah River Site have been considered as candidates for this single site selected, then naval spent nuclear fuel would be examined at the Expanded Core Facility be stored at the Idaho Chemical Processing Plant. If a site other than INEL were selected, the Expanded Core Facility would be shut down and a new or modified facility for examining additional storage facilities would be constructed at the selected site.

SITES CONSIDERED FOR NAVAL SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL MANAGEMENT

Naval Shipyards and Prototypes - The EIS evaluates four naval shipyards, Puget Shipyard at Bremerton, Washington; Norfolk Naval Shipyard at Portsmouth, Virginia; Naval Shipyard at Kittery, Maine; and Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard at Pearl Harbor, management of naval spent nuclear fuel only. The EIS also evaluates the Kenneth A. Prototype Site at West Milton, New York. The four shipyard locations are industrially located near harbor areas. The Kesselring Site is a 3900-acre facility located in the State of New York in a wooded rural environment.

Idaho National Engineering Laboratory - This is the location of the Naval Reactors which is also the present location of the Expanded Core Facility. It is located in the State of Idaho and occupies about 890 square miles of desert. The Idaho National Engineering Laboratory is presently used for industrial and support operations associated with energy research management activities, grazing, recreational uses, and environmental research. It is an urban area and occupies a controlled federal reservation which is largely undisturbed.

Savannah River Site - The Savannah River Site in South Carolina is the location of the Department of Energy's weapons production sites. The P, K, and L Reactors at this site produced plutonium and tritium in support of the nation's nuclear weapons program. The Savannah River Site is located in the eastern United States and is in a heavily wooded environment returning to a more natural state from its previous agricultural uses. It is 310 square miles in area.

Hanford Site - The Hanford Site in the State of Washington is the location of the Department of Energy's weapons production sites. The N-Reactor at this site was used through the years for the production of plutonium in support of the nation's nuclear weapons program. The Hanford Site is in the western United States on open, vacant desert land 1 square miles in area which is largely undisturbed from its original state.

Oak Ridge Reservation - The Oak Ridge Reservation in Tennessee is the location of the Department of Energy's facilities which was primarily used to support the national weapons program. The Y-12 Plant at this location was used for processing highly enriched fuel elements used in the Savannah River reactors. The Oak Ridge Reservation is in the eastern United States and is in a heavily wooded environment. It is 55 square miles in area and consists of three industrialized areas separated by undeveloped forest land.

Nevada Test Site - The Nevada Test Site in Nevada has been a location for performing nuclear weapons testing. This site has been used by the DOE for activities in support of the nuclear weapons program. The Nevada Test Site is in the western United States and is 1350 square miles in area.

ANALYSES

This EIS evaluates the potential environmental impact of each alternative, including construction of new facilities and management operations at those facilities (transferring, handling, examination, and storage of naval spent nuclear fuel). In general, accidents on accidents which have the probability to occur at least once every 10 million years. Accidents considered includes those resulting from human errors or mechanical failures such as earthquakes and tornadoes. Both radiological and non-radiological impacts. The cumulative impacts of spent nuclear fuel management and other operations at the site have also been evaluated.

RESULTS AND COMPARISON OF ALTERNATIVES

Implementation of some of the alternatives would require construction or modification of facilities for storage of naval spent nuclear fuel at naval sites or a replacement facility at a DOE site. The locations for any new facilities would be selected from available on existing federally owned property, so no additional land would be with use at any site. The only exception to this might occur if the Barnwell Nuclear Fuel Savannah River were to be purchased and removed from the public domain. New facilities would be chosen to avoid impacts on the cultural, archaeological, aesthetic, or scenic area and to ensure that the rights or interests of Native American or Native Hawaiian not be infringed. No site listed in the National Register of Historic Places would be Ecologically sensitive areas, such as those in the vicinity of any threatened or endangered would be avoided. Construction activities associated with any naval spent nuclear examination facility would comply with all applicable laws and regulations, using the procedures for preserving air and water quality and previously unknown archaeological artifacts encountered and for minimizing such impacts as noise and disturbance or degradation of habitat.

No new naval spent nuclear fuel storage or examination facility would release radioactive or hazardous material to the environment. In 40 years of receipt, transferring, handling, and examination of naval spent nuclear fuel, the Naval Nuclear Propulsion never had a release of radioactivity that has had a significant effect on the environment. Operations that would be performed and the controls that would be in place, the impact on ecological, or geological resources of any naval facility considered would be negligible. Furthermore, experience has shown that since naval spent nuclear fuel management is industrial activity, its contributions to noise and traffic would be inconsequential. It would generally be within the capabilities of the candidate sites. The Hanford Site is a possible exception to this because they are already operating at or near capacity and may require additional capacity to accommodate a new Expanded Core Facility.

In the unlikely event of any accident involving naval spent nuclear fuel, it is estimated that more than 210 acres of land would be affected for the most severe case, and in the analyzed, smaller areas of land would be affected. The affected area would require decontamination.

and during this cleanup, access controls would have to be established. However, due to the land area affected, it is judged that these restrictions would only be temporary on issues such as economics, treaty rights, tribal resources, ecology, and land use would be limited in time. The remediation actions would be simpler in rural areas than in urban areas provided that prudent controls and remediation operations were promptly implemented. Land and buildings could be recovered in either case. As demonstrated in the accident appendix, the human health effects would not be large and the effects on wildlife would also not be large, partly due to the relatively small area affected and partly due to the limited effects of the accident.

The radiological and non-radiological impacts of all the alternatives considered are small. After consideration of the full range of environmental impacts and other effects with the management of naval spent nuclear fuel, it is judged that for all of the alternatives considered, the impacts on the ecology, cultural and aesthetic values, air and water quality, geology, and such areas as noise, traffic, and utilities, normally associated with industrial activity, would be so small and differ so little among alternatives for naval spent nuclear fuel management that they would be of little assistance in differentiating among the alternatives.

tives.

The areas of impact which are of special interest to the public or which provide distinct contrasts among the alternatives are public health, socioeconomics, cost, Nuclear Propulsion Program mission.

Public Health Impacts

A primary concern for most people is the risk to the public from exposure to radioactive material for each of the alternatives. The exposure could be a result of an accident. A practical method often used to characterize the public risk results from actions such as these is to estimate the number of prompt fatalities or cancer fatalities.

The analyses in this EIS show that there would be no prompt fatalities from the exposure associated with accidents (or normal operations) for any of the alternatives that there would be no latent cancer fatalities under any of the alternatives. However, for the Action and Decentralization alternatives, under which naval spent nuclear fuel would be stored at a naval shipyard, the risks to a member of the public would be higher than for other alternatives.

Figure S-1 provides an overall comparison of the alternatives in terms of the increase in the number of cancer fatalities that might occur in the general population for each alternative. It is important to emphasize that these cancer fatality results rather than actual expected fatalities. This is because the expected number of deaths during normal operations is so small as to be indistinguishable relative to the large number of deaths expected from naturally occurring conditions and other man-made effects not associated with spent nuclear fuel operations. This is not meant to trivialize the importance of cancer fatalities but, rather, is meant to put the issue in perspective. In all the years of facility operation and transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel, a single additional fatal cancer might be expected to occur. To provide some perspective, the exposure from consuming food grown with fertilizer used to produce food crops contributes about one millirem per year to an average American's exposure to radiation. Using the same method used to determine the cancer fatality risk for the Naval Nuclear Propulsion

Figure S-1. Risk from normal operations by alternative (fatal cancers to the general population). The exposures from consuming food grown with fertilizer result in 125 fatalities annually in the United States.

The most severe risks for a facility accident were determined to be from an accident into a dry storage container at the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard. This accident was estimated to result in 26 cancer fatalities and had a probability of occurring about once every 10,000 years. The risk has been calculated to produce a risk of less than 0.0003 additional cancer fatalities. The risks from all other accidents associated with examination or storage of naval spent nuclear fuel were much less than this. In general, the risks from facility accidents tended to be higher for the Action and Decentralization alternatives, because for these alternatives fuel would be stored at a naval shipyard, which is located close to large population centers. For transportation accidents, the risk varied with the distances to be traveled, being least for the No Action and the Decentralization alternatives which would involve transportation over short distances to near where the fuel is removed from reactors.

Socioeconomic and Cost Impacts

The socioeconomic impacts of implementing each of the alternatives would differ and are summarized in Table S-1. The primary socioeconomic impact of the alternatives would be on employment. Nation-wide employment levels would not vary significantly among the alternatives for managing naval spent nuclear fuel and therefore do not provide a basis for comparison among the alternatives. The maximum impact on local employment levels would be caused by alternatives requiring development of new naval spent nuclear fuel examination capabilities at a facility other than INEL while terminating these activities at INEL. Continuing to transport naval spent nuclear fuel to the Expanded Core Facility at INEL for examination and transfer to the DOE for storage would result in the minimum disruption of employment.

As shown in Figure S-2, there are large differences in the costs associated with the alternatives. These costs include the costs that would be incurred from construction and containers, naval spent nuclear fuel transportation, and facility operation. They are associated with those alternatives that support examination of naval spent nuclear fuel at existing facilities and those alternatives that terminate or severely curtail spent nuclear fuel

examination. The higher costs are associated with those alternatives that require new Expanded Core Facility and those alternatives that use shipping containers for Table S-1. Summary of potential socioeconomic impacts.

Alternative	Long-term Impacts at INEL	Long-term Impacts at Other Sites
1. No Action	Lose 500 jobs	Add 50-100 jobs at naval sites
2. Decentralization		
- No Examination	Lose 500 jobs	Add 50-200 jobs at naval sites
- Limited Examination	Lose 500 jobs	Add 110-260 jobs at naval sites
- Full Examination	No change	Add 50-200 jobs at naval sites
3. 1992/1993 Planning Basis	No change	No change
4/5. Regionalization or Centralization		
- Idaho National Engineering Laboratory	No change	No change
- Hanford Site	Lose 500 jobs	Add 500 permanent jobs and some construction jobs at Hanford
- Savannah River Site	Lose 500 jobs	Add 500 permanent jobs and some construction jobs at Savannah River
- Nevada Test Site	Lose 500 jobs	Add 500 permanent jobs and some construction jobs at NTS
- Oak Ridge Reservation	Lose 500 jobs	Add 500 permanent jobs and some construction jobs at ORR

Figure S-2. Summary of costs by alternative (facility and transportation costs ov

Two important components of Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program operations are the management of naval spent nuclear fuel and support of the Navy's fleet of nuclear-powered warships. Based on the analyses in this EIS, all alternatives considered would allow safe storage of naval spent nuclear fuel until a permanent repository becomes available. However, some of the alternatives would not provide equal levels of Fleet support. Alternatives which limit or terminate naval spent nuclear fuel examination would severely impact ongoing research and development work. Naval spent nuclear fuel examination results are used to confirm the adequacy of design of nuclear-powered warships, material performance, and confirm or adjust computer predictions of fuel performance. Information contributes to the design and manufacturing of new naval reactor cores for operation of nuclear-powered warships. Of the alternatives allowing full examination of naval spent nuclear fuel, the Hanford Site, Savannah River Site, Oak Ridge Reservation, or Nevada Test Site, examination at INEL would have the smallest mission impact due to the presence of existing facilities for performing this work, and the presence of a highly skilled work force, all of which could be relocated or reassembled if a new examination site were selected.

CONCLUSION - PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

The Navy's preferred alternative for the management of naval spent nuclear fuel is to continue the historic, technically sound and safe practice of conducting refueling of nuclear-powered warships and prototypes as planned, transporting naval spent nuclear fuel to the DOE facility at INEL for full inspection and examination, and transferring nuclear fuel to the DOE facility for storage pending availability of a method for permanent disposition. This preferred alternative is based on consideration of environmental cost, and mission impacts of each alternative.

The analyses contained in this EIS demonstrate that the environmental impacts of implementing any of the alternatives would be very small for normal operations and conditions. The analysis results do not provide a basis to distinguish among the alternatives. The socioeconomic impacts of the alternatives also do not provide a basis to distinguish among the alternatives.

The Navy's preferred alternative is, therefore, based on impacts to the Navy's

cost. Alternatives that limit or terminate naval spent nuclear fuel examination would support the development of new naval reactors. Primarily because of the infrastructure, examination followed by storage at INEL would best support the Naval Propulsion Program mission and would be the least cost alternative allowing for full naval spent nuclear fuel.

The alternatives which involve the Navy's preferred alternative are: 1992/199 Basis alternative and the Regionalization and Centralization alternatives that include the Expanded Core Facility at INEL.

1. INTRODUCTION

This appendix describes the alternatives which have been evaluated for the examination and storage of spent nuclear fuel from U. S. naval nuclear shipboard and prototype reactor fuel is removed during reactor refuelings and defuelings at naval and commercial ship prototype sites. The alternatives include a range of options for managing naval spent nuclear fuel by year 2035. The options for spent fuel examination include ceasing all examinations, limiting the amount of fuel at a naval shipyard, and performing a full range of examination at a facility (Idaho National Engineering Laboratory) or at another Department of Energy facility. The options for naval spent fuel storage include storage at the refueling and defueling cases, it is necessary to move the fuel to the closest acceptable Navy shipyard), a facility, or storage at another DOE facility. Spent fuel transportation aspects with examination and storage alternatives selected.

Naval spent fuel examination, whether at a naval or DOE site, will remain the core of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program. This appendix therefore addresses the environmental impacts of naval spent fuel examination. This appendix also addresses the environmental impacts of long-term storage of spent fuel at naval shipyards and prototype sites. The environmental impacts of long-term spent fuel storage at DOE facilities are addressed in the Environmental Impact Statement appendices applicable to those sites.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 NAVAL NUCLEAR PROPULSION PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program is a joint Navy/Department of Energy (DOE) organization responsible for all matters pertaining to naval nuclear propulsion pursuant to Executive Order 12344, enacted as permanent law by Public Law 98-525 (42 USC 7158). The Program is responsible for:

- a. The nuclear propulsion plants aboard over 120 warships powered by over 140 reactors.
- b. Moored Training Ships located in Charleston, South Carolina used for naval propulsion plant operator training.
- c. Nuclear propulsion work performed at eight shipyards (six public and two private).
- d. Two DOE government-owned, contractor-operated laboratories devoted solely to nuclear propulsion research, development, and design work.
- e. Three land-based prototype naval reactors used for research and development and training of naval nuclear propulsion plant operators.
- f. The Expanded Core Facility, located at the Naval Reactors Facility which includes the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory.

More detailed discussion is available in the references listed in Section 2.6 (Duncan 1990; Hewlett and Duncan 1974).

2.2 HISTORY AND MISSION OF THE PROGRAM

In 1946, at the conclusion of World War II, Congress passed the Atomic Energy Act, which established the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) to succeed the wartime Manhattan Project. It gave it the sole responsibility for developing atomic energy. At that time, Captain Rickover was assigned to the Navy Bureau of Ships, the organization responsible for ship design. Captain Rickover recognized the military implications of successfully harnessing nuclear power for submarine propulsion, and that it would be necessary for the Navy to work

to develop such a program. By 1949, Captain Rickover had forged an arrangement bet and the Navy that led to the formation of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program. In nuclear submarine USS NAUTILUS put to sea and demonstrated the basis for all subseq nuclear-powered warship propulsion designs. In the 1970's, government restructurin AEC part of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program from the AEC (which was disestabli became the Department of Energy. Although the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program gre scope over the years, it retained its dual responsibilities within the Department o Department of the Navy, and its basic organization, responsibilities, and technical remained much as when it was first established.

By eliminating altogether the need for oxygen for propulsion, nuclear power of drive a submerged submarine without the need to resurface frequently. In addition, offered a way to drive a submerged submarine at high speed without concern for fuel

Nuclear propulsion, though originally developed for submarines, significantly military capability of surface ships. Nuclear propulsion provides virtually unlimi endurance without dependence on tankers and their escorts. Moreover, the space nor for propulsion fuel in oil-fired ships can be used for weapons and aircraft fuel in ships.

Naval fuel is designed to meet the very stringent operational requirements for propulsion reactors. Because of its military design, it will maintain its integrit far less demanding conditions encountered during land-based storage. Naval fuel is operate in a high-temperature and high-pressure environment for many years. Curren capable of over 20 years of successful operation. Measurements of the corrosion ra naval fuel designs have shown that naval spent nuclear fuel could be safely stored longer than the 40 years considered in this Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in air used for storage. Naval fuel uses highly corrosion-resistant materials for fue can withstand high-intensity radiation and harsh environments. As a result, the fu and has very high integrity. The fuel is designed, built, and tested to ensure tha will contain and hold the radioactive fission products. Naval fuel totally contain within the fuel - there is no fission product release from the fuel in normal opera nuclear reactor core contains a large quantity of fission products, it is essential the nuclear fuel in order to minimize radiation exposure to a ship's crew. Naval f rugged. It can withstand combat shock loads which are well in excess of 10 times t for which commercial nuclear power plant fuel is designed. It routinely operates w in power level since naval ships must be able to change speed quickly in operationa fuel consists of solid components which are non-explosive, non-flammable, and non-c ruggedness of naval fuel is demonstrated by the fact that two nuclear-powered ships in the 1960's, and subsequent environmental monitoring shows no release of fission fuel despite the catastrophic nature of the loss of the ships (NNPP 1994a). Also, fuel examined after 28 years of storage in a water pool exhibited no detectable det Although spent nuclear fuel is highly radioactive, it is not regarded as "waste"; i handling procedures, shielding, and other measures to isolate it from people and th

The integrity of naval nuclear fuel is due in part to a long-standing program spent fuel after it has been removed from prototype reactor plants and operating sh examinations have been conducted at the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory (INEL beginning of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program. Construction and early operatio INEL Expanded Core Facility (ECF) occurred between 1957 and 1962. The original bui contained a water pool and nineshielded cells connected to the water pool by a tra examination requirements changed, the ECF underwent several expansion programs.

The first and second expansions, in 1962 and 1963, were prompted by the initia irradiated test specimen examinations at ECF. In the 1970's, the third expansion o addition of new, larger hot cells. The fourth expansion (1979-1987) included the e ECF building and water pools for the addition of the Breeding Nondestructive Assay addition was for the receipt and examination of the Light Water Breeder Reactor nuc following its operation in the former PWR Shippingport Atomic Power Station. The w has continued at or near capacity, receiving, handling, and examining spent fuel fr plants.

The examinations of naval spent nuclear fuel are essential to meeting the goal Nuclear Propulsion Program. The primary goals that are supported by examinations a

- Continued safety of naval reactors
- The design of new reactors having extended lifetimes
- Improvements in nuclear fuel performance
- Demonstration of satisfactory operation of existing naval reactors by prov confirmation of their proper design and allowing maximum depletion of thei
- Validation of design models for new core types.

The goal of the extended lifetime reactor design is to have the reactor core 1 the ship. Such a design would eliminate the need to refuel the reactor during its would also reduce the cost of fueling the ship, and would increase the time that su in active service rather than being refueled.

This EIS assumes that the extended-lifetime goal is partially achieved. Based technology, the EIS assumes that each of the three SEAWOLF submarines will need to once during the period to the year 2035. Based on anticipated developments support from the examinations of naval spent nuclear fuel, this EIS also assumes that each Submarine Class will not need to be refueled during the period to 2035.

If the examinations of naval spent nuclear fuel are terminated and the goal of core is not achieved, more naval spent nuclear fuel will be created than is otherwi number of shipments of naval spent nuclear fuel during the period from 1995 to 2035 from about 580 to about 630 and the corresponding amount of naval spent nuclear fue from 65 metric tons of heavy metal (MTHM) to about 70 metric tons of heavy metal.

Similarly, the goals for safety, improved fuel performance, and satisfactory o reactors will depend on continuing the examinations of naval spent nuclear fuel.

2.3 REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

The Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program includes activities conducted by both the and the Department of Energy. Executive Order 12344, enacted as permanent law by P 98-525, and the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 establish the responsibility and authorit of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program (who is also the Deputy Assistant Secretary Reactors within the Department of Energy) for all facilities and activities that co These executive and legislative actions establish that the Director is responsible pertaining to naval nuclear propulsion, including direction and oversight of enviro health matters for all program facilities and activities.

The federal permits, licenses, and other entitlements listed below may need to implement the alternative selected. Existing federal permits, licenses, and entitl modified as required. Applicable state and local permits, licenses, and entitlementen or modified, as necessary.

- National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit as required Federal Water Pollution Control Act (FWPCA), 33 U.S.C. - 1251 et seq.
- NPDES General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Construction Sites as by the FWPCA, 33 U.S.C. - 1251 et seq.
- Permit to emit hazardous air pollutants (radionuclides) under the Clean Ai 42 U.S.C. - 7401 et seq., as amended by the Clean Air Act Amendments of 19
- Department of Energy Certificate of Compliance for Radioactive Materials P accordance with the Atomic Energy Act (AEA), 42 U.S.C. - 2011 et. seq.

2.4 NAVAL SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL

2.4.1 Summary of Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel Operations

For approximately 40 years, naval spent nuclear fuel has been shipped by rail Reactors Facility at the INEL, where it is removed from the shielded shipping conta into the water pools at the ECF. All spent fuel received at the ECF is visually ex for evidence of any unusual condition such as unexpected corrosion, unexpected wear defects. After the fuel assembly structural components have been removed, the inte assembly is examined for the conditions discussed above. In addition, the assembly distortions from irradiation, heat, or the fission process which could interfere wi distribution of primary coolant and consequent heat removal. The inspection also c flow obstructions due to foreign material or excessive corrosion product buildup. percent of the spent naval reactor cores are given more detailed examinations for s confirming the adequacy of new design features, exploring materials performance con obtaining detailed information to confirm or adjust computer predictions of neutron transfer, or hydraulic flow and distortion. These detailed examinations may includ determine corrosion film thicknesses, dimensional measurements to determine fuel as distortion, and radiochemical analysis to determine core depletions, as well as oth discussed below, the examination program is essential in supporting the Navy's cont operation of naval reactors and design of new, improved fuel having a longer lifeti

Examination of all spent naval fuel is essential to the mission of the Navy to provide data on current reactor performance, to validate models used to predict performance, and to support research to improve reactor design.

Naval fuel examinations provide real data on reactor cores installed in ships operating in the fleet. This information is essential to validate calculational models. Through the years, the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program has built a substantial database from examinations of earlier reactor core types. The Program predicts the performance of core types with calculational models supported by this database. Essentially no information on core types that will form the backbone of the nuclear fleet for the foreseeable future (e.g., Los Angeles class submarines, and Nimitz class aircraft carriers). Data from reactor core types are necessary to validate basic assumptions of current models, predict variability which exists between individual cores and within a single core, and identify unanticipated effects of operation that have not been evaluated or accounted for in the models.

Confidence in the validity of engineering models is essential for assurance that operations can continue without restriction. Since reactors operating in the fleet are not tested during their design during peacetime operations, the Program requires a technically sound basis for continuing to conclude that we have a robust design. Prototype reactors cannot be tested by this information, as their operation is not identical to that of a warship. The fact that the core would have been acceptable under the worst case conditions for which the examination of spent nuclear fuel from each core provides the assurance needed for unexpected technical issues not evaluated and addressed in the models that would allow for unrestricted operation.

Data from examinations also contribute significantly to improvements in reactor design. Improvements in calculational models and analyses have enabled the Program to increase the lifetime and the performance of reactor cores. For example, the reactor cores installed on USS NAUTILUS in the 1950's operated for 2 years. Current reactor cores are designed to last 20 years, a significant technical accomplishment unique to naval fuel. The Navy is developing a life-of-the-ship (30-year) core for the New Attack Submarine which is still in the early stages. This core will further reduce the amount of spent fuel generated in the fleet and will not require refueling during their lifetime. Continuing data from current cores is essential to this effort.

In the final analysis, examination of naval spent nuclear fuel absorbs considerable resources. In a time of extremely tight budgets, the Navy would not be performing such examinations if they were judged to be necessary to support the conduct of technical work. Examinations over the last 37 years have played a key role in achieving over 4500 reactor-years of safe operations, having nuclear-powered warships steam over 100,000,000 miles, and increasing core lifetimes from 2 years to over 20 years. The record shows there is no reason for reverting to a technical basis upon which safe naval reactor design and operation are founded, and includes, as a key cornerstone, the examination of naval spent nuclear fuel.

A limited quantity of naval fuel is retained following examination for reference study. After examination, most spent fuel is loaded into shielded containers and transported to DOE's Idaho Chemical Processing Plant (ICPP) at the INEL for storage. The transportation of spent nuclear fuel from shipyards and prototypes is described in Attachment A. The handling at ECF of the spent fuel from naval reactors is described in Attachment B.

The Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program evaluates small samples of both fuel and materials for possible use in naval reactor systems. The samples are irradiated at the Reactor Area and then examined at ECF. A typical sample undergoes several cycles of irradiation and examination over several months or years.

The basic process for managing naval spent nuclear fuel starts with the spent fuel being loaded in a container. There are many stringent control steps in the process that are necessary to ensure the safety and health of the workers, the public, and the environment. Controls have been established by the conservative philosophy of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program and, as a minimum, meet the applicable regulations of federal and state agencies. Those

controls will also apply to any and all of the alternatives that are being considered for the management of naval spent nuclear fuel.

Historically, the main steps that have been used for many years for managing spent nuclear fuel consist of the following:

- Step 1. The process starts with spent fuel that has been removed from the reactor and placed in a shielded shipping container at a prototype site or shipyard authorized to receive reactor refuelings or defuelings.
- Step 2. The loaded shipping container is transported by rail to the ECF at the INEL.
- Step 3. The spent fuel is received at ECF.

Step 4. The spent fuel is separated from structural material and examined in the E
 Step 5. The spent fuel is transferred, in a shielded container, to the ICPP.

At the ICPP, naval spent nuclear fuel is stored in water pools to shield worke radiation. Naval nuclear fuel is designed to operate for decades in high-temperatu substantial corrosion. This means that it can be stored in the cool water in stora very little corrosion for centuries because the rate of corrosion, which is very sl temperatures inside naval reactors, decreases rapidly as the temperature of the wat decreases. Experience at the Expanded Core Facility and the Idaho Chemical Process shown that naval spent nuclear fuel has not degraded during many years in water poo

2.4.2 Facilities Related to Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel

The shipyards that perform the refueling and defueling operations are also res shipping the naval spent nuclear fuel to the facility where structural material is examinations are conducted. Since 1957, these operations have been conducted at th After the specified operations and examinations are complete, ECF is responsible fo spent fuel to ICPP, the storage location.

The operations at the shipyards for removing the spent fuel from the ship requ special, heavily shielded equipment to remove the spent fuel from the reactor to th container (which is also heavily shielded) while protecting the workers from the ra spent fuel. The shipping containers are designed and tested to transport the spent protecting the workers and any nearby persons from the radiation of the spent fuel. spent fuel is unloaded from the shipping containers with special, heavily shielded protect the workers from radiation. The spent fuel is removed from the transfer ca pool where the depth of the water is sufficient to shield the workers from the radi spent fuel modules. The subsequent machining operations and examinations of the spe performed in the water pool under the required depth of water, or in a heavily shie certain operations and examinations can be performed safely. After the work on the completed, the spent fuel is loaded into a shielded transfer cask (under water) for location, such as the ICPP. These are the main pieces of special equipment and fac required to perform the necessary operations with naval spent nuclear fuel. There pieces of equipment and apparatus that are also used along with the main equipment necessary work safely and efficiently.

2.5 PLANNED REDUCTIONS IN THE NUMBER OF NUCLEAR-

POWERED NAVAL VESSELS

Following the successful operation of the USS NAUTILUS in 1954, the number of powered submarines and surface ships in the U.S. Navy grew steadily until it reache over 150 ships in 1987. Report NT-94-2 provides a graph of the total number of nuc vessels in the U.S. Navy over the years since the beginning of the Naval Nuclear Pr (NNPP 1994b). Since 1988, the number of nuclear-powered vessels in the U.S. Navy h The Navy has been able to accomplish its mission with fewer ships, partly because t crews became more capable over the years and partly because the development of long reactor cores makes it possible for nuclear-powered ships to spend more time on dut shipyards being refueled. A major factor in the reduction in the number of nuclear is that, since the end of the Cold War, the Navy has embarked on a program to reduc warships in its fleet. With the Navy downsizing from a fleet of almost 600 warship over 300, the number of nuclear-powered warships is also diminishing. The actual s nuclear-powered fleet by the year 2000 is expected to be between 80 and 90 vessels 95 and 110 reactors (since surface ships have two or more reactors).

Figure 2-1 shows the peak number of nuclear-powered naval vessels in 1987 and of nuclear-powered ships in the fleet for each of the next 10 years under current p planned reduction reflects the most recent changes in the mission of the U.S. Navy, effects of the end of the Cold War. Under this plan, the number of nuclear-powered will be reduced by the end of the next 10 years to approximately one-half the numbe The Navy is moving ahead with this plan, but it should be remembered that such plan the future if Congress alters the Navy's mission in the light of world developments

This plan for reducing the number of nuclear-powered naval vessels was used in development of environmental impacts in this Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). the planned reduction in the number of ships in future years is incorporated into a associated with examination or storage of naval spent nuclear fuel reported in this

timing and number of naval spent nuclear fuel shipments used in the calculation of with transportation are based on this plan.

Figure 2-1. Total number of nuclear-powered ships in the United States Navy. 2.6 REFERENCES

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- NNPP (Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program), 1994b, Report NT-94-2, Occupational Radiation Exposure from U.S. Naval Nuclear Plants and Their Support Facilities, Washington, D.C., March.

3. ALTERNATIVES

This section describes the alternatives which were evaluated for the management of naval spent nuclear fuel removed during reactor refuelings and defuelings at naval and commercial prototype sites. Since Chapter 3 of Volume 1 provides a complete description of DOE's alternatives for all types of spent nuclear fuel under its cognizance, they are limited to aspects of the alternatives related to naval spent nuclear fuel.

1. No Action: Spent fuel from naval reactors at naval shipyards and prototype sites would be stored in shielded containers at facilities close to the refueling and defueling site for periodic spent fuel examinations.
2. Decentralization: There are three different variations to this alternative. No Action alternative except that additional spent fuel storage options would be examined. Second variation, a limited amount of spent fuel would be examined in detail at a Shipyard to provide information on nuclear fuel performance. This limited amount would be stored at the examination site and the remainder would be stored at or near defueling sites. In the third variation, all spent fuel would be shipped to the Engineering Laboratory (INEL) Expanded Core Facility (ECF) and examined as it is used, then returned for storage to facilities at or near the refueling and defueling sites. ECF improvements, including the dry cell expansion (Attachment B), would be completed.
3. 1992/1993 Planning Basis: Spent fuel would continue to be received, examined, and stored at INEL as it has been in past years. All planned ECF improvements, including the dry cell expansion (Attachment B), would be completed.
4. Regionalization: Current and future naval spent nuclear fuel would be received and stored at the Hanford Site, INEL, the Savannah River Site, the Nevada Test Site, or the Nevada National Reservation. If INEL were the site selected for Regionalization of naval spent nuclear fuel, this alternative would be essentially the same as the 1992/1993 Planning Basis.
5. Centralization: Current and future spent fuel would be collected and stored at a DOE site. Examination and storage facilities would be constructed, and examinations would be performed at that one site. There would be no difference between Regionalization and the Centralization alternatives for naval spent nuclear fuel.

This section also describes other alternatives which were considered and then eliminated in the detailed analysis.

3.1 NO ACTION

This alternative is restricted to the minimum actions deemed necessary for the secure handling and storage of naval spent nuclear fuel. It is important to note the status quo condition. Naval reactors would be refueled and defueled as planned. No

would be stored in shipping containers at a Navy or DOE facility. These shipping c modified and recertified as discussed in Section D.1.2.1 of Attachment D. No furth fuel examination would be conducted and research and development activities associa of the spent fuel would not be performed. The Expended Core Facility at INEL would

Under this alternative, the transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel to INEL about 3 years, during which additional shipping containers would be purchased and a naval sites to serve as storage locations would be completed (see Section 3.8). Th reactors at naval shipyards or active prototype sites would be stored at a naval sh most instances where it was removed from the reactor during servicing. The spent f from the reactors and placed directly into shipping containers for storage without Newport News Shipbuilding, a private shipyard located in Newport News, Virginia, do defueling work for the Navy. Spent fuel removed from ships refueled or defueled at Shipbuilding would be transported to the nearest naval site, Norfolk Naval Shipyard Virginia. Norfolk Naval Shipyard is about 10 miles (about 250 miles by rail) from Shipbuilding. The spent fuel would be stored in such a way that it would be protec intruders and that workers, the public, and the environment would be protected. Th storage until the DOE is prepared to take receipt of the fuel.

Since no additional spent fuel examinations would be performed at ECF, the wor examination of test specimens irradiated in the Advanced Test Reactor at INEL would another site at INEL. The selected site might require modifications to accommodate

If this alternative and its minimum actions were selected, it would be necessa certify approximately 500 additional shipping containers and to construct the assoc the naval sites to be able to store the spent fuel from all of the nuclear-powered or defueled until the time that a permanent disposal facility becomes operational. time when containers would not yet be available, naval spent nuclear fuel would be containers to the Expended Core Facility at INEL. These containers would be unloa support additional refuelings and defuelings.

A major result of this and any other alternative which precludes detailed exam spent nuclear fuel is that the further development of improved nuclear fuel for U.S hindered. Examination of spent fuel provides useful information on the performance system designs. Without a continuing flow of such information, eventually confiden naval nuclear fuel to perform satisfactorily under design conditions would decrease also important in developing improvements in future fuel designs.

In this context, an alternative which would leave the spent nuclear fuel onboa warships was considered. Under such an alternative, refueling and defueling operat the nuclear-powered warships would be retired in place at piers at Navy facilities. 3.6.3 of this Appendix, it was determined that this approach to a "no action" alter involve many actions, including a large expansion of pier space, with the resultant increased number of naval personnel assigned to monitoring the retired nuclear-powe reduction in work force at several shipyards, and a reduction in the number of oper warships beyond that planned. Consequently, it was concluded that this could not b action" alternative and a more appropriate, and feasible, approach for the No Actio as a basis for this Environmental Impact Statement.

Attachment D contains a more detailed description of storing naval spent nucle its removal location.

3.2 DECENTRALIZATION

Under this alternative, DOE would maintain existing naval spent nuclear fuel i and new naval spent nuclear fuel would be stored at or near the sites where it was Three different variations of this Decentralization alternative have been considere variations are similar to the No Action alternative with regard to their location a storage of spent nuclear fuel. At each storage location under all three options, s containers, dry storage casks, and wet storage in water pools has been considered. require a transition period while facilities are developed (see Section 3.8).

3.2.1 Store Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel at or Close to Locations Where

Removed Without Examination

Similar to the No Action alternative, this alternative would include storage o reactors at naval shipyards or active prototype sites close to the locations where refueling or defueling. The spent fuel would be placed directly into storage witho

tion. Storage would be in water pools, dry casks, or shipping containers. The spent fuel would be protected from damage or intruders, and workers, the public, and the environment would be protected. The spent fuel would remain in storage until a permanent disposal site became available.

No further naval spent nuclear fuel examination would be conducted. Without this program, further development of improved nuclear fuel for U.S. Navy ships would be hindered. Spent nuclear fuel examination provides useful information on the performance of existing and proposed designs. A continuing flow of such information is needed to prevent a loss of confidence in nuclear fuel to perform satisfactorily under design conditions from decreasing over time. Examination of naval spent nuclear fuel is also important in developing improvement programs. In addition, the work associated with examination of irradiated test specimens, which is needed for development of advanced designs, would no longer be performed at the Expanded Core Facility at INEL and would have to be relocated to other facilities at INEL. The Expanded Core Facility would be shut down.

The environmental effects associated with this alternative would be determined by the choice among water pool, dry storage casks, or shipping container storage. The ships would be mobile storage casks, which could also be used for shipping. Like the other options, this alternative, a transition period would be required during which it would be necessary to certify enough shipping containers or dry storage casks to store the spent fuel from ships being refueled or defueled or to design, construct, and certify water pools for storage. During this transition period, naval spent nuclear fuel would continue to be stored at the Expanded Core Facility at INEL where the shipping containers would be unloaded and used to support refuelings and defuelings.

Attachment D contains a more detailed description of storing naval spent nuclear fuel and its removal location.

3.2.2 Examine a Limited Amount of Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel in the

Puget Sound Naval Shipyard Water Pit Facility and Store All Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel at Navy Facilities

Under this alternative, the existing water pool facility at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, built to support the refueling of nuclear-powered aircraft carriers, would be modified to store the maximum amount of naval spent nuclear fuel examinations practical at that site. This alternative and the one described in the preceding section is that only a small amount of fuel could be examined to provide information on nuclear fuel performance for use in developing improved nuclear fuel.

The only existing facility available within the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program is the water pit facility at ECF, which could be used to examine spent fuel from naval reactors. The Puget Sound Naval Shipyard at Bremerton, Washington. However, the use of this facility for dimensional examinations of high-priority spent fuel assemblies would require removal of installed aircraft-carrier refueling equipment. As a result, Puget Sound would not have the capability to refuel nuclear-powered aircraft carriers. This facility has no shielding for destructive examinations of spent fuel. Although this alternative would provide a means for examination and analysis of spent fuel, the ability to sustain further development of naval reactors needed to ensure the safety and performance superiority of U.S. Navy ships would be precluded. Continuous performance of naval spent nuclear fuel examinations at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard would preclude the performance of aircraft-carrier refuelings at Puget Sound because the facility would no longer be available.

The limited amount of spent fuel examined in the modified facility and all naval spent fuel removed from reactors at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard would be stored at that shipyard. Spent fuel removed at other naval shipyards or active prototype sites would be stored at the location where it was removed during refueling or defueling. The limited amount of fuel would be transported from the originating site to Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in the tankers currently used for naval spent nuclear fuel.

Like the other options under this alternative, a transition period would be required for facilities utilizing shipping containers, dry storage casks, or water pools for storage. During this transition period, naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens would continue to be stored at the Expanded Core Facility at INEL where the shipping containers would be unloaded and used to support additional refuelings and defuelings.

Under this option, the Expanded Core Facility at INEL would be shut down after the transition period. The examination of irradiated test specimens would be performed at the No Action alternative (Section 3.1).

Attachment D contains a more detailed description of the examination and storage of naval spent nuclear fuel for this alternative. The transportation of fuel to be inspected at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard is described in Attachment E.

is described in Attachment A.

3.2.3 Examine All Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel at the INEL and Return to

Naval Facilities for Storage

Under this option, all naval spent nuclear fuel would be shipped to the INEL for examination. After examination, this fuel would be returned to a naval long-term storage near the location where the fuel was removed from a reactor. The fuel under this alternative would be performed at the INEL Expanded Core Facility a past years. As with other options under this alternative, the naval spent nuclear shipping containers, dry storage casks, or water pools. All planned improvements to the INEL Facility, including the dry cell expansion, would be completed.

The receipt, examination, and preparation for storage for this alternative would be described in more detail in Attachment B, and the storage would be the same as that described in Attachment D for shipyard and prototype storage. Transportation of the spent fuel in the same manner as described in Attachment A.

3.3 1992/1993 PLANNING BASIS

The practice of transporting spent nuclear fuel removed from naval reactors to the INEL Facility in Idaho for examination would be resumed. Following examination, the spent fuel would be transferred to DOE for management at the Idaho Chemical Processing Plant pending completion of all planned improvements in fuel examination capability for naval spent nuclear fuel. The ECF dry cell expansion, would be completed. Operation of an ECF Dry Cell Facility supporting analysis and the assumptions of this Environmental Impact Statement.

The shipment of naval spent nuclear fuel from shipyards and prototypes to INEL is described in Attachment A, and receipt and handling at INEL of the spent fuel from naval reactor prototypes is described in Attachment B. Attachment B also includes a description of the INEL Facility.

3.4 REGIONALIZATION

Two options have been considered under this alternative. Under the first Regionalization alternative considered, DOE would manage all spent nuclear fuel at the Hanford, INEL, and Savannah River sites, allocating each type of spent nuclear fuel to one of these sites according to its type of cladding. Under the second option, spent nuclear fuel under DOE cognizance would be managed at one DOE site in the eastern portion of the United States and one DOE site in the western portion of the United States, with all spent nuclear fuel assigned to one of these two sites on the basis of origin. The eastern site would be either the Savannah River Site or the Oak Ridge Y-12 Plant. The western site would be the Hanford Site, INEL, or the Nevada Test Site. The INEL would be shut down in all cases where INEL would not be used for naval spent nuclear fuel examination and storage.

3.4.1 Regionalization Using Storage at Three Sites (Hanford, INEL,

and Savannah River)

This option under the Regionalization alternative would result in all naval spent nuclear fuel managed at the INEL in the same manner as the 1992/1993 Planning Basis alternative. Naval spent nuclear fuel has similar characteristics and would be managed at a single site. Naval Zircaloy-clad fuel would be managed at the INEL and since naval fuel is Zircaloy-clad, it would be assigned to INEL. The practice of transporting spent nuclear fuel removed from naval reactors to the INEL Expanded Core Facility in Idaho for examination would be resumed. Following examination, the spent fuel would be transferred to DOE for management at the Idaho Chemical Processing Plant pending completion of all planned improvements in fuel examination capability for naval spent nuclear fuel. The ECF dry cell expansion, would be completed.

3.4.2 Regionalization Using Storage at Only Two Sites

Under this option, DOE would collect all spent nuclear fuel at one existing large eastern United States (either the Oak Ridge Reservation or the Savannah River Site) large DOE site in the western part of the country (either the Hanford Site, INEL, or Spent nuclear fuel would be collected at one or the other of these two sites, based on Only one of the two locations would be used for examination and storage of naval spent nuclear fuel this option, but the impacts of managing naval spent nuclear fuel at all of the positions evaluated because the site for naval spent nuclear fuel has not been chosen.

A new naval spent nuclear fuel examination facility would have to be constructed selected if it were other than INEL, and the Expanded Core Facility at INEL would be a new facility would have capabilities equivalent to those of the existing Expanded Core Facility and would support all examinations and experimental work required for the development of The new examination facility would be operated by the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program

Naval spent nuclear fuel would be removed from naval reactors and transported to an examination facility, as described in Attachment A. The fuel would be unloaded and stored in water pools and shielded cells constructed for this purpose, in a manner similar to Attachment B. After completion of all examination work, the naval spent nuclear fuel would be transferred to storage facilities operated by the DOE at the same site. None of the alternatives in this alternative, other than INEL, currently has facilities adequate to store the fuel involved in this option. Therefore, the DOE would have to construct new storage facilities for naval spent nuclear fuel, including naval spent nuclear fuel, if this option were selected.

It should be understood that the Navy would operate only one facility for examination of naval spent nuclear fuel, and all naval spent nuclear fuel examined during the period covered by the Environmental Impact Statement would be stored at the same DOE site where the examination was performed. Therefore, there are no differences for management of naval spent nuclear fuel between the Regionalization alternative and the Centralization alternative (described in the next section).

3.5 CENTRALIZATION

As implied by its name, this alternative would collect all current and future naval spent nuclear fuel at one DOE site. The sites analyzed include the Hanford Site, INEL, the Savannah River Reservation (ORR), and the Nevada Test Site (NTS). As in the Regionalization alternative, the Navy would operate a facility for examination of naval spent nuclear fuel at only one site. Naval spent nuclear fuel examined during the period evaluated would be stored at the same site where it was examined, so there are no differences between the Regionalization alternative and the Centralization alternative for management of naval spent nuclear fuel.

If INEL were chosen as the DOE site for centralized long-term storage of naval spent nuclear fuel, the Expanded Core Facility would continue to operate. After examination at the Expanded Core Facility, naval spent nuclear fuel would be transferred to the Idaho Chemical Processing Plant. The need to modify the Expanded Core Facility since it is a safe, modern facility provided for naval spent nuclear fuel examinations. However, any planned facility changes to improve or additional fuel handling and examination capability, such as the Expanded Core Facility Drift Room, would be completed.

If a DOE site other than INEL were chosen for the centralized long-term storage of naval spent nuclear fuel, then the Expanded Core Facility at INEL would be closed. A new naval spent nuclear fuel examination facility would need to be constructed at the selected site, or an existing facility would be modified to perform the needed examinations of naval spent nuclear fuel. This facility would have capabilities equivalent to those of the existing Expanded Core Facility at INEL. Naval spent nuclear fuel storage facilities would have to be constructed at the selected site if the examination facilities at other sites suitable for storage of spent nuclear fuel from INEL.

Adjacent to the Savannah River Site is the site of the Barnwell Nuclear Fuel Plant, a privately owned facility is not being used currently. It could be purchased at an undetermined cost, modified to provide capabilities equivalent to the Expanded Core Facility at the Savannah River Site, and subsequently modified to provide capabilities equivalent to the Expanded Core Facility. Similarly, at Hanford there exists the Fuels and Materials Examination Facility (FMEF) that could be modified to provide capabilities equivalent to those at the Expanded Core Facility. It is expected that the modifications to either of these two facilities would cost less than the cost of a new Expanded Core Facility.

Shipments of naval spent nuclear fuel to the Expanded Core Facility in Idaho would begin in the first 3 years of the time required to construct a new naval spent nuclear fuel examination facility at the selected location (see Section 3.8). All naval spent nuclear fuel would be transferred to the new facilities after the new facilities were placed into operation.

The receipt, handling, and storage of naval spent nuclear fuel for this alternative would be the same as for the Regionalization alternative.

Attachments B and E, and transportation of the spent fuel is described in Attachmen

3.6 ALTERNATIVES ELIMINATED FROM DETAILED ANALYSIS

Several other alternatives were considered in addition to those described above. Other alternatives were not analyzed to the same depth as those described above. The reasons for not analyzing them in detail are discussed in this section.

3.6.1 Use Other Combinations of Sites for Examination and Storage

of Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel

Some variations of alternatives can be conceived in which spent fuel would be site at which it was removed from a reactor to some other facility for examination storage and subsequently shipped to another facility for storage. Evaluating all s tions for examination, treatment, and storage as separate alternatives would be com number of alternatives which could result. Furthermore, detailed treatment of such alternatives would complicate the evaluation of environmental effects.

However, it is not necessary to consider each of these combinations individual processes involved and the possible environmental effects generally can be represen the effects of alternatives already discussed. For example, the impacts of examini site other than INEL followed by shipment back to a shipyard for storage would be e those for examination of fuel under the alternative of examination and storage of t DOE site, described in Section 3.5, except for transportation. Continuing the exam storing the naval spent nuclear fuel at a shipyard as part of such an alternative w for storing spent fuel at the shipyard without inspection, described in Section 3.2 shipping the fuel back and forth between the DOE site and a shipyard for such an ap approximately double the effects of shipment to the DOE site for inspection and sto sites are involved but a second trip would be required to return the fuel from the storage site.

In a similar fashion, the effects of other possible combinations of inspection be deduced from combinations of the alternatives discussed in earlier sections. In cation and confusion, these alternative combinations were not explicitly analyzed i

3.6.2 Examine or Store Spent Nuclear Fuel from Naval Reactors in

Foreign Facilities

It would be physically possible to examine and store spent nuclear fuel from n foreign countries. The naval spent nuclear fuel could be shipped safely to a forei storage could be established. However, the characteristics of naval fuel are class requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended. Such characteristics in geometry, what requirements govern its design, how it is manufactured, and how it o reactor. These characteristics can be deduced from physical nondestructive examina from more intrusive means of inspection.

Information classified under the Atomic Energy Act may not be provided to fore or foreign interests unless the President determines that such access is in the def States, a government-to-government agreement allowing such access is reached, and p review is afforded to ensure acceptance by the legislative branch.

Characteristics of long-lived U.S. naval fuel, which constitutes virtually all nuclear fuel evaluated in this Environmental Impact Statement, have never been prov country. It has been long-standing U.S. policy not to provide such information and currently in existence with any foreign country providing for such access.

U.S. naval fuel also utilizes highly enriched uranium suitable for use in nucl spent nuclear fuel remains highly enriched even after it has completed use in a nav Nuclear Non-Proliferation Act, implementing requirements of the Treaty for the Non-Nuclear Weapons, imposes severe restrictions on the transfer of such material to fo restrictions are in addition to those arising from the classified nature of the fue

Foreign nations provide no unique capabilities or advantages for examination o spent nuclear fuel. In fact, only four other countries (the United Kingdom, France Republic of China) build and operate nuclear-powered warships, and none has naval r the long-lived performance characteristics of U.S. naval reactor fuel. Thus, U.S. examination of such long-lived fuel are unique and special.

There are also technical and environmental reasons why processing of naval spent nuclear fuel is not expected to require any processing or stabilization - it will be emplaced in a geologic repository owing to its inherent structural strength and necessary by its military application. Processing naval spent nuclear fuel is more or DOE fuel for those same reasons, and doing such reprocessing abroad would result in highly enriched uranium in a foreign country, creating concerns over non-proliferation safeguards.

Based on these considerations, the alternative of processing or storing naval spent nuclear fuel in foreign countries is not a reasonable alternative, and thus was eliminated from the list of alternatives.

3.6.3 Do Not Remove Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel from

Nuclear-powered Ships

Nuclear-powered warships represent about 40 percent of the Navy's major combat fleet. The Navy fleet is based on ensuring that the Navy has sufficient ships in active service to meet the country's defense commitments, as established by Congress and the President.

It is physically possible to retain spent fuel in the reactors in nuclear-powered ships at shipyards until a decision on the ultimate disposition of spent nuclear fuel is made for ships for which refueling was planned unavailable for further service. However, the result in these ships being unavailable once their currently installed reactor fuel life. This is impractical because the ships would have to be replaced (a process that takes many years and in most instances requires ships that have not been designed) or the fleet to operate without the full complement of ships required to execute national policy. The submarine fleet is nuclear-powered, including the fleet of ballistic missile submarines, the least vulnerable part of the nation's strategic deterrent, and our attack submarines as well as play a crucial role in littoral warfare, failure to result in a unilateral decrease in the nation's strategic deterrent.

Also of particular importance in this regard is the commencement of refueling aircraft carriers which form the backbone of the Navy's fleet. Of twelve operating Class, with three more under construction to replace older, conventionally powered carriers. Refueling of the USS NIMITZ is scheduled to begin in 1998, but refueling is already underway for this first-of-a-kind effort. These preparations entail emptying nuclear fuel from the earlier refueling of the USS ENTERPRISE and defueling of the BEACH. This spent nuclear fuel is at Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Co. in a facility which is required for the NIMITZ Class refuelings. Once the facility is reconfigured for use, including refurbishment, maintenance, and extensive training.

If the facility cannot be emptied, the USS NIMITZ and subsequent NIMITZ Class carriers, DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER, USS CARL VINSON, USS THEODORE ROOSEVELT, USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN, are scheduled for refueling in succession after the USS NIMITZ could not be refueled the fleet at the time they would be required for service. In effect, the Navy would have fewer carriers than would be needed to fulfill national security requirements. This includes maintaining continued forward presence in peacetime (which is essential to deter aggression, encourage global stability, and promote interoperability with our allies). National security requirements also include ability to field forces sufficient to deal with simultaneous regional conflicts (such as Operation Desert Storm), as well as operations such as Somalia and Haiti. The national security need to ensure that the USS NIMITZ returned to service in the fleet on schedule was certified by the Secretary of Defense accepted by the Governor of Idaho in January 1995, when he allowed shipment of naval fuel from the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Co. to continue. Additional shipments required after the Record of Decision is issued on this EIS in June 1995 to complete by late 1995.

Additionally, implementing this alternative would require extensive modifications to shipyards, including increasing the number of piers and the availability of waterfront space for ships at their moorings. Other shipyard facilities also might have to be modified to accommodate the use of waterfront space to moor the numbers of ships involved during the 40-year construction of piers and other needed facilities would cause impacts on the waterfront that could affect the local ecology. For example, dredging would be required along with disposal of spoils; such activities have been an environmental concern at several Navy facilities.

While this method for storing naval spent nuclear fuel would cause some increased activities, in the long run it would result in the idling of skilled workers as the shipyard and work schedules were disrupted by the loss of ship servicing work. Mooring the naval spent nuclear fuel would also utilize highly trained Navy nuclear workers.

unproductive task of watching over shutdown ships. The resources dedicated to providing moorings would produce no improvements in a shipyard's ability to perform its mission or decrease its capabilities. The radiological effects on the environment or people are negligible as long as the nuclear-powered vessels and propulsion plants were maintained and the procedures and discipline used for operating ships, since the environmental effects of nuclear-powered vessels are well documented and known to be negligible.

Separately, the costs of maintaining the ships with spent nuclear fuel remain high. Navy operating procedures and providing the additional piers and waterfront service would be large. The costs of this approach would be high both for ships which are to be replaced and for ships which would normally be refueled and returned to duty. One cost would result from assigning qualified nuclear operators to monitor vessels awaiting refueling or defueling which are being decommissioned at the end of their life, the primary cost of this is a cost to maintain qualified nuclear operators, shipboard equipment, and associated security, to ensure nuclear and radiological safety for the workers and that is more expensive than removal of the spent fuel for storage.

Thus, in summary, this alternative would be costly and would involve extensive construction which would have an effect on the environment due to construction activities. This alternative would permit continued service of many Navy ships and only postpone decisions on a satisfactory location. As a result of these considerations, this alternative was eliminated from further consideration.

3.7 COMPARISON OF ALTERNATIVES

This section provides a comparison of the alternatives as they relate to the impacts under the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program (NNPP). The comparison focuses on those impacts projected to have the most significant impacts. As discussed in Sections 5.1 through 5.4, impacts projected for most impact categories are very small or nonexistent. Such impacts as land use, cultural resources, aesthetic and scenic resources, geology, water resources, noise, utilities and energy, waste management, and irreversible and irretrievable commitments. Consequently, the impacts in these areas provide no basis for distinguishing among alternatives.

It is important to note that in the No Action alternative and in two of the operational alternatives, examination of naval spent nuclear fuel would cease or be seriously limited. Important scientific information would be lost. Beyond this issue, the principal differences among alternatives occur in the categories of occupational and public health and safety (operations and accidents for facility operations and transportation operations), and socioeconomic impacts. Even in these areas, the overall impacts and the differences are a few unavoidable adverse effects that remain after the years of experience have been gained from operations and the necessary mitigative measures have been applied.

DOE has adopted two quantitative safety goals to limit the risks of fatalities from nuclear operations. The goals are:

- The risk to an average individual in the vicinity of a DOE nuclear facility that might result from accidents should not exceed one-tenth of one percent (0.1%) of the sum of prompt fatalities resulting from other accidents to which members of the public are generally exposed.
- The risk to the population in the area of a DOE nuclear facility for cancer result from operations should not exceed one-tenth of one percent (0.1%) of the cancer fatality risks resulting from all other causes.

A comparison of the calculated risks associated with each of the Naval Nuclear Program alternatives indicates that the implementation of any of these alternatives would meet the DOE facility safety goals.

3.7.1 Summary of Impacts

The most salient of the environmental impacts are summarized below. These impacts are presented under two categories:

- Human Health Impacts
- Other Impacts.

3.7.1.1 Human Health Impacts. Table 3-1 provides an overall comparison of the alternatives. This table is not included in this document.

comparison is presented in terms of the increase in the number of cancer fatalities general population for any given year after an alternative has been implemented and level of operation. This increase in the risk of developing fatal cancers is broke risk increase is associated with normal operations, the highest risk facility accid operations. For example, it is calculated that for the 1992/1993 Planning Basis al spent nuclear fuel would continue to be received, examined, and prepared for storag there would be:

- an increase of about 0.0000009 cancer fatalities per year for the general p INEL (i.e., about one additional cancer fatality nationwide in 1,000,000 ye 116,000 people who live within a 50-mile radius of INEL) due to normal ECF
 - an increase of 0.000026 cancer fatalities per year for the general populati transportation routes due to normal transportation of naval spent nuclear f shipyards to the ECF.
 - an increase of 0.00000017 cancer fatalities per year for the general popul facility accident with the highest risk (in this case it would be the accid water pool used for examination and storage of naval spent nuclear fuel).
- Table 3-1. Risk (fatal cancers to the general population per year) by alte

Alternative	Normal Operations Risk		Transportation Incident-Free Risk
	Storage at NNPP Sites	Examination	
1. No Action	2.2 x 10 ⁻⁵	N/A	4.3 x 10 ⁻⁶
2. Decentralization			
- No Exam	2.2 x 10 ⁻⁵	N/A	4.3 x 10 ⁻⁶
- Dry Storage	3.4 x 10 ⁻⁴	N/A	4.3 x 10 ⁻⁶
- Water Pool Storage			
- Limited Exam	2.2 x 10 ⁻⁵	6.5 x 10 ⁻⁵	1.1 x 10 ⁻⁵
- Dry Storage	2.7 x 10 ⁻⁴	6.5 x 10 ⁻⁵	1.1 x 10 ⁻⁵
- Water Pool Storage			
- Full Exam	2.2 x 10 ⁻⁵	8.5 x 10 ⁻⁷	4.1 x 10 ⁻⁵
- Dry Storage	3.4 x 10 ⁻⁴	8.5 x 10 ⁻⁷	4.1 x 10 ⁻⁵
- Water Pool Storage			
3. 1992/1993 Planning Basis(1)		8.5 x 10 ⁻⁷	2.6 x 10 ⁻⁵
4/5. Regionalization or Centralization(1) (2)			
- INEL	-	8.5 x 10 ⁻⁷	2.6 x 10 ⁻⁵
- Hanford	-	4.0 x 10 ⁻⁶	6.0 x 10 ⁻⁵
- S. River	-	1.8 x 10 ⁻⁵	1.5 x 10 ⁻⁴
- NTS	-	9.0 x 10 ⁻⁸	7.5 x 10 ⁻⁵
- ORR	-	5.0 x 10 ⁻⁵	1.4 x 10 ⁻⁴

- (1) For alternatives 3, 4, and 5, the risk due to storage of naval spent nuclear fu this evaluation. It is included in the evaluation of the individual DOE sites.
- (2) Both the Regionalization and Centralization alternatives would locate an ECF at sites. For this reason, the risk is the same for these alternatives.
- (3) Some of the alternatives would involve a limited number of shipments by sea fro Sound. Even though the probability of a severe accident involving a shipboard radioactivity would be less than 10⁽⁻⁷⁾ per year, the risk of such an accident discussed in Attachment F, Section F.1.4.4. The risk of such an accident has b x 10⁽⁻⁶⁾ per year.
- an increase of 0.000001 cancer fatalities per year for the general populatio

transportation accidents.

Table 3-1 shows that the cancer risks due to Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program at the alternatives are small. In all of these cases, thousands of years of repetition would be required before a single additional fatal cancer would occur. Risk is defined as the probability of occurrence of an event leading to radiation exposure and the level of radiation in terms of the increased number of fatal cancers that would result. A detailed discussion of the development of an estimate of cancer fatalities is provided below; most of the parameters, analyses, and results are provided in Attachments A and F.

The increased number of fatal cancers is based on the calculated increase in exposure that would be seen by the general public as a result of each of the alternatives. The average annual radiation dose to a member of the population in the U.S. from background radiation is approximately 0.36 millirem. The average annual collective exposure to all of the population in the U.S. is approximately 69 million person-rem. When people are exposed to additional radiation, the number of additional radiation-induced cancer and other health effects needs to be estimated. The estimate for radiation-induced cancer can be briefly summarized as follows:

- In a typical group of 10,000 persons who do not work with radioactive materials, about 2000 (20 percent) will normally die of cancer.
- If each of the 10,000 persons received an additional 1 rem of radiation exposure (1000 person-rem) in their lifetime, then an estimated 5 additional cancer deaths might occur.
- Therefore, the likelihood of a person contracting fatal cancer during their lifetime is increased nominally from 20 percent to 20.05 percent by exposure to 1 additional rem of radiation.

The "factor" for such a person to contract a fatal cancer, considering all possible exposures, is expressed as 0.0005 fatal cancers per rem of exposure. This is mathematically equivalent to 5 additional cancers from 10,000 person-rem of collective exposure to a large group of persons.

Further, a collective exposure of 10,000 person-rem would be expected to produce approximately 7.3 health detriments due to non-fatal and fatal cancers and severe genetic effects. These are two of the factors for the health detriments that may result from exposure to a large group of persons. The results in this section are given in terms of fatal cancers. The total number of health detriments is 7.3/5.0 or 1.46 times these values.

The number of detrimental health effects which might result from exposure of a large group of people to low levels of radiation has been the subject of debate for many years. The health effects performed in this Environmental Impact Statement use the relation recommended by the International Commission on Radiological Protection because it is well-documented and has been accepted by the council. It also is widely accepted by the scientific community as representing the best estimates of health effects that will not be exceeded. However, there are some differences between the exposure to low levels of radiation produces more health effects than would be estimated by the International Commission on Radiological Protection relation. On the other hand, some researchers believe that the International Commission on Radiological Protection relation underestimates the number of detrimental health effects produced by low levels of radiation. In fact, the levels of radiation resulting from routine naval spent nuclear fuel management are excluded (CIRRPC 1992). Clearly, using a relation developed by one or the other of these methods will produce a larger or smaller estimate of the number of health effects than the value stated in this statement. All of the results of analyses of normal operations and hypothetical accidents include the calculated exposure in addition to the number of health effects in order to make calculations using any relation between radiation exposure and health effects judicious.

The risks associated with all of the alternatives are low compared to the risk of death from normal life. The risks of normal operations may be placed in perspective by considering other encountered risks. For example, the average American is exposed to approximately 0.36 millirem from the radioactivity released from combustion of fossil fuels (NCRP 1987), which is equivalent to a risk of an average individual dying from cancer of about 1 chance in 50,000. As a comparison, the average American is exposed to radiation from naturally occurring radioactive materials in fertilizer used to produce food crops at a rate of 0.01 millirem per year to an average American's exposure to radiation (NCRP 1987). This is equivalent to a death from cancer between 1 chance in 12,500 and 1 chance in 25,000.

A frame of reference for the risks from accidents associated with spent nuclear fuel management alternatives can be developed by comparing them to the risks of death from other accidents. For example, the risk of death in a motor vehicle accident is about 1 chance in 80 (NSC 1994), the risk of death for the average American from fires is approximately 1 chance in 500 (NSC 1994), and the risk of death from accidental poisoning is about 1 chance in 1000 (NNPP 1994b).

It must be remembered that no member of the public will receive as much as one of a rem from 40 years of the normal operations associated with any of the alternatives. Examining the results shown in the tables of radiation exposures (Attachments A and B) reveals the principal source of the difference in the exposures associated with radiation and released from normal operations and from hypothetical accidents for the alternative people who live in the vicinity of the alternative sites and where they live relative to the emissions from the sources are essentially the same, the resulting impacts are a function of the size of the surrounding population, on the way the population is distributed around the facility, distances and directions from the particular facility, and on the characteristics of the population.

3.7.1.2 Other Impacts. The principal impact in the employment portion of the socioeconomics

category is the number of jobs created by the construction and operation of a new facility. The magnitude of the effect is relatively small in populations of the sizes under consideration. Those people who benefit either directly or indirectly from the jobs. The creation of negative impacts: the jobs may be created at a distant location, or the jobs create a small but adverse effect on the local community in terms of additional people and additional public services.

The cost of operating and constructing new facilities or modifying existing ones to provide necessary capabilities for handling and storing spent fuel is an important economic consideration at the site affected and the alternative under consideration, the cost may be as much as the cost of construction and 40 years of operation.

In the unlikely event of a serious accident involving naval spent nuclear fuel, only about 210 acres of land would be affected for the most severe case (this is described in Attachment F), and in the other accidents analyzed, smaller areas of land would be affected. Area would require decontamination, and during this cleanup access controls would have to be maintained. However, due to the limited land area affected, it is judged that these restrictions would be relatively small and limited in time. The remediation actions would be simpler in the affected areas; however, provided that prudent controls and remediation operations were promulgated for the affected land and buildings could be recovered in either case. As demonstrated in Attachments A and F and summarized above, the human health effects are not large. Wildlife and other biota would also not be large, partly due to the limited area affected.

Examination of naval spent nuclear fuel and irradiated test specimens has been ongoing at ECF since 1957. This program has made and continues to make important contributions to the safety, cost, and operational performance of naval nuclear propulsion plants. However, the alternative and two of the Decentralization alternatives would result in substantial savings. The Centralization, Regionalization, 1992/1993 Planning Basis, and the Decentralization alternatives would maintain the needed examination capability.

The safety of operating naval reactor plants has benefitted directly from the examination programs. The result has been the construction of rugged reactor cores that are more capable of withstanding conditions (such as corrosion, high temperatures, and intense radiation) without releasing radioactive products. The Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program's commitment to improved safety comes from two major issues:

- Protection of the Environment - In more than 40 years of operating and maintaining reactors in very demanding conditions, the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program has never had a reactor accident, criticality accident, or a release of radioactivity that had a significant effect on the environment.
- Personnel Safety - The importance of ensuring the integrity of the fuel is a fact that the sailors onboard the ships live in very close proximity to the fuel for many hours a day. Any release of radioactivity from the fuel into the reactor would increase the radiation exposure of the ship's crew.

Since the inception of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program, the useful lifetime of the reactors has been extended by more than a factor of 10. The examination programs at ECF have made this improvement possible. As a result of the extended reactor lifetimes, both refueling costs and spent nuclear fuel storage costs have been saved. In addition, the program permits the ships to spend a larger fraction of their lifetime on sea duty rather than in port, saving costs by reducing the number of ships required. Further reductions in nuclear costs are being pursued through improvements in many areas of nuclear fuel systems.

The improvements in nuclear fuel performance that have been developed in part from the knowledge gained from the examination program have contributed to improved ship operating characteristics. Major improvements have been made in power density, maneuverability, and reliability.

simplicity. These improvements translate into important tactical advantages for our this advantage with ever improving technologies elsewhere in the world is vitally important to our sailors and to protecting our national interests.

In the final analysis, the most important differences are:

- The transfer of jobs associated with the Expanded Core Facility among the considered for locating the examination facility, or the outright loss of
- The costs if new facilities are required.
- The loss or maintenance of naval spent nuclear fuel examination capability

Sections 3.7.2, 3.7.3, and 3.7.4 provide additional summary information on the impact.

3.7.2 Impacts Due to Normal Operations

During normal operations, there are public impacts due to direct radiation or radioactive materials to the environment. These impacts are presented in the form of fatalities due to exposure to the small amounts of radiation involved or radioactivity. It is important to emphasize that these cancer fatalities are calculated results rather than actual fatalities. This is because the expected number of such fatalities during normal operations would be unmeasurable and indistinguishable relative to the larger number of such deaths occurring under other conditions and other man-made effects not related to naval spent fuel operations. It is meant to trivialize the importance of radiation-induced cancer fatalities but, rather, to put them in perspective.

Table 3-2 presents a summary comparison of the calculational prediction of the cancers per year that might be expected due to normal operations within each of the alternatives under consideration for naval spent nuclear fuel handling. This table provides the calculated population. The impacts to selected individuals including workers are provided in Table 3-2. Table 3-2 reflects the two possibilities (water pool and dry storage) for storing nuclear fuel at the Navy sites. In the case of dry storage at Navy sites, the impact from normal operations is calculated levels of direct radiation from storage casks at the shipyards. The environmental impacts were used to calculate the water pool values in the table are based on measured relative to the Expanded Core Facility at the INEL. Also, the way in which direct radiation or environmental impact the population would be a function of the population distribution and the meteorology present at the release location. To account for these differences, actual data on meteorology for the various specific sites were used. The data in Table 3-2 are for the future when the situation has stabilized at each location (that is, capabilities consistent with the stated alternative have been achieved and are in operation at a facility at that location).

All alternatives have some estimated number of fatalities, albeit a very small number. The estimated number of cancer fatalities is associated with the 1992/1993 Planning Basis Alternatives, INEL, and Centralization - INEL alternatives. The largest single estimate for the fatalities is only 0.00038 per year for the Decentralization - Full Examination alternative. It is viewed that if this alternative is selected and operations continue for

Table 3-2. Fatal cancers per year to the general population from normal operations

Alternative	INEL	Puget Sound	Pearl Harbor	Portsmouth	Norfolk
1. No Action	-	1.2 x 10 ⁻⁶	9.3 x 10 ⁻⁹	2.3 x 10 ⁻⁷	2.1 x 10 ⁻⁵
2. Decentralization					
- No Exam	-	1.2 x 10 ⁻⁶	9.3 x 10 ⁻⁹	2.3 x 10 ⁻⁷	2.1 x 10 ⁻⁵
- Dry Storage	-	10 ⁻⁶	9	10 ⁻⁷	5
- Water Pool Storage	-	6.5 x 10 ⁻⁵	7.0 x 10 ⁻⁵	2.3 x 10 ⁻⁵	1.4 x 10 ⁻⁴
- Limited Exam	-	6.6 x 10 ⁻⁵	9.3 x 10 ⁻⁹	2.3 x 10 ⁻⁷	2.1 x 10 ⁻⁵

- Dry Storage	8.5 x	6.5 x	7.0 x 10-	2.3 x	1.4
- Water Pool	10-7	10-5	5	10-5	4
Storage	8.5 x				
	10-7				
- Full Exam		1.2 x	9.3 x 10-	2.3 x	2.1
		10-6	9	10-7	5
- Dry Storage		6.5 x	7.0 x 10-	2.3 x	1.4
- Water Pool		10-5	5	10-5	4
Storage					

Alternative	INEL	Hanford	Savannah River	NTS	ORR
3. 1992/1993 Planning Basis	8.5 x 10-7	-	-	-	-
4/5. Regionalization or Centralization	8.5 x 10-7	- 4.0 x	- -	- -	- -
- INEL	-	10-6	1.8 x 10-	-	-
- Hanford	-	-	5	9.0 x	-
- S. River	-	-	-	10-8	5.0
- NTS	-	-	-	-	5
- ORR					

10,000 years, between three and four extra cancer fatalities might be expected in that entire time period due to normal operations.

3.7.3 Impacts Due to the Most Severe Accidents

Accidents may occur during operation of naval spent nuclear fuel handling and during transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel. Specific accidents considered to other reasonably foreseeable accidents were analyzed to determine their potential impact on the population. For sites with spent fuel storage in water pools, the facility accident analyzed was a water pool or an accidental criticality since these produced the greatest consequences. For spent fuel storage, the facility accident analyzed was an airplane crash if its probability was 1×10^{-7} per year (1 chance in 10 million per year); otherwise, a wind-driven missile accident was analyzed. Details of analyses of foreseeable accidents which might occur during fuel management are described in Attachment F. Details of the transportation accident analyses are in Attachment A.

In Table 3-3, the potential impacts of facility and transportation accidents with consequences are expressed in terms of fatal cancers per accident. These are calculated on the basis of a relation that 0.0005 cancer fatalities could occur for each person-rem of exposure to the population. The impacts are based on hypothetical occurrences of the accidents and low probabilities of the accidents actually occurring. For each alternative, the facility or transportation accident is listed rather than a total of the individual accidents that only one severe accident would occur at one time.

For facility accidents, the greatest potential impact is associated with dry spent nuclear fuel storage at the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard. This is due to an airplane crash into a dry storage cask. For transportation accidents, the risks vary with the distances to be traveled, being highest for the Decentralization - No Examination alternatives which involve only minimal transportation.

Table 3-4 lists the most severe risks (probability of occurrence times the number of facility accidents in terms of potential cancer fatalities per year).

Table 3-3. Most severe consequences (fatal cancers to the general population) from

Alternative	INEL(1)	Puget Sound(2)	Pearl Harbor(3)	Por
1. No Action*	-	0.017	26	9.0
2. Decentraliza- tion				

- No Exam	-	0.-	26	9.0
- Dry Storage	-	0.017	1.1	0.3
- Water Pool Storage	-	0.51		
	-		26	9.0
	-	0.017	1.1	0.3
- Limited Exam		0.51		
- Dry Storage	0.017		26	9.0
- Water Pool Storage	0.017	0.0-17	1.1	0.3
		0.51		
- Full Exam				
- Dry Storage				
- Water Pool Storage				
Alternative	INEL (1)	Hanford	Savannah	NTS
3. 1992/1993 Planning Basis	0.017	-	-	-
4/5. Regionalization or Centralization	0.017	-	-	-
	-	0.047	-	-
- INEL	-	-	4.8	-
- Hanford	-	-	-	0.1
- S. River	-	-	-	-
- NTS				
- ORR				

+ Based on accidents with a probability of occurrence of 1×10^{-7} or greater.

* Dry storage is the only option considered under the No Action alternative.

(1) The most severe accident is a drained water pool.

(2) The most severe accident involving storage or examination in a water pool For the dry storage alternatives, the most severe accident is mechanical d The limited exam - dry storage option at Puget Sound also includes examina shown for this option are due to accidents occurring during dry storage op

(3) The most severe accident is from a plane crash for dry storage and a drain

(4) The most severe accident is from a plane crash.

(5) Some of the alternatives would involve a limited number of shipments by se Even though the probability of a severe accident involving a shipboard fir less than 10^{-7} per year, the risk of such an accident has been calculated Section F.1.4.4. The most severe consequences of such an accident have be

Table 3-4. Most severe risk to the general population fr

Alternative	INEL (1)	Puget Sound (2)	Pearl Harbor (3)	Portsmouth (3)
1. No Action	-	1.7×10^{-7}	2.6×10^{-4}	9.0×10^{-7}
2. Decentraliza- tion				
- No Exam	-	1.7×10^{-7}	2.6×10^{-4}	9.0×10^{-7}
- Dry Storage	-	10^{-7}	1.1×10^{-5}	3.4×10^{-6}
- Water Pool Storage	-	5.1×10^{-6}		
	-		2.6×10^{-4}	9.0×10^{-7}
	-		1.1×10^{-5}	3.4×10^{-6}
- Limited Exam		1.7×10^{-7}		
- Dry Storage	1.7×10^{-7}	5.1×10^{-6}	2.6×10^{-4}	9.0×10^{-7}
- Water Pool Storage	1.7×10^{-7}	10^{-6}	1.1×10^{-5}	3.4×10^{-6}
- Full Exam		1.7×10^{-7}		
- Dry Storage		5.1×10^{-6}		

- Water Pool
Storage

10-6

Alternative	INEL(1)	Hanford(1)	Savannah River(4)	NTS (4)
3. 1992/1993 Planning Basis	1.7 x 10-7	-	-	-
4/5. Regionalization or Centralization	1.7 x	-	-	-
- INEL	10-7	4.7 x	-	-
- Hanford	-	10-7	9.6 x 10-6	-
- S. River	-	-	-	7.2 x 10-8
- NTS	-	-	-	-
- ORR	-	-	-	-

* Dry storage is the only option considered under the No Action alternative.

(1) The most severe accident is from a drained water pool.

(2) The most severe accident involving storage or examination in a water pool is a missile. For the dry storage alternatives, the most severe accident is mechanical damage to the pool; the risks shown for this option are due to accidents occurring during storage.

(3) The most severe accident is from a plane crash for dry storage and a drained water pool storage.

(4) The most severe accident is from a plane crash.

3.7.4 Cumulative, Socioeconomic, and Cost Impacts

A summary of the estimated cumulative impacts from the radiological operations each of the alternatives evaluated in detail is presented in Table 3-5. It is based on operation by 1995 for any given alternative. The impacts are expressed as fatal population within 80 kilometers (50 miles) and apply to the reasonably foreseeable period ranging from 1995 to 2035. The impacts were based on annual results for normal operations multiplied by 40. The impacts due to both wet and dry storage are presented. For storage at Navy shipyards and prototypes, the sum over all the Navy sites was used for comparison for the same amount of fuel. The total for each alternative was then compared to the fatal cancers for transportation, receipt and examination operations, and storage. The impacts for all alternatives would be negligible.

The historical impact of transportation and ECF operations for the period ranging from 1995 to 2035 was calculated to be about 0.001 fatal cancers. This is the total number of fatalities estimated among the several million people along transportation routes coupled with storage located within 50 miles of INEL. This estimate was based on the calculated incident results from Attachment A, and the calculated results of normal operations and storage. The calculated results from Attachment F were adjusted from an annual basis (1995) by multiplying by 38 years and by a factor of 1.7 to take into consideration the variability of ships and operations. No extra factor was applied to the estimates of the historical impact to account for the vulnerabilities that might be associated with facility or naval spent nuclear fuel is very strong and has very high integrity (Section 2.2), has disclosed no important vulnerability. The factor of 1.7 represents the ratio of radiation exposures received by all military and civilian personnel in the Naval Nuclear Program during the historical period (NNPP 1994a). In the case of the Limited Exam alternative, the analysis includes both the material shipped to Puget Sound for examination and material stored there and at other sites from defuelings without examination.

Table 3-6 presents the cumulative impact from the radiological operations to a maximally exposed worker and a hypothetical maximally exposed individual at the site. The impacts are presented in terms of the likelihood of fatal cancer for the affected individual. Table 3-5. Summary of cumulative impacts (fatal cancers to the general population) (1995-2035)

Alternative	Transport2	Exam Operations3	Fatal Cancers (1995-2035)1	
			Storage3 (Dry) [Wet]	Total (Dry) [Wet]
1. No Action	1.7 x 10-4	0	(9.0 x 10-4)**	(0.0011)**
2. Decentralization				
- No Exam	1.7 x 10-4	0	(9.0 x 10-4)	(0.0011)

- Limited Exam	4.2 x 10 ⁻⁴	0.0026	[0.014] (9.0 x 10 ⁻⁴)	[0.014] (0.0039)
- Full Exam	0.0017	3.4 x 10 ⁻⁵	[0.011] (9.0 x 10 ⁻⁴)	[0.014] (0.0026)
3. 1992/1993 Planning Basis	0.0011	3.4 x 10 ⁻⁵	[0.014] *	[0.015] 0.0011
4/5. Regionalization or Centralization				
- INEL	0.0011	3.4 x 10 ⁻⁵	*	0.0011
- Hanford	0.0024	1.6 x 10 ⁻⁴	*	0.0026
- Hanford/FMEF	0.0024	1.6 x 10 ⁻⁴	*	0.0026
- S. River	0.0060	7.2 x 10 ⁻⁴	*	0.0067
- S. River/Barnwell Plant	0.0060	7.2 x 10 ⁻⁴	*	0.0067
- Nevada Test Site	0.0030	3.6 x 10 ⁻⁶	*	0.0030
- Oak Ridge Reservation	0.0055	0.0020	*	0.0075

Notes:

1 Fatal cancers for 1958-1995 were calculated to be about 0.001 for transport and E ons.

Fatal cancers were calculated at 5.0 x 10⁻⁴ fatal cancers per person-rem.

2 Values from Attachment A.

3 Values from Attachment F.

*DOE storage, not NNPP.

**There is no wet storage under the No Action alternative.

Table 3-6. Likelihood of fatal cancer from cumulative radiation dose.

	Maximally Exposed Worker		Maximally Exposed Individual	
	Total Radiation Dose (rem)	Likelihood of Fatal Cancer	Total Radiation Dose (rem)	Likelihood of Fatal Cancer
1. No Action	4.7	0.0019	0.12	6.0 x 10 ⁻⁵
2. Decentralization				
- No Exam	4.7	0.0019	0.12	6.0 x 10 ⁻⁵
- Limited Exam	4.7	0.0019	0.12	6.0 x 10 ⁻⁵
- Full Exam	4.7	0.0019	0.12	6.0 x 10 ⁻⁵
3. 1992/1993 Planning Basis	3.4	0.0014	1.0 x 10 ⁻⁵	5.0 x 10 ⁻⁹
4/5. Regionalization or Centralization				
- INEL	3.4	0.0014	1.0 x 10 ⁻⁵	5.0 x 10 ⁻⁹
- Hanford	3.4	0.0014	9.6 x 10 ⁻⁶	4.8 x 10 ⁻⁹
- Hanford/FMEF	3.4	0.0014	1.8 x 10 ⁻⁵	9.0 x 10 ⁻⁹
- S. River	3.4	0.0014	1.9 x 10 ⁻⁵	9.5 x 10 ⁻⁹
- S. River/Barnwell Plant	3.4	0.0014	1.5 x 10 ⁻⁴	7.5 x 10 ⁻⁸
- Nevada Test Site	3.4	0.0014	1.4 x 10 ⁻⁵	6.8 x 10 ⁻⁹
- Oak Ridge Reservation	3.4	0.0014	0.0040	2.0 x 10 ⁻⁶

values were determined based on a projected 40-year exposure at the location of the The radiological doses for workers represent the largest average dose from the part in an alternative. The average radiation dose for workers was selected by using the shipyard or DOE site radiation exposure summaries (NNPP 1994b; NNPP 1994c). The values for maximum off-site individuals are the largest values calculated for a person located closest to any facility involved under an alternative. These doses are based on the individuals presented in Attachment F.

Employment impacts were determined from the nature of each alternative based on at INEL. Table 3-7 presents a summary of potential socioeconomic impacts at each of the alternatives evaluated in detail. The results indicate that as many as several hundred shorter-term construction jobs might be lost or gained at an alternative selected.

Cost impacts were estimated from the nature of each alternative based on experience. Table 3-8 presents a summary of the cost impacts for each of the alternatives evaluated.

summary provides the costs which would be incurred from construction as well as tra operation costs over the next 40 years. In all alternatives, there would be large billion. For three of the alternatives involving continued operation of the ECF at Planning Basis, Regionalization at INEL, and Centralization at INEL), there would b construction cost impact; however, the cost of continued ECF operation for an addit be \$2.6 billion. The cost values considered in preparing Table 3-8 include facilit ranging from zero for alternatives involving no new facilities to a high of \$800 mi a new facility with full examination capability. The transportation costs depend o logistics and range from a low of \$10 million to a high of \$110 million. Fuel stor from a low of zero for those alternatives utilizing water pool storage to a high of containers on railcars for the No Action alternative. Also included are operating ranging up to \$2.6 billion for the various alternatives, and Idaho ECF shutdown cos in which the present ECF is shut down.

Table 3-7. Summary of potential socioeconomic impacts.

Impacts Associated with the Affected Sit				
Alternative	INEL	Hanford	Savannah River	Nevada Test Site
1. No Action	Lose 500	No change	No change	No change
2. jobs Decentralization				
- No Exam	Lose 500	No change	No change	No change
3. jobs - Limited Exam	Lose 500	No change	No change	No change
at Puget jobs				
- Full Exam	No change	No change	No change	No change
-200 jobs				
3. 1992/1993	No change	No change	No change	No change
Planning Basis				
4/5. Regionalization or				
- INEL	No change	No change	No change	No change
- Hanford	Lose 500 jobs	Gain 500 perm. jobs and some const. jobs	No change	No change
- S. River	Lose 500 jobs	No change	Gain 500 perm. jobs and some const. jobs	No change
- Nevada Test Site	Lose 500 jobs	No change	No change	Gain 500 perm. jobs and some const. jobs
- Oak Ridge Reservation	Lose 500 jobs	No change	No change	No change

Table 3-8. Summary of cost impacts over 40 years.

	Cost (\$ Billions)
No Action	3.6
Decentralization	

- No Exam	1.5 - 3.4*
- Limited Exam	1.8 - 3.7*
- Full Exam	3.8 - 5.7*
1992/1993 Planning Basis	2.6
Regionalization or Centralization	
- INEL	2.6
- Hanford	3.4
- Savannah River	3.5
- Nevada Test Site	3.5
- Oak Ridge Reservation	3.5

* The cost varies under this alternative depending on the mode of storage. The most options are those that use shipping containers for storage; the least expensive options are those that use immobile dry storage containers.

The largest cost (\$3.8 to \$5.7 billion) would be needed for new storage facilities in addition to the ECF operational costs under the Decentralization - Full Examination. Approximately \$0.8 billion would be needed for the construction of new receipt, handling examination facilities at the alternative site if a Regionalization or Centralization at INEL were selected, thereby resulting in a cost of \$3.5 billion over 40 years of operation. More than \$800 million would be needed for modifications to existing facilities if either Hanford or Savannah River were selected. Also, if the alternative involving the B Reactor Plant at Savannah River were selected, additional funds would be needed to buy the equipment as to modify it to meet the Program needs.

A hidden cost associated with the No Action alternative and two of the Decentralization alternatives is the loss or major reduction in the capability to examine naval spent nuclear fuel at the Expanded Core Facility at INEL have been examinations of naval spent nuclear fuel at the Expanded Core Facility at INEL have been 1957. The examinations are a critical aspect of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program fuel research and development program. The information derived from the examination engineering data on nuclear reactor environments, material behavior, and design performance contribute to the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program in two very significant ways.

First, this information is used to support the design of new reactors having examples, such examinations have contributed to extending the life of naval fuel from reactor core in USS NAUTILUS to over 20 years for the latest nuclear-powered warship. The goal is to develop naval nuclear fuel that lasts the life of the ship; this would must be needed. Longer-lived fuel allows fewer refuelings, saves money in the costs of work on ships, makes ships available for longer periods of service, and creates less Second, information from these examinations has supported the operation of existing providing confirmation of proper design and allowing the fuel they contain to be used possible time.

Thus, the examinations of naval spent nuclear fuel are an integral part of the nuclear safety of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program. In over 4500 reactor-years than 300 refuelings and defuelings of naval reactors, there has never been a nuclear criticality accident, or any release of radioactivity that has had a significant effect. Preventing release of radioactivity from the fuel is extremely important to the safety who operate the nuclear-powered warships since they must live aboard ship in close reactor 24 hours a day.

While it is difficult to quantify the benefits of an outstanding safety record yields an understandable economic gain. The gain is in a reduction in the number of must be procured and in the number of refuelings. Another gain is the increased on nuclear-powered warships which is reflected in a decreased number of ships required by achieving life-of-the-ship fuel and thus eliminating the need for any refuelings approximately \$5 billion will accrue for a force structure of less than 100 ships. ment in life from 2 years to 20 years has already avoided the need to perform 15 re ship and reduced that to a single refueling.

3.8 TRANSITION PERIOD

A transition period would be required before any of the alternatives considered nuclear fuel management could be fully implemented, except for those which would re practice of shipping naval spent nuclear fuel to the Expanded Core Facility at INEL to the Idaho Chemical Processing Plant for storage. This transition period would be necessary additional funding and to build the necessary facilities and equipment.

For example, if the Record of Decision were to identify that the alternative of

Savannah River had been selected, a new Expanded Core Facility would have to be fun Savannah River Site before shipments of naval spent nuclear fuel from shipyards cou Savannah River. Similarly, if the No Action alternative were selected, additional would have to be built since the available shipping containers for naval spent nucl and waiting at the shipyards in June 1995.

Impacts of all alternatives evaluated for naval spent nuclear fuel management impacts of combinations of alternatives would also be low. The Environmental Impac on impacts at the time of full implementation in order to simplify the discussion a for the impacts. By doing so, it assures that impacts greater than those analyzed alternative were used for a small fraction of the 40-year period followed by a shif the remainder of the 40 years. This section discusses a transition period which is rapid but practical shift from the situation in June 1995 to full implementation of selected in the Record of Decision. This transition period would be about the same alternative.

It is expected that the transition period would consist of 3 years of shipment the shipyards or prototypes to ECF at INEL beginning with issue of the Record of De and include approximately 80 total shipments. This would result in shipping to INE had been filled and at the shipyards at that time. Many of the containers would th and returned to the shipyard where they would be reloaded. During this 3-year peri containers would make a second trip to ECF at INEL for unloading after being return After these 3 years of shipments, no further shipments to INEL would be made, and t Facility at INEL would be shut down. The shipping containers would then be refille years, but kept at the shipyards or shipped to the location of the new examination

If an alternative which does not continue storage of naval spent nuclear fuel selected, procurement and contract actions to implement the course of action select Decision would be initiated during these two 3-year periods. In accordance with th selected in the Record of Decision, additional shipping containers or immobile dry built or construction of water pools would be initiated at shipyards or a new ECF a started. It is assumed that these procurements or construction would have proceede shift to the selected option would be in full swing at this time.

3.9 PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE FOR NAVAL SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL

The specific elements discussed in each category of environmental impacts have determine the Navy's preferred alternative for managing naval spent nuclear fuel un disposition become available. The costs and mission impacts have also been conside preferred alternative.

Environmental Impacts: This Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) documents th environmental impacts of each alternative for naval spent nuclear fuel management. environmental impacts under normal operations and hypothetical accident conditions water quality and wetlands, air quality, land use, and public health. This EIS con accident initiators, such as natural hazards, transportation, and fuel handling.

The analyses demonstrate that the environmental impacts of implementing any of would be very small for both normal operations and accident conditions. All altern radiological impacts well below established DOE safety performance goals (SEN-35-91 one percent of the risk of fatal cancers from all sources (including natural causes of the alternatives in non-radiological areas would also be extremely small. The a provide a basis to distinguish among the alternatives in most of these areas.

Socioeconomic Impacts: The socioeconomic impact of implementing each of the a would differ somewhat. The primary determinant of socioeconomic impact of the alte is employment. Total nation-wide employment levels would not vary significantly am managing naval spent nuclear fuel, and therefore do not seem to provide a basis to alternatives. The maximum impact on existing employment levels would arise from al development of new naval spent nuclear fuel examination capability at a DOE facilit while terminating these activities at INEL. Resuming current practices of transpor fuel to the ECF at INEL for examination followed by transfer to the DOE for storage minimum disruption of employment levels.

Mission Impacts: Two important components of Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program are the safe management of naval spent nuclear fuel and support of the Navy's fleet warships. Based on the analyses in this EIS, all alternatives considered would all spent nuclear fuel until permanent disposition. However, some of the alternatives levels of Fleet support. Alternatives which limit or terminate naval spent nuclear severely impact ongoing research and development work. Naval spent nuclear fuel ex

used to confirm the adequacy of design features, explore material performance, and computer predictions of fuel performance. This information contributes to design a new naval reactor cores as well as understanding of operating ships. Each spent nuclear core has its own unique manufacturing and operating history. Consequently, examination of each provides an opportunity to obtain new information relevant to reactor core performance. Section 2.4.1 of this Appendix, the technical feedback obtained through this examination is essential to extending the lifetime of naval reactor cores and assuring their operation. It is important to understand that because of their long service lives, the first of the cores used in LOS ANGELES Class submarines are just now being removed from operating reactors and becoming available for examination. The first cores from NIMITZ Class aircraft carrier submarines have yet to be removed. These cores are the basis for all of the current designs and are the starting point for new designs. Of the alternatives allowing full examination at the Savannah River Site, Oak Ridge Reservation, or Nevada Test Site, examination at the latter two sites has the smallest mission impact due to the presence of existing facilities and equipment, work, and the presence of a highly skilled work force, all of which would need to be reassembled if a new examination site were selected.

Cost Impacts: There are large differences in the costs associated with all alternatives. Additional costs would be associated with continuing the historic practice of shipping spent nuclear fuel to INEL for examination, followed by transfer to the DOE for storage pending development of alternatives involving developing facilities for storage of naval spent nuclear fuel. Developing examination facilities at a DOE site other than INEL would involve billions of dollars in additional costs, relative to historic practices, without any discernible improvement in environmental impacts.

Based on the analyses presented in this EIS, the Navy prefers an alternative which is historic, technically sound, and safe practice of conducting refueling and defueling of naval warships and prototypes as planned, transporting naval spent nuclear fuel to the EX-100 at the INEL for full inspection and examination, and transferring naval spent nuclear fuel to that site. As summarized above, this preferred alternative avoids disruption of development work, minimizes disruption to existing employment levels and infrastructure, has the lowest cost, and does not involve appreciable environmental impact. This preferred alternative is accommodated under the 1992/1993 Planning Basis, Regionalization, or Centralization.

3.10 REFERENCES

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- NNPP (Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program), 1994a, Report NT-94-1, Environmental Monitoring and Disposal of Radioactive Wastes from U.S. Naval Nuclear Powered Ships and their Facilities, Washington, D.C., March.
- NNPP (Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program), 1994b, Report NT-94-2, Occupational Radiation Exposure from U.S. Naval Nuclear Plants and Their Support Facilities, Washington, D.C., March.
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4. AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

4.1 NAVY AND PROTOTYPE SITES FOR NAVAL SPENT NUCLEAR

FUEL

4.1.1 PUGET SOUND NAVAL SHIPYARD: BREMERTON,

WASHINGTON

4.1.1.1 Overview

The Puget Sound region lies in the northwest corner of Washington State as shown in Figure 4.1.1-1. The region is defined by the Olympic Mountain Range to the west and the Cascade Mountain Range to the east. The lowlands contrast dramatically with the mountains, with numerous channels, bays, and inlets on the inland sea that is Puget Sound. The Puget Sound Naval Shipyard is located inside the city limits of Bremerton, Washington at 47° 33' 12" N and 122° 38' 8" W west longitude. Bremerton is located in Kitsap County on the western side of Puget Sound west of Seattle and about 20 air miles northwest of Tacoma. Topography of the area is characterized by rolling hills with an elevation range from sea level to +2,000 feet (msl) in West Bremerton and ranging up to 3,000 feet above msl in East Bremerton (East of Port Washington Narrows). The predominant native vegetation in the area are cedar, and hemlock. Within a distance of 25 to 40 miles in a westerly direction from Bremerton, the Olympic Mountains rise to elevations of 4,000 to 7,000 feet. The higher peaks are covered with snow most of the year and there are several glaciers on Mount Olympus (east of Bremerton) and within a distance of 60 miles, the Cascade Range rises to an average of 5,000 to 7,000 feet with snowcapped peaks in excess of 10,000 feet.

Puget Sound Naval Shipyard is the largest activity of the Bremerton Naval Complex. It also includes the Fleet and Industrial Supply Center, Puget Sound and Naval Sea Systems Command Detachment, and Planning and Engineering for Repair/Alteration of Aircraft Carriers. Other activities include Naval Inactive Ship Maintenance Facility, Naval Reserve Center, Printing Service. Figure 4.1.1-2 provides a shipyard vicinity map, and Figure 4.1.1-3 provides a socioeconomics map of the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard.

4.1.1.2 Land Use

Kitsap County has historically been a semi-rural county. Roughly 80 to 85 percent of the County's total area is either forest, farmland, or undeveloped. The city of Bremerton and its surrounding vicinity is the largest population and economic center in the county and has a lower percentage of agriculture and undeveloped land. Most development in Kitsap County is clustered around the commercial nodes of Bremerton, Port Orchard, Bainbridge Island, Poulsbo, Silverdale, and Gorst, and near the shorelines.

The second largest land use category is residential, which is further broken down into medium density housing. More land area is devoted to single-family (low density) and multi-family (medium density) development in this area.

Other land use delineations are parks and open space; commercial, which includes retail and services; and much of the Navy buildings. The nearby land uses are typical of an area of moderate intensity. The area contains residential, commercial, industrial, educational, and recreational facilities. The local waters support recreational and commercial activities and regularly scheduled ferry traffic.

Bremerton Naval Complex includes a total of approximately 1,347 acres consisting of upland and submerged lands. Puget Sound Naval Shipyard has 327 acres of upland and is the largest landowner in the area. Puget Sound Naval Shipyard also owns about 338 acres of submerged tidelands. The waterfront area is the high-security portion of the shipyard where most production takes place, including production shops, administration, and some public works and supply functions. The eastern portion of the shipyard is the military support area which provides services to military personnel, including housing, retail goods and services, recreation, counseling, dental care, and other services. The industrial support area in the southwestern portion of the shipyard includes ship repair, homeported ships and inactive fleet, the power plant, warehouses, steel yard, public works, and other facilities.

Figure 4.1.1-1. Location of Puget Sound Naval Shipyard within Washington. Figure 4.1.1-2. Puget Sound Naval Shipyard vicinity map. Figure 4.1.1-3. Puget Sound Naval Shipyard site map. 4.1.1.3 Socioeconomics

Bremerton is the largest city within Kitsap County. The major population center is Bremerton.

County other than Bremerton include Port Orchard, Poulsbo, Silverdale, Bainbridge I Kingston. Kitsap County also has two reservations: the Port Madison Indian Reserv by the Suquamish Tribe, and the Port Gamble Indian Reservation governed by the S'Kl

The region surrounding the shipyard, within 50 miles, contains a population o 3 million. Figure 4.1.1-4 provides a population distribution rose centered on the covering a 50-mile radius. During 1989, Kitsap County ranked 7th as the most popul the state (Washington SESD 1990). According to the 1990 census, Kitsap County was growing county in the state with a 28.9% growth rate for the decade for a total pop 189,731. The most recent estimate (April 1992), puts Kitsap's population at 205,60 Regional Planning Council projects the number of inhabitants to reach 280,985 by th increase of 48.10% over the 1990 figure.

Kitsap County's economy is largely affected by the federal government. Gover Kitsap County's largest employment sector, with the federal government having the g As of 1993, Puget Sound Naval Shipyard was the largest employer in the county, empl 10,200 civilian personnel. In 1990, the government sector's share of county employ approximately 45 percent. The retail trade and services sectors are the county's n employers. Many of the service industries, such as the growing number of engineeri management firms, directly or indirectly support the military. By 1989, the servic for 21 percent of employment in the county and the retail trade sector accounted fo (Navy 1991a).

The majority of the labor force that would be employed at the shipyard for co operation of the naval spent nuclear fuel area would be expected to reside within a the shipyard. The calculated total population, labor force, and employment within base year (1995) are presented in Table 4.1.1-1. Projections of employment and pop years beyond 1995 have not been presented because, as discussed in Section 5, the n additional jobs that might be created at the shipyard under any alternative could b **Table 4.1.1-1. Regional employment factors at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard.**

Regional Employment	Regional Labor Force	Regional Population
492,900	527,000	979,070

There are seven port districts in the county. The Port of Bremerton is the l Bremerton and Port Orchard within its boundaries. The Port of Bremerton owns Breme Airport, Olympic View Industrial Park, marinas in downtown Bremerton and Port Orcha First Street Dock in Bremerton. Kitsap County is governed by a Board of Commission divided into three districts. Bremerton is split between the three districts. Reg responsibility of the Kitsap Regional Planning Council, and the Puget Sound Regiona Council, which is made up of elected officials from King, Kitsap, Pierce, and Snoho cities, and from the Indian tribal councils. Land use outside the shipyard is regu Bremerton Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance. The Bremerton Area Council of Neighborhoods is made up of nine neighborhoods. The group was established to encou age citizen participation in Bremerton city planning (Navy 1991a).

Agencies responsible for environmental protection are the U.S. Army Corps of U.S. Coast Guard, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the United States Wildlife Service (USFWS). The Washington State Department of Ecology and the city are responsible for the Coastal Zone Management Plan. The Department of Natural Re jurisdiction over marine lands management, and the Department of Fisheries and Depa protect wildlife resources. Washington's system of freeways, highways, and ferries responsibility of the Washington State Department of Transportation. Historic pres for the state are administered by the Office of Archaeology and Historic Preserva- tion.

Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in M Populations and Low-Income Populations," requires federal agencies to identify and appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effe programs and activities on minority and low-income populations. An adverse environ a deleterious environmental impact determined to be unacceptable or above generally A disproportionately high impact refers to an impact (or risk of an impact) in a lo minority community that significantly exceeds that on the larger community. Data a U. S. Census of 1990 have been used to develop information on the locations of mino income populations within approximately 50 miles of the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, the population data provided in Figure 4.1.1-4.

Figure 4.1.1-4. 50-mile population distribution around Puget Sound Naval Shipyar average within the 50-mile radius by more than 20 percentage points and populations more than 50 percent minority members. These populations have been identified foll approach developed by the Environmental Protection Agency which, for purposes of en justice evaluation, defines minority communities as those which have percentages of

than the average in the region analyzed (EPA 1994).

Figure 4.1.1-6 shows the locations of populations which have more than 25 per members living in poverty, reflecting a common definition of low-income communities. The U. S. Census Bureau characterizes persons in poverty as those whose income is 1 "statistical poverty threshold." For the 1990 census, this threshold was based on \$12,500 per household.

4.1.1.4 Cultural Resources

Until the mid 1880s, Kitsap County was inhabited by several Native American tribes. The Salish language group who lived on the shores of Puget Sound. For about 100 years, settlement of the Suquamish Tribe lay along the west shore of Agate Passage.

Congressional funding in 1891 led to the purchase of 190 acres of land on Sinclair for the construction of a dry dock, repair, and overhaul base for the U.S. Navy. This is the Puget Sound Naval Station.

No prehistoric archaeological sites have been identified at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard. In addition, no submerged cultural resources have been recorded in the immediate shipyard. There are no Native American properties or ceremonial sites in the areas where nuclear fuel would be stored.

There is one National Historic Landmark and four National Registered Historic Landmarks within the shipyard. The east industrial portion of the shipyard was designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1992 as a part of the "World War II in the Pacific" group and contains dry docks, and equipment that were used in World War II warship repairs. The four

Figure 4.1.1-5. Minority population distribution within 50 miles of the Puget Sound
Figure 4.1.1-6. Low-income population distribution within 50 miles of the Puget Sound
Districts are: Officer's Row, Old Puget Sound Radio Station, Old Naval Hospital, a Marine Reservation.

4.1.1.5 Aesthetic and Scenic Resources

The Puget Sound region offers a striking contrast in terrain, with mountains; hills; flat-topped ridges; and plateaus. These areas are separated by numerous channels, lakes, and valleys. The shoreline along the county is characterized by moderate to steep cliffs. The county has large areas of farmlands and forest.

The city of Bremerton and the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard are urbanized areas. The shipyard has an industrialized character along the shoreline, with parking areas, dry docks, warehouses, and ship traffic along Sinclair Inlet. The upland section of the shipyard has housing, recreational facilities, and retail businesses. Chainlink fences mark the perimeter. The area within the shipyard where the naval spent nuclear fuel would be stored has sensitivity since the area is an industrial site.

4.1.1.6 Geology

4.1.1.6.1 General Geology.

The Kitsap Peninsula consists of several geological phenomena which have occurred over the past 60 million years. The upper layers of rock are composed of hard, dense, fine-grained lava with an accumulation of several thousand feet (in some places) of marine sedimentary rocks above the lava flows. Uplifting of the Cascade and Olympic ranges caused the Kitsap Peninsula and other Puget Trough lowlands to become sites where sedimentary materials washed down from the surrounding ranges. More recently, glacial erosion, have been responsible for carving the low, hilly, rolling topography of the area (Navy 1991a). The following geological discussion was obtained from "Site Inspection of Puget Sound Naval Shipyard" (URS 1992).

Puget Sound Naval Shipyard is within the Puget Sound Lowland between the Olympic Mountains and the older Cascade Mountains to the east. Before the glaciation which began 1.7 to 2.2 million years ago, the Puget Sound Lowland probably contained a large river draining to the north and west into what is now the Strait of Juan de Fuca. Glacial erosion of the Puget Sound Lowland produced the arms and embayments of Puget Sound.

4.1.1.6.2 Geologic Resources.

Geological materials found in Puget Sound include hard, dense volcanic rock formed up to 63 to 65 million years ago, and fragmented sedimentary or unconsolidated sediments deposited by glaciers up to 1.7 to 2.2 million years ago. Separate glacial advances and accompanying periods between glaciers have been hypothesized for Puget Sound Lowland. Soil layers deposited by glaciers are generally coarse sand and silt from lakes, and low-permeability deposits left by glaciers. The soils from the glaciers are generally fine-grained silts and sands deposited by rivers or lakes, instead of sand and gravel.

Most of the geologic material in Kitsap County is glacial deposits. The Kitsap is the remnant of a plain formed from the debris deposited by glaciers. Volcanic bedrock is found at the south end of Sinclair Inlet and at Gold Mountain south and west of Bremerton. Bedrock outcrops on the south end of Bainbridge Island and at the adjacent tip of Kitsap.

Kitsap County has four basic soil types: soils underlain by cemented hard-pa bedrock substrate; soils with permeable, distinctly stratified sublayers which are internal drainage; the organic soils represented by small, widely scattered areas of soils having little or no agricultural or building potential. Typical landforms in mountainous land, steep broken land, coastal beaches, and tidal marshes.

The natural topography of the shipyard has been altered substantially from its original condition. Portions of the upland areas of the complex were cut to fill marshes and the resulting fill material was predominantly a silty, gravelly sand with occasional clays. The surface of the filled areas is a solid layer of earth. The remaining soils vary from dense deposits from glaciers to soft bay mud and peat. The upland is packed clay soil with low permeability. (URS 1992)

There are no economic geologic resources at the shipyard.

4.1.1.6.3 Seismic and Volcanic Hazards.

Seismic risk related to structural damage may be represented in the United States by a relative scale of 0 through 4, with Zone 0 no encounter damage and Zone 4 expected to encounter the greatest seismic risk. The Puget Naval Shipyard is located in Zone 3. (UBC 1991) The Uniform Building Code seismic provisions provide a means for a comparable assessment of the seismic hazard between the alternative sites. The Record of Decision identifies this site for the interim storage of naval spent nuclear fuel. A seismic evaluation would be conducted. More detailed information regarding the design considerations for storage of naval spent nuclear fuel at the shipyard is provided in the final EIS.

There have been approximately 200 earthquakes in the Pacific Northwest since 1800 which caused little or no damage. The most recent earthquakes of high magnitude in the area are near Olympia (approximately 40 miles from Bremerton) in 1949 (moment magnitude 7.1) and Seattle in 1965 (moment magnitude 6.5). There has recently been speculation by some that earthquakes in the Puget Sound area might produce moment magnitudes as high as 7.0. On the other hand, some seismologists believe that earthquakes with moment magnitudes of 7.0 are unlikely in this region. There is also some disagreement at present on the movements that might occur in this area.

There is no known fault line within 3000 feet of the Bremerton Naval Complex; two known fault traces have been identified in Kitsap County. The Kingston-Bothell fault is in the northern portion of the county, and the Seattle-Bremerton trace, located a few miles south of Bremerton. There has been no known surface faulting in conjunction with earthquake activity in the shipyard region.

Potential hazards from volcanism are minimal and limited to wind-borne volcanic ash. The distance of the shipyard from the Cascade vents and the configuration of the local topography exclude other volcanic hazards. Only ash from a "large" or "very large" eruption could reach the shipyard. The 1980 eruption of Mount St. Helens, Washington, approximately 100 miles south of the shipyard, resulted in a very slight coating of ash at the shipyard.

The potential hazard from large waves generated by volcanoes or earthquakes is minimal. The system of straits and inlets surrounding Puget Sound provides a natural barrier to the Sound Area, which effectively dampens the propagation of distant generated large waves. A local large wave generated by seismic events occurring that would affect the Sound Area, however, seismologists have found evidence of a large, shallow focus earthquake near Seattle 1300 years ago. This earthquake was most likely in excess of moment magnitude 7.0. A shallow focus earthquake such as this were to occur beneath Puget Sound, a tsunami which might cause flooding in the Puget Sound area. Because the largest earthquake in the area is a shallow focus earthquake, the potential for a tsunami is minimal.

area are deep seated (more than 60 kilometers (37 miles)), and no major surface rupture have occurred, the hazard of generation of a large wave by a local earthquake is minimal. The potential for landslide-generated waves is controlled by the geologic conditions; the development of an earthquake-induced landslide of sufficient size to create a large wave is not expected.

A more detailed description of the regional geology and seismicity is documented in the Design Study - Water Pit Facility, Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Bremerton, Washington (Navy 1978).

4.1.1.7 Air Resources

4.1.1.7.1 Climate and Meteorology.

The general meteorological conditions of the Puget Sound area are typical of a marine climate, since the prevailing air currents at all elevations are from the Pacific Ocean. The relatively cool summers, mild winters, and wetness characteristic of the climate are enhanced by the presence of Puget Sound. The area tends toward damp, cloudy conditions much of the year. The Cascade Range to the east serves as a partial barrier to temperature extremes of the continental climate of eastern Washington.

The normal annual precipitation near Bremerton is 38.33 inches. The rainy season is from October to March and accounts for more than 75 percent of the yearly precipitation.

The mean annual temperature is 51.4°F. Normally, January is the month with the lowest average temperature of 39°F and July is the month with the highest average temperature of 64.5°F.

The average annual mean wind speed at the Seattle-Tacoma Airport is 9.0 miles per hour (mph), with a recorded maximum speed of 1-minute duration of 49 mph. Prevailing winds are from the southwest.

The mean annual relative humidity at the Seattle-Tacoma Airport at 4:00 a.m. is 68 percent, decreasing to 62 percent by 4:00 p.m. There is an average of 43.4 days per year that reduces visibility to 0.25 mile or less. The mean annual percent of possible sunshine is 43.4 percent. The month with the greatest mean percent of possible sunshine is July with 65 percent and the least is December with 21 percent (Navy 1991a).

4.1.1.7.2 Air Quality.

An area can be designated by the Environmental Protection Agency as having air quality that is better than defined by the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (attainment) or as exceeding one or more of those standards (nonattainment for one or more pollutants). The Code of Federal Regulations, Title 40, Part 81, states that the Area for the shipyard is better than national standards for total suspended particulate matter (TSP), SO₂. The area has no specific classification for ozone, carbon monoxide, and NO₂. Class I Area is the Olympic National Park, approximately 24 kilometers (15 miles) from the shipyard.

4.1.1.7.3 Existing Radiological Conditions.

Radiological facilities at all naval shipyards are designed to ensure that there are no uncontrolled discharges of radioactivity in air. Radiological controls are exercised to preclude exposure of working personnel to air activity exceeding federal limits. Air exhausted from radiological work facilities passes through high-efficiency particulate air filters and is monitored during discharges. The annual radioactivity emissions from the shipyards do not result in any measurable radiation to the general public. Calculations of site radioactive airborne emissions for 1992 have been described in Attachment F. These calculations have shown that emissions of radionuclides from the shipyard result in an effective dose equivalent of less than 0.1 mrem per year to a member of the general public.

4.1.1.8 Water Resources

4.1.1.8.1 Surface Water.

Numerous freshwater sources are found in Kitsap County, with numerous lakes dotting the county's landscape. Kitsap Lake, in west Bremerton, is at 238 acres. Lakes and reservoirs are used for recreation and other public uses. of Bremerton comes from surface and groundwater supplies.

Freshwaters in the Bremerton area are monitored by the Washington State Department of Ecology. Puget Sound Naval Shipyard has no important surface freshwaters.

Sinclair Inlet is located in Puget Sound. It is a narrow body of marine water 1.1 miles wide at its widest point and approximately 3.5 miles long. A majority of Sinclair Inlet has been developed. The dominant feature is the shipyard, lying on the city of Port Orchard borders the southern shore. Localized areas of Sinclair Inlet chemicals as a result of historic urban and industrial activities. Contaminants of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs); polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH); and toxic chromium and mercury (PTI 1990). Fish taken from these localized areas show elevated concentrations of PCBs, mercury, and chromium.

Puget Sound tides are of the twice-daily, mixed type with two unequal highs and lows per day. Tides in the inlet are similar to those in Seattle, the primary refueling principal forces that produce currents in Sinclair Inlet are tidal. Generally, the weather direction moving water in and out of the inlet. The flushing capacity of the inlet freshwater input (Navy 1991a).

Based on Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) COMMUNITY-PANEL No. 530093 0015 and topographical maps, the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard is not in the 100 or 500 year flood

4.1.1.8.2 Groundwater.

Groundwater is generally found within 100 feet of the ground surface in sand and gravel layers caused by material from receding glaciers. The rate of groundwater recharge in Kitsap County is estimated to be approximately 12 inches annually, equating to a 0.5 million gallons per day per square mile. The nature of the geology in the area in almost any location can tap a number of aquifers at different depths. The quality of groundwater near Bremerton is good. Groundwater is used for approximately 35 percent of the public water supply for Bremerton. Groundwater at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard is of low salinity caused by intrusion from Sinclair Inlet. (Navy 1991a).

4.1.1.8.3 Existing Radiological Conditions.

The normal activities associated with current naval nuclear operations at all naval shipyards do not result in the intentional discharge of liquid effluent. However, there were occasions, primarily in the early 1960's, when levels of radioactivity were discharged with liquid effluent. In all cases, effluent was less than permitted under the then current limits imposed by state and federal agencies.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency Office of Radiation Program performed monitoring of the water, plant life, aquatic life, and sediment in the vicinity of Puget Sound Naval Shipyard. The purpose of the survey was to determine if operations related to Navy nuclear warship activities resulted in releases of radionuclides which could cause a significant population exposure or contamination of the environment. "Radiological Facilities on Puget Sound" (Lloyd and Blanchard 1989) discusses the most recent Environmental Protection Agency monitoring data. Pertinent conclusions are as follows:

1. "A trace amount of cobalt-60 (0.04 pCi/g+/-0.01 pCi/g) was detected in one sample at PSNS. All other radioactivity detected in the 80 sediment samples was due to naturally occurring radionuclides or fallout from past nuclear weapons. The Chernobyl reactor accident in 1986."
2. "Results of core sampling did not indicate any previous deposit of cobalt-60 in the sediment."
3. "Water samples contained no detectable levels of radioactivity other than that occurring naturally."
4. "External gamma-ray measurements did not detect any increased radiation exposure to the public above natural background levels."
5. "Based on the current radiological surveys, shipyard and nuclear-powered warship operations have resulted in no increases in radioactivity that would result in a significant population exposure or contamination of the environment."

Environmental monitoring is conducted by the shipyard. The results of this m program corroborate the Environmental Protection Agency's conclusions.

4.1.1.9 Ecological Resources

4.1.1.9.1 Terrestrial Ecology.

Vegetation and wildlife on Puget Sound Naval Shipyard are limited to "open spaces," noncontiguous, undeveloped areas which comprise approxima of the entire Bremerton Naval Complex (Navy 1991a). Most of these areas have been disturbed and are currently landscaped with native and ornamental trees and shrubs.

Tree species include Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), vine maple (*Acer ci leaf maple (Acer macrophyllum)*), western red cedar (*Thuja plicata*), madrone (*Arbutus western hemlock (Tsuga heterophylla)*). There are various types of thick underbrush salal (*Gaultheria shallon*), sword fern (*Polystichum sp.*), Oregon grape (*Berberis ne rhododendron (Rhododendron spp.)*) (Navy 1986).

Because of its location on the Pacific flyway, Puget Sound exhibits a diverse an influx of seasonal migrants. Many of the migrants, particularly waterfowl, rema in the sound because of the mild climate, abundance of bays and coves, and the avai Due to the extensive industrial nature of the shipyard, its resident bird community "urban species." Resident bird species include Stellar's jay (*Cyanocitta stelleri vulgaris*), flicker (*Colaptes spp.*), American crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), black-ca (*Parus atricapillus*), goldfinch (*Spinus tristis*), pigeon (*Columba fasciata*), robin golden-crowned kinglet (*Regulus satrapa*), evening grosbeak (*Hesperiphona vespertina ring-necked pheasant (Phasianus colchicus)*) (Navy 1986). In addition, numerous glau gulls (*Larus glaucescens*) inhabit the waterfront areas.

Although abundant mammal populations originally existed in the Puget Sound ar current populations of mammals at the shipyard are extremely limited. The only mam reported at the shipyard are gray squirrels (*Sciurus griseus*), mice, and shrews (Na

With few exceptions, reptiles and amphibians are not particularly abundant in area. The lack of suitable habitat restricts the population of reptiles and amphib garter snakes, salamanders, newts, and frogs (Navy 1990a).

No environmental concerns associated with vegetation or wildlife have been id shipyard.

4.1.1.9.2 Wetlands.

There are no freshwater wetlands on the shipyard. There are no streams, rivers, ponds, or lakes located on the shipyard (Navy 1986). The majority of the s developed and covered with an impervious surface. The shipyard does own 338 acres (deep-water tidal property) along the waterfront.

4.1.1.9.3 Aquatic Ecology.

Salt marsh and brackish marsh communities formerly existed along much of the shoreline of Puget Sound. For a number of years, these areas were perc wastelands and thousands of acres were diked, drained, and reclaimed.

The original landform of the shipyard has been greatly altered to accommodate development. Projects have increased the usable land by filling in the marsh area corner and by extending the shoreline with quaywalls and landfill. The shoreside o consists primarily of riprap, concrete bulkheads, and old wooden piers. Marine veg shipyard shoreline consists primarily of sea lettuce (*Ulva lactuca*), rockweed (Fuch debris of algae that have been dislodged from their subtidal moorings and carried i no waterfront areas at the shipyard that have clam beds, eelgrass, kelp beds, or si (Navy 1986).

Resident fish populations inhabiting the shipyard intertidal shoreline includ (Cottidae), surf perch (Embiotocidae), and flatfish (Pleuronectidae). Migratory fi Pacific salmon (*Oncorhynchus spp.*), sea-run cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarki*), (*Microgadus proximus*), Pacific cod (*Gadus macrocephalus*), Pacific herring (*Clupea h pallasii*), rockfish (*Sebastes spp.*), and two or three species of migratory smelt (O (Navy 1986). There is near-shore migration of juvenile salmon and other fish speci March 15 to June 15. Herring mill in the vicinity of the shipyard from January 20

(Navy 1991a). No recreational or commercial fishing is allowed within the confines

4.1.1.9.4 Endangered and Threatened Species.

As required under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, the responsible agency of a major federal action must conduct assessment to identify any endangered or threatened species which are likely to be action. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service had previously provided a list threatened species that may be in the Bremerton area (Navy 1991a). The list included the bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*). Wintering bald eagles may occur in the from about October 31 through March 31.

Bald eagles are regularly seen along most of the inland waters of Puget Sound active during the day and feed on a variety of animals (preferring fish or waterfowl). They nest and rest most often in conifers, choosing large, open-crowned trees near (Navy 1991a). Eagles are capable of tolerating a certain amount of intrusion and they tend to seek privacy for rearing their young.

Although no eagles have been reported nesting on the shipyard, there are several within 1 mile of the shipyard (Navy 1991a). Trees suitable for perching and roosting non-industrialized area at the shipyard, but not near the waterfront. Bald eagles Sinclair Inlet anywhere and at any time. It is not likely that eagles feed on fish on a regular basis because of the high level of human activity and the variability of Eagles in this area feed primarily on seagulls and other birds (Navy 1991a).

Marine mammals are afforded full federal protection under the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972. Pinnipeds (seals and sea lions) and cetaceans (whales, dolphins, and regularly or occasionally are found in central Puget Sound include the Pacific harbor seal (*Vitulina*), California sea lion (*Zalophus californianus*), killer whale (*Orcinus orca*) (*Phocoenoides dalli*), and harbor porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*) (Navy 1991a).

The National Marine Fisheries Service had previously provided a list of endangered threatened species under its jurisdiction that may occur in Puget Sound waters in its Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement Fast Combat Support Ship (AOE-6 Class) Coast Homeporting Program" (Navy 1991a). The list included two endangered mammals, whale (*Eschrichtius robustus*) and the humpback whale (*Megaptera novaeangliae*); one mammal, the Steller sea lion (*Eumetopias jubatus*); and one endangered turtle, the leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*).

None of the sensitive, threatened, or endangered species are represented in the shipyard (Navy 1991a).

4.1.1.10 Noise

Puget Sound Naval Shipyard is an existing industrial-type environment characterized from truck and auto traffic; ship loading cranes and related diesel-powered equipment continuously operating transmission lines for steam, fuel, water, and related compounds and other liquids. In addition, new construction of buildings, reconstruction and activities for streets, buildings, parking lots, and ships all contribute to an industrial Primary noise sources are located along the naval shore support facilities (piers and land-side facilities) and are dampened to the residential areas by the hills adjacent area.

4.1.1.11 Traffic and Transportation

Primary regional land access to the Seattle/Tacoma/Bremerton area is achieved interstate highways, I-90 and I-5.

Major transportation corridors in Kitsap County are based upon a network of state routes. The county's municipalities and population centers are along Routes (SR) 104, 303, 304, 305, and 308. The major thoroughfare in south Kitsap County which runs south from Bremerton to Tacoma and connects with I-5 in Tacoma.

Bremerton's primary access routes include SR 3, which is a major north-south that travels through western Bremerton; SR 303, which originates within Bremerton and Avenue and continues through eastern Bremerton to Silverdale; SR 304, which travels Bremerton as Callow Avenue, Burwell Street, and Washington Avenue; Kitsap Way, which 6th Street within the city; 11th Street, which provides local east-west circulation

Montgomery, and Naval avenues, which provide local north-south circulation. The pr Bremerton Connector is a road-widening project that will improve accessibility to d Bremerton from SR 3 and SR 16.

Kitsap Transit provides transportation service to various areas of Kitsap Cou population centers, ferry docks, and other activity centers, through a Public Trans In addition, tours and charters are available locally through Cascade Trailways whi twice daily scheduled run to Tacoma. Taxi service is also available throughout the area.

Bremerton National Airport, used for general aviation, is the largest of thre in Kitsap County and is located near SR 3 south of Bremerton. The other two airfie are Port Orchard Airport and Apex Airpark near Silverdale.

Two ferry systems provide services to the Bremerton area. The Washington Sta System provides numerous daily runs from Bremerton, Kingston, Bainbridge Island, an to the Seattle area. There is also a state ferry run in the northern part of the c Kingston to Edmonds, Washington, north of Seattle. In addition to the cross sound by the Washington State Ferry System, Horluck Transportation Company runs a passeng service connecting downtown Port Orchard to Bremerton.

Burlington Northern Railroad provides scheduled and on-demand freight rail se number of locations in the southern and central portions of Kitsap County. A Navy-from Shelton, Washington, provides additional rail service to the shipyard and Bang Submarine Base.

Naval spent nuclear fuel has been removed from Navy nuclear-powered ships and to the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory Expended Core Facility (ECF) for exami evaluation as a routine part of their operating cycle. Starting in 1962, the naval originating at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard was transported by ocean vessel to Puget Shipyard for subsequent rail shipment to ECF. From 1962 to the present, a total of nuclear fuel shipments have been made from Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard to Puget Sou Shipyard, then on to ECF. In 1966, Puget Sound Naval Shipyard began removing naval nuclear fuel from Navy nuclear-powered ships and transporting it by rail to ECF. F present, a total of 115 shipments of naval spent nuclear fuel originating at Puget Shipyard have been made to ECF. Attachment A provides a list of the spent nuclear made to date by year and by originating shipyard. Attachment A also contains detai of the shipping containers used for naval spent nuclear fuel shipments from shipyar

Puget Sound Naval Shipyard has 23 miles of railroad tracks, 8 piers, 4 moorin large dry docks.

4.1.1.12 Occupational and Public Health and Safety

4.1.1.12.1 Occupational Radiological Health and Safety. The Navy has well established and

effective Occupational Safety, Health, and Occupational Medicine programs at all of regard to radiological aspects of these programs, the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Prog reduce to as low as reasonably achievable the external exposure to personnel from i associated with naval nuclear propulsion plants. These stringent controls on minim radiation exposure have been successful. No civilian or military personnel at Navy exceeded the federal accumulated radiation exposure limit which allows 5 rem exposu of age beyond age 18. Since 1967, no person has exceeded the federal limit which a 3 rem per quarter year and since 1980, no one has received more than 2 rem per year associated with naval nuclear propulsion plants. The average occupational exposure monitored at all shipyards is 0.26 rem per year. The average lifetime accumulated from radiation associated with naval nuclear propulsion plants for all shipyard per monitored is 1.2 rem. (NNPP 1994a) This corresponds to the likelihood of a cancer 2083.

The Navy's policy on occupational exposure from internal radioactivity is to exposure to personnel from internal radioactivity. The limits invoked to achieve t one-tenth of the levels allowed by federal regulations for radiation workers. As a policy, no civilian or military personnel at shipyards have ever received more than federal annual occupational exposure limit from internal radiation exposure caused associated with naval nuclear propulsion plants.

For work operations involving the potential for spreading radioactive contami ments are used to prevent personnel contamination or generation of airborne radioac controls for contamination are so strict that precautions sometimes have had to be tracking contamination from fallout and natural sources into radiological areas bec

tion control limits used in these areas were well below the levels of fallout and n occurring outside in the general public areas. A basic requirement of contaminatio monitoring all personnel leaving any area where radioactive contamination could pos Workers are trained to survey themselves (i.e., frisk), and their performance is ch radiological control personnel. Frisking of the entire body is required, normally held survey instruments. Major work facilities are equipped with portable monitors in lieu of hand-held friskers. These stringent controls to protect the workers and contamination have proven effective in the past.

In 1991, researchers from Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, comp comprehensive epidemiological study of the health of workers at the six naval shipy private shipyards that service the Navy's nuclear-powered ships (Matanoski 1991). study evaluated a population of 70,730 civilian workers over a period from 1957, be first overhaul of the first nuclear-powered submarine, USS NAUTILUS, through 1981, whether there was an excess risk of leukemia or other cancers associated with expos of gamma radiation.

The Johns Hopkins study found no evidence to conclude that the health of peop work on U.S. naval nuclear-powered ships has been adversely affected by exposure to radiation incidental to this work. Additional studies are planned to investigate t update the shipyard study with data beyond 1981.

The radiation exposure during normal operations at each shipyard for workers radiation levels monitored is determined based on the annual radiation exposure of worker for all shipyards based on Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program Report NT-94-2 (The total number of shipyard personnel monitored for radiation exposure associated Nuclear Propulsion Program has been about 164,000.

Attachment A provides a discussion of the calculation of past health impacts all transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens. The radiation e transportation workers for all historical shipments is 16.6 person-rem, which stati to 0.0066 cancer fatalities. The maximum exposed individual (MEI) is a transportat the workers are closer to the shipment for a longer time than any member of the gen Under the limiting assumption that the same worker is associated with every shipmen historical period, this person would receive a total exposure of 7.5 rem over the a 40-year period, or about 0.19 rem per year, which is within DOE standards for occup exposed individuals. The radiation exposures to workers correspond to much less th cancer, which means that it is unlikely that there have been any past health impact historical shipments of naval spent nuclear fuel over the entire history of such sh

4.1.1.12.2 Occupational Non-radiological Health and Safety.

The shipyard has an occupational health/preventive medicine unit and a branch clinic (industrial dispen by Naval Hospital Bremerton. Personnel may also be taken to Harrison Memorial Hosp needed.

The shipyard maintains two fire stations with approximately 50 personnel. Th fire department that is fully equipped for structural and industrial firefighting a spill response.

The shipyard has a security force of approximately 177 personnel providing la services, emergency services, security clearances, and parking and traffic control Naval Complex.

In the non-radiological Occupational Safety, Health, and Occupational Medicin Navy complies with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration regulations. is to maintain a safe and healthful work environment at all naval facilities. Due of work at these facilities, there is a potential for certain employees to be expos chemical hazards. These employees are routinely monitored during work and receive surveillance for physical hazards such as exposure to high noise levels or heat str employees are monitored for their exposure to chemical hazards such as organic solv asbestos, etc., and where appropriate are placed into medical surveil- lance programs for these chemical hazards.

Attachment A provides a discussion of the calculation of past health impacts all transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens. Approximately 0 estimated as a result of non-radiological sources (vehicle emissions) associated wi shipments of spent nuclear fuel. This number includes both the workers and the gen Since this number is much less than one, it is unlikely that there has been any non impact due to the historical shipment of naval spent nuclear fuel over the entire h

shipments.

4.1.1.12.3 Public Radiological Health and Safety.

In order to quantify the exposures resulting from normal shipyard radiological releases to the general public, detailed analyses based on very conservative estimates of radioisotopic releases since releases began provides detailed annual release values used in the analyses.

The GENII computer code (Napier et al. 1988) was used to calculate exposures beings due to the estimated radionuclide releases from normal operations at the shi

A person on the shipyard boundary at the location where the largest exposures received was used as the hypothetical maximally exposed off-site individual (MOI) f releases of radioactive material from stored fuel. The population data used to cal exposures were taken from 1990 census data provided by the U.S. Census Bureau. Met were obtained as described in Attachment F.

The hypothetical exposures calculated in Attachment F for the period 1995 thr adjusted from an annual basis (1995) to the historical basis by multiplying by 38 y of 1.7 to take into consideration variations in the number of ships and operations.

The calculated accumulated exposures through 1995 to the general population w of the site (about 3 million people) are 1.3 person-rem. To provide perspective, t received due to natural radiation sources through 1995 are approximately 34 million based on 0.3 rem per person per year.

The results of environmental monitoring as described in Naval Nuclear Propuls Report NT-94-1 show that Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program activities had no disting on normal background radiation levels at site perimeters (NNPP 1994b).

Attachment A provides a discussion of the calculation of past health impacts all transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens. The radiation e general population for all historical shipments is 1.95 person-rem, which statistic 0.00098 cancer fatalities.

All of the radiation exposures to the general population correspond to much 1 incident cancer, which means that it is unlikely that there has been any past healt public due to all historical shipments of naval spent nuclear fuel over the entire shipments.

4.1.1.12.4 Public Non-radiological Health and Safety.

Kitsap County has two hospitals, Harrison Memorial Hospital in East Bremerton and the Naval Hospital Bremerton.

Fire protection in Kitsap County is administered by local fire departments an The Bremerton Fire Department has three stations. Police protection services in Ki provided by the County Sheriff's Office, the city of Bremerton, and other local jur mutual aid.

Attachment A provides a discussion of the calculation of past health impacts all transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens. Approximately 0 estimated as a result of non-radiological sources (vehicle emissions) associated wi shipments of spent nuclear fuel. This number includes both the workers and the gen Since this number is much less than one, it is unlikely that there has been any non impact to the public due to all historical shipments of naval spent nuclear fuel ov of such shipments.

4.1.1.13 Utilities and Energy

Public water systems supply the majority of Kitsap County's water requirement

Wells are

the primary source of water for outlying areas. The Bremerton watershed, located i Mountain area, is the largest single source for the city of Bremerton. A dam on th provides the water storage reservoir. Freshwater is received at the shipyard from Bremerton public water supply. A saltwater system is used at the piers and dry doc firefighting, flushing, and cooling of ship systems. Refer to Section 4.1.1.8 for water resources.

The Bonneville Power Administration and the Puget Sound Power and Light Compa provide electrical service to Kitsap County. Rates for electrical power are relati

close proximity of hydroelectric facilities. The shipyard steam plant provides eme service, as well as steam.

A limited industrial natural gas distribution system exists in the east end o majority of the military support area in the west end of the shipyard has been conv gas. Natural gas is used industrially, since most of the buildings are heated by s shop, foundry, and pipe shops are the largest users of gas. The only natural gas s industrial area is in the foundry (Navy 1991a).

Shipyard freshwater usage is approximately 676 million gallons annually.

Electricity usage is about 247,000 megawatt hours annually.

4.1.1.14 Materials and Waste Management

All of Bremerton's sewage is treated by the Bremerton Wastewater Utility at th Water Treatment Plant, located at the intersection of State Routes 3 and 304.

This plant was

completed in 1985 to provide secondary treatment. Navy ships produce sewage which to the city of Bremerton's Water Treatment Plant. Berthed ships generally have on-discharge their sewage into the piers' sewage lines. In some cases, portable pumps and pressurize.

Most of the solid waste produced by the shipyard is hauled by a private contr privately owned Olympic View landfill. Miscellaneous acid and alkaline cleaning so (concentrated liquid) is collected, stored on base, and eventually shipped to hazar storage and disposal facilities. Solid and liquid chemical wastes are collected, c packaged, and labeled at the shipyard, then turned over to a contractor for disposa Manchester Fuel Department provides for the collection and recycling of oily wastes bilge waters (Navy 1991a).

Solid radioactive waste materials are packaged in strong, tight containers, s necessary, and shipped to burial sites licensed by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Comm under agreement with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Shipyards and other s are not permitted to dispose of radioactive solid wastes by burial on their own sit approximately 851 cubic yards of routine low-level radioactive waste containing 59 shipped from the shipyard for burial.

Waste which is both radioactive and chemically hazardous is regulated under b Energy Act and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) as "mixed waste." Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program, concerted efforts are taken to avoid commingling chemically hazardous substances so as to minimize the potential for generation of m example, these efforts include avoiding the use of acetone solvents, lead-based pai in disposal containers, and chemical paint removers. Radioactive wastes, including chemically hazardous substances, are handled in accordance with long-standing Progr requirements. Such handling includes solidification to immobilize the radioactivit radioactive and chemically hazardous substances, removal of liquids from solids, an techniques. A determination is then made as to whether the resulting waste is haza of Program efforts to avoid the use of chemically hazardous substances in radiologi activities typically generate only a few hundred cubic feet of mixed waste each yea amount of mixed waste, along with limited amounts of mixed waste from Program work prior to 1987, will be stored pending the licensing of commercial treatment and dis

Since the complex contains so much pavement, surface drainage is required. A storm sewer system exists, which is separate from the sanitary sewer system. The s discharges runoff into Sinclair Inlet through 15 outfalls (Navy 1991a).

4.1.2 NORFOLK NAVAL SHIPYARD: PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA

4.1.2.1 Overview

Norfolk Naval Shipyard is located in the Tidewater region of Virginia as shown 4.1.2-1. The shipyard is contiguous with the city of Portsmouth at 36y 49' 5" nort 17' 38" west longitude. The shipyard consists of over 1,200 acres and includes ove tive, industrial, and support structures and 4 miles of shoreline. Figure 4.1.2-2 map, and Figure 4.1.2-3 provides the site map for the Norfolk Naval Shipyard. For Figures 4.1.2-4 and 4.1.2-5 show the location and vicinity of Newport News Shipbuil areas are within 15 miles of the shipyard: Portsmouth, Chesapeake, Norfolk, Virgin Hampton and Newport News, and Suffolk. The cities of Portsmouth to the immediate w

Chesapeake to the south, and Norfolk to the north and east surround the shipyard. Norfolk is separated from the shipyard proper by the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River. The shipyard is separated from the city of Norfolk to the east and by the confluence of the Southern, Eastern, and Western Branches of the Elizabeth River to the north.

4.1.2.2 Land Use

Over 95 percent of the land area within the boundaries of the shipyard is covered by industrial structures or paved with concrete and asphalt. The shipyard is divided internally into an industrial area and a non-industrial area. All of the piers, dry docks, and work facilities for building naval nuclear propulsion plant work are within the controlled industrial area.

The surrounding six city areas are a mix of urban, suburban, light industrial, and agricultural with the land areas dissected by the numerous rivers, creeks, bays, and wetlands.

Portsmouth is predominantly urban and suburban. The two main industries are shipbuilding and the Portsmouth Marine Terminals, which are cargo shipping terminals operated by International Terminals. There are few undeveloped tracts of land in Portsmouth.

Figure 4.1.2-1. Location of Norfolk Naval Shipyard within Virginia. Figure 4.1.2-1 shows the location of the Norfolk Naval Shipyard within Virginia. The shipyard is located on the Elizabeth River. Downtown Norfolk is about 2.5 miles north-northeast of the shipyard. Norfolk is primarily a financial, cultural, and educational hub of the Southside area. Norfolk is primarily suburban with light industrial centers scattered throughout the city. The Norfolk area contains commercial shipyards, coal terminals, various piers for bulk cargo such as gypsum and the Norfolk Naval Base. Like Portsmouth, Norfolk has few undeveloped tracts of land.

The Chesapeake corporate limit adjoins the Norfolk corporate limit just south of the shipyard. St. Helena Annex and the Portsmouth corporate limit mid-stream of the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River due east of the shipyard. The majority of the shipyard industrial area is along the riverfront. The land area immediately along the riverfront is industrial, containing terminals, and manufacturing. Chesapeake is a mixture of suburban and rural areas. The Branch Area adjoins Portsmouth and is primarily suburban with large tracts of undeveloped land currently used for crops to the south and west. Greenbrier adjoins Norfolk and is primarily commercial. Great Bridge adjoins Virginia Beach and is primarily commercial corridors and regional shopping areas. The southern part of Chesapeake contains the Great Dismal Swamp and is rural with isolated residential areas scattered throughout the region.

Virginia Beach is not contiguous with any shipyard property but is within 15 miles. Virginia Beach adjoins Norfolk and Chesapeake on their eastern borders and fronts the Atlantic Ocean. Cape Henry to the north is the North Carolina state line. The area between the ocean front and the Norfolk city line has undergone explosive growth over the past 20 years. The area is primarily residential with several commercial corridors connecting various parts of the city. The "Belt Line" divides the southern agricultural rural area from the developed areas in the Virginia Beach. This line has moved south in steps over the years in response to its use for further development.

Hampton and Newport News are adjoining cities lying on a peninsula formed by the James and York rivers. Newport News Shipbuilding and port facilities for coal and contain the major industries. Although within 15 miles, the peninsula cities have historic differences from the southside cities economically and demographically as well as politically. The changing with the opening of the bridge-tunnel connecting western Tidewater with the Peninsula. Inclusion of the peninsula cities into the Regional Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area changes the regions demographically. Land use is primarily suburban with several major commercial corridors dissecting and connecting the two cities. A downtown area of Newport News sits at the tip of the peninsula separated from the James River waterfront by coal terminals and the Newport News Shipbuilding facilities. The limited agricultural land is being rapidly supplanted by residential and commercial development.

Suffolk is the westernmost of the southside cities. Suffolk is predominantly agricultural with a substantial land area under cultivation with peanuts, soybeans, and produce vegetable crops. Residential areas are scattered but are becoming more numerous as land in the Western Branch Area of Chesapeake is developed.

4.1.2.3 Socioeconomics

The shipyard is centrally located in relation to the six city population center of the Tidewater region. At the time of the 1990 census, approximately 1.5 million persons live within a 50-mile radius of the shipyard. The six-city metropolitan area houses most of this population. Figure 4.1.2-6 provides a population distribution rose showing the population density and

principal centers within 50 miles of the shipyard. Population data are based on the As of 1993, Norfolk Naval Shipyard employed approximately 8,500 civilian personnel. The number of military personnel at the shipyard is typically between 2,000 and 3,000 a times up to approximately 15,000.

The majority of the labor force that would be employed at the shipyard for co operation of the naval spent nuclear fuel area would be expected to reside within a the shipyard. The total calculated population, labor force, and employment within base year (1995) are presented in Table 4.1.2-1. Projections of employment and pop years beyond 1995 have not been presented because, as discussed in Section 5, the n additional jobs that might be created at the shipyard under any alternative could b

Figure 4.1.2-6. 50-mile population distribution around Norfolk Naval Shipyard. T

Regional Employment	Regional Labor Force	Regional Population
498,000	533,000	1,138,400

Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in M Populations and Low-Income Populations," requires federal agencies to identify and appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effe programs and activities on minority and low-income populations. An adverse environ a deleterious environmental impact determined to be unacceptable or above generally A disproportionately high impact refers to an impact (or risk of an impact) in a lo minority community that significantly exceeds that on the larger community. Data a U. S. Census of 1990 have been used to develop information on the locations of mino income populations within approximately 50 miles of the Norfolk Naval Shipyard, con population data provided in Figure 4.1.2-6.

Figure 4.1.2-7 shows the locations of populations which have more than 50 per members within the 50-mile radius. Minorities make up approximately 33 percent of population in this area. These populations have been identified following an appro the Environmental Protection Agency which, for purposes of environmental justice ev minority communities as those which have percentages of minorities greater than the region analyzed (EPA 1994).

Figure 4.1.2-8 shows the locations of populations which have more than 25 per members living in poverty, reflecting a common definition of low-income communities The U. S. Census Bureau characterizes persons in poverty as those whose income is 1 "statistical poverty threshold." For the 1990 census, this threshold was based on \$12,500 per household.

4.1.2.4 Cultural Resources

Founded November 1, 1767 under the British flag, the shipyard pre-dates the Un Navy Department by 30 years. The first drydocking in the western hemi- sphere occurred at the

Figure 4.1.2-7. Minority population distribution within 50 miles of the Norfolk shipyard has been greatly expanded. Beginning in 1963, the yard was authorized to Nuclear Propulsion Program work.

The Naval Shipyard Museum located at the foot of High Street in downtown Port contains many historical photographs and drawings, valuable artifacts, and archives the 226-year history of the shipyard and its close ties to the city of Portsmouth. to the public and to researchers.

No prehistoric archaeological sites have been identified at the Norfolk Naval addition, no submerged cultural resources have been recorded in the immediate vicin shipyard. There are no Native American properties or ceremonial sites in the areas nuclear fuel would be stored. In the area where naval spent nuclear fuel would be no historic sites that are potentially eligible or listed on the National Register (NPS 1991). Due to the historic nature of the shipyard, there might be areas of ar interest. In the past, artifacts from the early shipbuilding era have been uncover tion excavation.

4.1.2.5 Aesthetic and Scenic Resources

The lower Chesapeake Bay - Hampton Roads region is a flat coastal plain with m topographic relief. The numerous bays, rivers, and creeks that dissect the region various wetlands consisting of saltwater marshes, bogs, and swamps. The unique eco wetlands provides habitat for numerous indigenous and migratory species of aquatic wildlife. Area beaches fronting the Atlantic Ocean from Cape Henry southward and a

Chesapeake Bay westward from Cape Henry provide both scenic and recreational opportunity for area residents and visitors.

The shipyard is centrally located in a highly developed urban area and has an industrial character. The area within the shipyard where the naval spent nuclear fuel would be stored has low visual sensitivity since the area is an industrial site. The original character of the area has been extensively modified in the 300 years that western man has occupied the area.

4.1.2.6 Geology

4.1.2.6.1 General Geology (Coch 1971).

The coastal plain is characterized by a series of marine transgressions with extended periods of non-marine erosion and deposition of river sediments. The surface down to a depth of about 120 feet, the most recent sediments of the Colquhoun occur. Underlying the Columbia Group is the Yorktown Formation (deposits of fine sand and shells), which, at the location of the shipyard, is about 100 feet thick. The Calvert thickness of about 345 feet, underlays the Yorktown Formation.

The Calvert Formation consists of usually consolidated greenish-brown clays, silty clays over a basic layer of coarse sand. The Calvert clays form an impenetrable barrier which limits the vertical migration of shallow groundwater. This isolates the Columbia and Yorktown regional aquifers from deeper lying aquifers and impermeable formations underlying the Calvert. Extensive studies of the Coastal Plain sponsored by the Virginia Division of Mineral Resources have been conducted and published in various bulletins and reports (Teifke and Onuschak 1973; Coch 1971).

4.1.2.6.2 Geologic Resources.

There are no unique or economic geological resources in the shipyard region. (Teifke and Onuschak 1973; Coch 1971)

4.1.2.6.3 Seismic and Volcanic Hazards.

Seismic risk related to structural damage may be represented in the United States by a relative scale of 0 through 4, with Zone 0 no seismic hazard and Zone 4 expected to encounter the greatest seismic risk. The Naval Shipyard is located in Zone 1. (UBC 1991) No volcanic hazards exist. The Uniform Seismic Classification provides a means for a comparable assessment of the seismic hazard at alternate sites. If the Record of Decision identifies this site for the interim storage of fuel, then a detailed seismic evaluation would be conducted. More detailed information on design basis considerations for storage of naval spent nuclear fuel at the shipyard is in Attachment D.

4.1.2.7 Air Resources

4.1.2.7.1 Climate and Meteorology.

The Tidewater area is nearly surrounded by water with Chesapeake Bay to the north, Hampton Roads to the west, and the Atlantic Ocean to the east. The area contains numerous bays and is traversed by several rivers and creeks. The climate is essentially marine. The land is level and low with an average elevation of 13 feet.

Based on the 1951 through 1980 period, the average first occurrence of 32 degrees Fahrenheit is November 17 and the average last occurrence is March 23. Temperatures above 32 degrees Fahrenheit are infrequent and below zero temperatures are almost nonexistent. The proximity to water modifies the invading air masses. Summer winds are predominantly from the southwest, pulling large amounts of moisture up from the Gulf of Mexico. During the summer months, afternoon thunderstorms due to daytime heating of the near surface air are frequent. Large areas of high pressure frequently stall just east of the southern coast. This can lead to extended periods of hot, humid weather with very little precipitation and few thunderstorms. Thunderstorms occasionally spawn isolated tornadic activity through the area. Although locally destructive, the tornados move through the area rapidly along with

Precipitation is distributed fairly evenly throughout the year and totals above average. Snowfall is usually light and is frequently gone within 24 hours. Large storms occur but are infrequent. July and August are generally the wettest months due to weather patterns while November and December are the driest. Average monthly precipitation is 3.5 inches. Weather can begin as early as March but more frequently occurs in April. This is a period between winter and summer weather patterns. During the spring, summer-like weather, and cold-humid weather can and frequently do occur during the same week. Mild weather usually extends through Thanksgiving.

Winter climate is primarily determined by the latitude of the upper level jet stream which steers eastwardly moving arctic air masses. Usually, winters are mild with alternating cold and warm weather. Winter rains are frequent due to the frontal boundaries formed by storm cells to the north and moisture-laden Gulf air moved into the area by a high-pressure system from the south. North to northeast winds predominate during the winter months. Northeasterly winds affect the Atlantic Coast from the Carolinas northward. Strong northeasterly winds and cause localized flooding of low-lying areas. Since the Chesapeake Bay is shallow, wind can move large amounts of water from the north end of the bay southward. When water level is combined with a high tide, flooding occurs. Added to this is the poor drainage due to the low elevation. High tide levels 6 to 8 feet above normal during major northeasterly winds along with major beach erosion from Cape Henry to Cape

4.1.2.7.2 Air Quality.

An area can be designated by the Environmental Protection Agency as having air quality that is better than defined by the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (attainment) or as exceeding one or more of those standards (nonattainment for one or more pollutants). The Code of Federal Regulations, Title 40, Part 81, states that the A Region, in which the shipyard is located, is in marginal nonattainment for ozone and national standards for total suspended particulate matter and SO₂. The area has no nonattainment for carbon monoxide and NO₂. The nearest Class I Area is the Swanquarter National Area, approximately 161 kilometers (100 miles) from the shipyard.

4.1.2.7.3 Existing Radiological Conditions.

Radiological facilities at all naval shipyards are designed to ensure that there are no uncontrolled discharges of radioactivity into the environment. Radiological controls are exercised to preclude exposure of working personnel to activity exceeding federal limits. Air exhausted from radiological work facilities passes through high-efficiency particulate air filters and is monitored during discharges. The annual radioactivity emissions from the shipyards do not result in any measurable radiation to the general public. Calculations of site radioactive airborne emissions for 1992 have been described in Attachment F. These calculations have shown that emissions from the shipyard result in an effective dose equivalent of less than 0.1 mrem per year to a general public.

4.1.2.8 Water Resources

4.1.2.8.1 Surface Water.

Hampton Roads is a relatively wide body of water formed by the confluence of the James, Elizabeth, and Nansemond Rivers. It connects on the east to Chesapeake Bay. The natural depth of the main part of Hampton Roads ranges from 20 to 30 feet; however, the harbor shoals to less than 10 feet toward shore. Two channels are maintained of 40 feet by dredging. The currents in Hampton Roads are influenced considerably by the tide and have a velocity of 0.5 m/sec.

The Elizabeth River is the most downriver tributary of the James River. The river system is comprised of a main stem, running from Sewell's Point and Craney Island to Pinner Points, plus four tributary arms: the Lafayette River and the Eastern, West Branches.

Deep navigation channels are maintained from Hampton Roads up the main stem and the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River. Project depths decrease from 45 feet at the mouth between the Norfolk Naval Shipyard and Newton Creek. The channels in the Eastern Branch and Lafayette River are maintained at 25 feet, 14 feet, and 8 feet, respectively.

The Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River is an estuarine body of water in which tidal action brings about a mixing of salt and fresh water. This portion of the river is a heavily sediment-laden body of water. The movement of the water is affected by the shape of the channel and the influence of tidal action.

Located along the river banks and in the surrounding territory are extensive naval bases and docking facilities, pleasant exurbs and yacht clubs, dry docks and shipping terminals, the commercial centers of Norfolk and Portsmouth, relatively quiet areas and the Great Dismal Swamp.

Neither the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River, nor the Hampton Roads Harbor is commercially navigable. Within these waterbodies, it has been established by the Virginia Department of Health that it shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to take shellfish from the condemned areas for any reason.

Norfolk Naval Shipyard is located on the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River in an industrialized area of the city of Portsmouth, Virginia, 8 miles upstream from the confluence of the James and Elizabeth Rivers. The Southern Branch is a deep-water river which provides heavy industry (i.e., ship repairs, gas and oil distribution, etc.) in the vicinity. In addition, the Southern Branch is a major north-south part of the Army Corps of Engineers Waterway System.

The Southern Branch is brackish and is not a source of drinking water. The segment of the Elizabeth River-Norfolk Naval Shipyard waterbody extends from Jones and Paradise Creeks to the Downtown Tunnel (Route 264). Shellfish condemnations impact 429 acres. This is due to historical sediment toxic contamination, and the potential for pollutants of bacteria (Virginia WCB 1992a). Sixteen industrial facilities discharge to the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River main stem and tributaries. Surveys of finfish in the Elizabeth River (Southern Branch) show obvious signs of stress and/or disease, especially among those living on the contaminated bottom sediments. Many fish have external lesions, fin erosion and cataracts.

The bottom sediments of the Elizabeth River are highly contaminated with a variety of organic and inorganic compounds at several locations (Virginia WCB 1992a). The major contamination problems occur in the highly industrialized Southern Branch. Of particular concern among the synthetic organic compounds found in the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River are polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH's). They are long-lived, and many are mutagenic and carcinogenic. PAH's are found in a variety of sources including creosote, coal tar, fly ash and bottom ash from coal-fired boilers, roofing tar, asphalt oil, petroleum oil, diesel soot, and wood stove soot. One source of this class of compounds in the Elizabeth River has been attributed to the wood-preserving facilities, which have been in operation along the Southern Branch since the early 1900's.

The James River-Hampton Roads waterbody encompasses the James River main stem and tributaries from Old Point Comfort to Willoughby Spit (northern border) to the west end of the Island (eastern border), west to Barbel Point (southern border), and north to Boat Point, and Mill Creek. Shellfish condemnations impact 17,281 acres (Virginia WCB 1992a). This portion of the James River main stem receives additional discharges at least half of which are seafood preparation waste discharges.

Surrounding the Nansemond River watershed are seven lakes (Lake Kilby, Lake Cokes, Lake Meade, Speights Run Lake, Lake Prince, Lake Burnt Mills, and Western Branch Reservoir) which are used as public water supply sources for the surrounding cities. Lake Tassie, in the city of Norfolk, is the closest lake and is approximately 7 miles from Norfolk Naval Shipyard. Other lakes are approximately 20 miles to the west of the shipyard.

The Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM COMMUNITY-PANEL No. 515529 0060 B) shows that most of the Norfolk Naval Shipyard, including the location considered for the storage of spent nuclear fuel, is in the 100-year floodplain. However, the location considered for the storage of spent nuclear fuel is not in a high-hazard area (as defined by Title 10, Part 1022 Federal Regulations for floodplains) which is an area where frequent flooding occurs.

4.1.2.8.2 Groundwater.

Shallow groundwater underlies the whole region. Designated as the Columbia aquifer, it is composed primarily of sediments that were deposited up to 10,000 years ago as channel fill and river or ocean terraces. The aquifer is composed of sand, silt, and clay and is unconfined throughout the region. The saturated thickness of the aquifer is about 80 feet in the Tidewater area.

A consolidated layer of silty clay underlies the water table and separates it from the underlying formations. In general, water flow within the Columbia aquifer is from the topography toward the ocean.

topographic lows. This flow distribution is modified locally by the pumping of well borrow pits, and by the upper contours of the Yorktown Formation. As a result, the wells can vary drastically in only a few hundred yards.

Underlying the Columbia aquifer are seven distinct aquifers that originate east and progressively deepen as they proceed eastward. The names of the aquifers and their depths at the location of the shipyard are shown in Table 4.1.2-2.

The material confining the individual aquifers thickens from west to east so leakage between aquifers due to gravity or artesian pressure differentials decrease. Yorktown-Eastover aquifer is both confined and unconfined, depending on location, a fine to coarse sand interbedded with clay, shell, and sandy clay. The formation is about 100 feet in the vicinity of the shipyard. Where the aquifer is unconfined, it is a recharge to both the water table aquifer and to underlying confined flow systems.

Table 4.1.2-2. Aquifers that underlie the Columbia aquifer.

Aquifer	Depth Below Sea Level (ft)
Yorktown - Eastover	Sea Level
Chickahominy - Piney Point	200
Aquia	400
Brightseat	500
Upper Potomac	750
Middle Potomac	900
Lower Potomac	>1500

Artesian pressure existing in the confined portions of the Yorktown aquifer causes vertical leakage from the Yorktown aquifer into the water table aquifer. In the vicinity of the shipyard, the thickness of the confining layer is about 80 feet. The confining layer is blue-gray to green-gray clay interbedded with massive silty clay, fine sand, and clay fragments.

The Yorktown aquifer is a major source of domestic, commercial, and light industrial water. Yields are reported to range from 20 to 250 gallons per minute. This aquifer is the source of drinking and domestic consumption water for those localities within the region not served by municipal water systems. The groundwater aquifers have been extensively monitored and data published in numerous papers, bulletins, and reports (Siudyla et al. 1981; USGS 1999). Water quality is monitored by several state agencies and boards with annual reports submitted to Congress (Virginia WCB 1992b).

Since the underlying layers slope downward from west to east, the flow of groundwater in the vicinity of the shipyard generally trends from west to east, with localized modifications described.

Rivers and creeks bound the shipyard on the immediate east and south. The southern, eastern, and western branches of the Elizabeth River occur about 1.5 miles from the shipyard. These stream beds are below sea level and thus intercept the water table.

Where an aquifer is interfaced with surface streams or impoundments, the net flow of water is toward the surface water. In the case of the shipyard, the water table is intercepted on three sides (N, E, S) by a surface stream. This confines any contaminant infiltrating the aquifer to the area of and immediately adjacent to the shipyard property. With a net flow to gravity, any contaminant infiltrating from the shipyard area would percolate through into the water table under the shipyard and be intercepted by bounding surface water.

4.1.2.8.3 Existing Radiological Conditions.

The normal activities associated with current naval nuclear operations at all naval shipyards do not result in the intentional discharge of liquid effluent. However, there were occasions, primarily in the early 1960's, when levels of radioactivity were discharged with liquid effluent. In all cases, effluent was discharged within limits permitted under the then current limits imposed by state and federal agencies.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency Office of Radiation Program performed monitoring of the water, plant life, aquatic life, and sediment in the vicinity of the Naval Shipyard. The purpose of the survey was to determine if operations related to nuclear warship activities resulted in releases of radionuclides which could contribute to population exposure or contamination of the environment. "Radiological Surveys of Naval Station, the Norfolk Naval Shipyard, and Newport News Shipbuilding" (Sensinta Blanchard 1988) discusses the most recent Environmental Protection Agency monitoring. Pertinent conclusions are as follows:

1. "The trace amounts of cobalt-60 measured in the harbor sediments are significantly less than observed during the 1968 survey and exist about 5 inches beneath the

sediment, indicating that no detectable cobalt-60 has been deposited in the sediment since the 1968 survey.

2. In addition to cobalt-60, only radionuclides of natural origin plus trace cesium-137 from previous nuclear weapons testing were detected in any of the sediment samples.
3. No tritium or gamma-ray emitters, other than those occurring naturally, were detected in harbor water, or samples of sediment, water, and vegetation collected from the shipyard.
4. Drinking water samples contained no detectable levels of radioactivity other than those occurring naturally.
5. The shoreline gamma-ray surveys failed to detect any elevated exposure level at one location where the levels are attributed to the naturally occurring radionuclides that exist in granite rock.
6. The levels and locations of radioactivity identified and the limited media monitoring data found show that operations related to nuclear-powered warship activities result in no discernible adverse effects on public health or the environment."

Environmental monitoring is conducted by the shipyard. The results of this monitoring program corroborate the Environmental Protection Agency's conclusions.

4.1.2.9 Ecological Resources

4.1.2.9.1 Terrestrial Ecology.

The shipyard area is highly developed and its surface is about 95% covered with impervious materials. The few green areas are outside the control area and have been extensively graded. Landscaping consists primarily of turf grass and trees. The oldest growth areas are in the vicinity of the Shipyard Commander's residence. Appendix B of the "Land Management Plan for Norfolk Naval Shipyard" (NFEC 1990) lists those plants known to or likely to occur on the shipyard or its annexes.

The shipyard bird population consists of urban species commonly found in southern Virginia. These species include pigeons, jays, robins, finches, chickadees, starlings, blackbirds, grackles, cowbirds, chimney swifts, martins, mocking birds, cardinals, terns, and several species of gulls. There are few mammals that inhabit the shipyard; populations are limited. Squirrels and other rodents common to developed areas are present.

The shipyard offers little refuge for reptiles and amphibians. Non-poisonous and the occasional black snake are found in vegetated areas and in warehouse structures. Newts, salamanders, and other semi-aquatic reptiles can be found in wet areas where suitable habitat exists. Sightings are infrequent due to the dispersed habitat location and small number of suitable sites.

The Tidewater area is part of the Mid-Atlantic flyway. Migratory species pass through the area or over-winter in the numerous bays, sounds, creeks, and wetlands that occur in the region. During migratory periods and over the winter, more than a hundred species of waterfowl are observed in the region. Since there is no suitable habitat or forage areas on the shipyard, the appearance of migrating species is rare.

4.1.2.9.2 Wetlands.

There are no freshwater wetlands on the main shipyard site where naval spent nuclear fuel would be stored. The majority of the shipyard is developed and has an impervious surface. National Wetlands Inventory Maps (DOI 1986) show a number of wetlands along the banks of Paradise, Blows, and St. Juliens Creeks. There are no wetlands along the western shoreline of the Southern Branch from its mouth to Paradise Creek (Silberhorn and Dewing 1989). The total wetland area along Paradise Creek is, according to the reference, about 422 acres.

Blows Creek wetlands occur along the Southern Branch and encompass about 2.54 miles. St. Juliens Creek tidal marshes are subdivided into eight locations and total about 1,000 acres (Silberhorn and Dewing 1991).

4.1.2.9.3 Aquatic Ecology.

The majority of the shipyard property is located on land that has been filled to raise its elevation above the level of the river. The shipyard shoreline is protected by concrete bulkheads and finger piers built on concrete pilings. Wooden wharves and quays are also present.

replaced over the years with concrete structures. Marine vegetation along the ship limited to red and green algae. As reported in Section 4.1.2.8.1, the marine life Branch is limited due to the pollution in the river from sewage treatment plants and industries. There is no commercial fishing and only limited sport fishing in the S the contiguous shipyard waters, there is no fishing due to a security buffer zone and heavy traffic along the river.

Estuarine wetland ecology is principally vegetative and consists of Saltmarsh Reed grass. The abundance of Reed grass in these areas is indicative of disturbed been filled or are impacted by overloads of upland sediment.

Herring gulls, several species of terns, brown pelicans, egrets, herons, corm migratory bird species common along the Atlantic flyway take refuge in or feed on r marshland environments and biota.

The waters adjoining the shipyard are frequently dredged to maintain the dept piers, at the entrance to dry docks, and in the turning basin. The periodic removal limits the habitat of benthic organisms common in other parts of the lower bay and

4.1.2.9.4 Endangered and Threatened Species.

There are no critical habitats as defined in 50CFR424.02 within the 15-mile tidal influence area. Several federally designated endangered (E) species have been identified as existing in the vicinity. The exact habitats could not be located; however, surveys of the area have not identified any property. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service lists the following species as endangered in the South Hampton Roads area from Suffolk eastward (DOI 1990).

1. Loggerhead turtle (T)
2. Bald eagle (E)
3. Peregrine falcon (E)
4. Piping plover (T)
5. Red-cockaded woodpecker (E)
6. Eastern cougar (E)
7. Dismal Swamp southeastern shrew (T)
8. Northeastern beach tiger beetle (T)

No state rare, threatened, or endangered species exist within the 15-mile tidal (Buhlmann and Ludwig 1992).

There are no marine mammals that are routinely found within the lower Chesapeake its tributaries. Manatees and Atlantic Bottlenose dolphins occasionally appear in Hampton Roads; however, their presence is transient. Stranding and grounding of porpoises and dolphins as well as carcasses of dead animals occasionally appear along from Virginia's Eastern Shore to the North Carolina Outer Banks but sightings of whales or near the ocean shore are rare.

Various oceanic turtles may nest along the sandy beaches surrounding the Chesapeake and Outer Banks. The highly developed regions along the Elizabeth River do not provide nesting sites for these marine reptiles.

4.1.2.10 Noise

Norfolk Naval Shipyard is an existing industrial-type environment characterized by truck and auto traffic; yard cranes and related internal combustion engine powered operating transmission lines for steam, air, and water along with associated pumps. The eastern shoreline of the Southern Branch contains private shipyards, manufacturing bulk material handling and storage terminals. These activities, along with Norfolk add to the ambient noise levels of the river corridor.

Intervening structures and distance separate adjacent residential areas to the immediately west of the shipyard from the waterfront ship repair activities and thus generated by those activities.

4.1.2.11 Traffic and Transportation

Within the city of Portsmouth, three main corridors, High Street, Portsmouth George Washington Highway serve as access to suburban commercial and residential areas. The Downtown and Midtown tunnels link Portsmouth and Norfolk and join via connecting roads

regional interstate highway network consisting of I-64, I-262, I-464, and I-664. I Hampton Roads while I-664 crosses the lower James River linking the southside cities of News and Hampton on the peninsula. The bridge-tunnels allow the unimpeded flow of commercial ships and warships through Hampton Roads.

Tidewater Regional Transit provides bus services throughout Portsmouth and No limited public transportation is available in Chesapeake and Virginia Beach.

The Norfolk International Airport provides commercial scheduled passenger and service to major connecting hubs. Most private and general aviation not operating International operate from airports in Chesapeake, Suffolk, and Virginia Beach.

A passenger ferry across the Elizabeth River connects the Portsmouth downtown Waterside Berths on the Norfolk side. This ferry service is primarily designed for recreational passengers rather than commuter service.

Norfolk Southern and CSX corporations operate extensive networks of rail transport freight and bulk cargo. Norfolk and Newport News are the nation's largest terminal and, along with Portsmouth, have a large capacity for containerized and bulk cargoes by CSX and Norfolk Southern subsidiaries serve the shipyard at the north and south and St. Juliens Creek annexes.

Naval spent nuclear fuel has been removed from Navy nuclear-powered ships and to the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory Expanded Core Facility (ECF) for examination evaluation as a routine part of their operating cycle. Naval spent nuclear fuel shipments from Naval Shipyard to ECF were initiated in 1965. Since that time, 10 shipments of naval fuel originating at Norfolk Naval Shipyard have been made to ECF. The naval fuel is shipped by rail. Attachment A provides a list of these shipments made to date by y A also contains detailed descriptions of the shipping containers used for naval spent fuel shipments from shipyards.

Norfolk Naval Shipyard has 30 miles of paved roads, 19 miles of railroad tracks and docks.

4.1.2.12 Occupational and Public Health and Safety

4.1.2.12.1 Occupational Radiological Health and Safety. The Navy has well established and

effective Occupational Safety, Health, and Occupational Medicine programs at all of regard to radiological aspects of these programs, the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program reduce to as low as reasonably achievable the external exposure to personnel from it associated with naval nuclear propulsion plants. These stringent controls on minimum radiation exposure have been successful. No civilian or military personnel at Navy exceeded the federal accumulated radiation exposure limit which allows 5 rem exposure of age beyond age 18. Since 1967, no person has exceeded the federal limit which is 3 rem per quarter year and since 1980, no one has received more than 2 rem per year associated with naval nuclear propulsion plants. The average occupational exposure monitored at all shipyards is 0.26 rem per year. The average lifetime accumulated from radiation associated with naval nuclear propulsion plants for all shipyard personnel monitored is 1.2 rem. (NNPP 1994a) This corresponds to the likelihood of a cancer in 2083.

The Navy's policy on occupational exposure from internal radioactivity is to exposure to personnel from internal radioactivity. The limits invoked to achieve it one-tenth of the levels allowed by federal regulations for radiation workers. As a policy, no civilian or military personnel at shipyards have ever received more than federal annual occupational exposure limit from internal radiation exposure caused associated with naval nuclear propulsion plants.

For work operations involving the potential for spreading radioactive contaminants are used to prevent personnel contamination or generation of airborne radioactive controls for contamination are so strict that precautions sometimes have had to be tracking contamination from fallout and natural sources into radiological areas because control limits used in these areas were well below the levels of fallout and not occurring outside in the general public areas. A basic requirement of contamination monitoring all personnel leaving any area where radioactive contamination could pose Workers are trained to survey themselves (i.e., frisk), and their performance is checked by control personnel. Frisking of the entire body is required, normally using Geiger survey instruments. Major work facilities are equipped with portable monitors, which of hand-held friskers. These stringent controls to protect the workers and the public have proven effective in the past.

In 1991, researchers from Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, completed a comprehensive epidemiological study of the health of workers at the six naval shipyard private shipyards that service the Navy's nuclear-powered ships (Matanoski 1991). The study evaluated a population of 70,730 civilian workers over a period from 1957, the first overhaul of the first nuclear-powered submarine, USS NAUTILUS, through 1981, to determine whether there was an excess risk of leukemia or other cancers associated with exposure to gamma radiation.

The Johns Hopkins study found no evidence to conclude that the health of people working on U.S. naval nuclear-powered ships has been adversely affected by exposure to radiation incidental to this work. Additional studies are planned to investigate conditions and update the shipyard study with data beyond 1981.

The radiation exposure during normal operations at each shipyard for workers' radiation levels monitored is determined based on the annual radiation exposure of a worker for all shipyards based on Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program Report NT-94-2. (The total number of shipyard personnel monitored for radiation exposure associated with the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program has been about 164,000.)

Attachment A provides a discussion of the calculation of past health impacts from all transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens. The radiation estimation for workers for all historical shipments is 16.6 person-rem, which statistically equates to 0.0066 cancer fatalities. The maximum exposed individual (MEI) is a transportation worker who is closer to the shipment for a longer time than any member of the general population. Under the limiting assumption that the same worker is associated with every shipment throughout the historical period, this person would receive a total exposure of 7.5 rem over the 40-year period, or about 0.19 rem per year, which is within DOE standards for occupationally exposed individuals. The radiation exposures to workers correspond to much less than the risk of cancer, which means that it is unlikely that there have been any past health impacts from historical shipments of naval spent nuclear fuel over the entire history of such shipments.

4.1.2.12.2 Occupational Non-radiological Health and Safety.

In the non-radiological Occupational Safety, Health, and Occupational Medicine area, the Navy complies with Occupational Safety and Health Administration Regulations. The Navy policy is to maintain a healthful work environment at all naval facilities. Due to the varied nature of work there is a potential for certain employees to be exposed to physical and chemical hazards. Employees are routinely monitored during work and receive medical surveillance for such as exposure to high noise levels or heat stress. In addition, employees are monitored for exposure to chemical hazards such as organic solvents, lead, asbestos, etc., and when necessary are placed into medical surveillance programs for these chemical hazards.

Attachment A provides a discussion of the calculation of past health impacts from all transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens. Approximately 0.0066 cancer fatalities are estimated as a result of non-radiological sources (vehicle emissions) associated with shipments of spent nuclear fuel. This number includes both the workers and the general population. Since this number is much less than one, it is unlikely that there has been any non-radiological impact due to the historical shipment of naval spent nuclear fuel over the entire history of shipments.

The shipyard has an occupational health/preventive medicine unit and a branch (industrial dispensary). Personnel may also be taken to Portsmouth Naval Hospital General Hospital as needed.

The shipyard maintains two fire stations with approximately 60 personnel. The fire department is fully equipped for structural and industrial firefighting and hazardous material response.

The shipyard security force has approximately 100 personnel providing law enforcement services, emergency services, security clearances, and parking and traffic control at the Naval Shipyard Complex.

Relative to social services, military personnel receive assistance through the Portsmouth Naval Hospital and the Navy's Morale Welfare and Recreation Department.

4.1.2.12.3 Public Radiological Health and Safety.

In order to quantify the exposures resulting from normal shipyard radiological releases to the general public, detailed analyses based on conservative estimates of radioisotopic releases since releases began. At the time of the analyses, the detailed annual release values used in the analyses.

The GENII computer code (Napier et al. 1988) was used to calculate exposures beings due to the estimated radionuclide releases from normal operations at the shi

A person on the shipyard boundary at the location where the largest exposures received was used as the hypothetical maximally exposed off-site individual (MOI) f releases of radioactive material from stored fuel. The population data used to cal exposures were taken from 1990 census data provided by the U.S. Census Bureau. Met were obtained as described in Attachment F.

The hypothetical exposures calculated in Attachment F for the period 1995 thr adjusted from an annual basis (1995) to the historical basis by multiplying by 38 y of 1.7 to take into consideration variations in the number of ships and operations.

The calculated accumulated exposures through 1995 to the general population w of the site (about 1.5 million people) are 3.9 person-rem. To provide perspective, received due to natural radiation sources through 1995 are approximately 18 million based on 0.3 rem per person per year.

The results of environmental monitoring as described in Naval Nuclear Propuls Report NT-94-1 show that Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program activities had no disting on normal background radiation levels at site perimeters (NNPP 1994b).

Attachment A provides a discussion of the calculation of past health impacts all transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens. The radiation e general population for all historical shipments is 1.95 person-rem, which statistic 0.00098 cancer fatalities.

All of the radiation exposures to the general population correspond to much 1 incident cancer, which means that it is unlikely that there has been any past healt public due to all historical shipments of naval spent nuclear fuel over the entire shipments.

4.1.2.12.4 Public Non-radiological Health and Safety.

Portsmouth has three hospitals:

Portsmouth General Hospital, Maryview Hospital, and Portsmouth Naval Hospital.

Fire protection in Portsmouth is administered by local fire departments and f Portsmouth Fire Department has nine stations. Police protection services are provi Portsmouth.

Attachment A provides a discussion of the calculation of past health impacts all transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens. Approximately 0 estimated as a result of non-radiological sources (vehicle emissions) associated wi shipments of spent nuclear fuel. This number includes both the workers and the gen Since this number is much less than one, it is unlikely that there has been any non impact to the public due to all historical shipments of naval spent nuclear fuel ov of such shipments.

4.1.2.13 Utilities and Energy

The shipyard purchases all of its water from the city of Portsmouth.

Section 4.1.2.8.1

describes the sources of public water supplies for the region. A saltwater system and dry docks for cooling supplies to ship systems and for fire and flushing mains.

Shipyard and ship sewage effluents are discharged to the Hampton Roads sanita mains via the Portsmouth sewer system. Sewage treatment plants along the Southern lower James River receive and treat sewage from surrounding cities.

Electricity is purchased from Virginia Power Company transmission grids and i from the Refuse Derived Fuel Plant located just south of the shipyard and operated ern Public Service Authority. During periods of low demand, the Refuse Derived Fue electricity to Virginia Power. The Refuse Derived Fuel Plant also provides yard st and space heating.

Natural gas serves six buildings within the shipyard. Industrial uses includ tempering furnaces, various ovens and torches, laboratory burners, and cooking appl cafeteria. This gas is purchased from Commonwealth Gas Company which serves the Po area.

Shipyard freshwater usage is approximately 823 million gallons annually.

Electricity usage is about 20,000 megawatt hours annually.

4.1.2.14 Materials and Waste Management

Solid waste generated by the shipyard is collected by a private contractor.

Metals are

segregated on-site in specially marked dumpsters to be recycled by the Defense Mark Reutilization Office. Solid burnable waste is transferred to the Southeastern Publ where it is either compacted into fuel blocks for use in the Refuse Derived Fuel Pl at a regional landfill located in Suffolk. Once turned over, the Southeastern Publ determines the final disposition depending on the regional waste volume inventory a adjacent to the shipyard.

The Refuse Derived Fuel Plant provides electricity and steam to the shipyard power to the Virginia Power grid when excess capacity exists.

Liquid chemical wastes are collected, characterized, packaged, and labeled by then turned over to a licensed contractor for disposal.

Solid radioactive waste materials are packaged in strong, tight containers, s necessary, and shipped to burial sites licensed by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Comm under agreement with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Shipyards and other s are not permitted to dispose of radioactive solid wastes by burial on their own sit approximately 1333 cubic yards of routine low-level radioactive waste containing 15 shipped from the shipyard for burial.

Waste which is both radioactive and chemically hazardous is regulated under b Energy Act and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) as "mixed waste." Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program, concerted efforts are taken to avoid commingling chemically hazardous substances so as to minimize the potential for generation of m example, these efforts include avoiding the use of acetone solvents, lead-based pai in disposal containers, and chemical paint removers. Radioactive wastes, including chemically hazardous substances, are handled in accordance with long-standing Progr requirements. Such handling includes solidification to immobilize the radioactivit radioactive and chemically hazardous substances, removal of liquids from solids, an techniques. A determination is then made as to whether the resulting waste is haza of Program efforts to avoid the use of chemically hazardous substances in radiologi activities typically generate only a few hundred cubic feet of mixed waste each yea amount of mixed waste, along with limited amounts of mixed waste from Program work prior to 1987, will be stored pending the licensing of commer- cial treatment and disposal facilities.

An extensive storm drain system exists on the shipyard to remove the runoff f tion. Outfalls empty into the Southern Branch, Paradise Creek, and St. Juliens Cre outfalls serving the shipyard property have been mapped and located.

4.1.3 PORTSMOUTH NAVAL SHIPYARD: KITTERY, MAINE

4.1.3.1 Overview

Portsmouth Naval Shipyard is located in York County, in the southeast corner shown on Figure 4.1.3-1. The Portsmouth Naval Shipyard is located in Portsmouth Ha estuary of the Piscataqua River. This river flows between the states of Maine and The shipyard is located on Seavey Island near the mouth of the river and is separat Portsmouth, New Hampshire, by the main channel of the Piscataqua River and from Kit by a back channel. Access to the shipyard is provided by two bridges from the Kitt

4.1.3-2 provides a shipyard site map.

Seavey Island has an area of 278 acres. The center reference point on the is 70y44'22" longitude and 43y04'56" latitude. The Portsmouth Harbor and its tributar extensively for fishing, lobstering, and recreational boating. The port of Portsmo importing salt and petroleum products, as well as exporting a variety of products, lumber.

4.1.3.2 Land Use

At the mouth of the Piscataqua River, several creeks and the river converge a Atlantic Ocean. The shipyard has been developed over time by filling in between fi and building a rock causeway to the approximately 5-acre undeveloped Clarks Island.

To the north, across the back channel, is the predominantly low-density resid of Kittery, Maine. Kittery's land along the river and back channel is virtually al residential use. The exceptions are two commercial areas located on Badgers Island intersection of Routes 103 and 236 and several public use areas consisting of playg The main commercial land use area is located along Route 1 and the Route 1 bypass. Kittery's land further north is undeveloped due to natural constraints. The develo primarily designated for low-density residential use.

Figure 4.1.3-1. Location of Portsmouth Naval Shipyard within New Hampshire and M Castle in the state of New Hampshire. Portsmouth's waterfront is nearly fully deve played an important role in the growth and prosperity of Portsmouth since it was se Strawberry Banke in 1623. Today there are areas of commercial, industrial, residen public/semi-public land use along the river.

Further inland, Portsmouth has large undeveloped land areas. Development on land is constrained by wetlands and other natural factors; however, there still rem to accommodate future development.

Directly south of the shipyard is a large body of estuarine water containing islands. These islands are either undeveloped or have low-density housing.

The town of New Castle is predominantly developed with housing and is the loc Coast Guard Station. Other land uses on the island town include commercial, public land.

4.1.3.3 Socioeconomics

Portsmouth Naval Shipyard is located in the small town of Kittery, Maine, a r England that consists predominantly of small rural towns.

Portsmouth, New Hampshire is the closest urban municipality to the shipyard. population of about 22,300, it is also the largest municipality in the area. Other within the area include Sanford and Biddeford in Maine and Rochester and Dover in N They have populations of approximately 20,500, 20,700, 26,600, and 25,000, respecti Maine has a population of about 64,400. This major southern Maine urban center is miles north of the shipyard. Also, the city of Boston, Massachusetts, with a popul 574,300, is located approximately 50 miles south of the shipyard. Figure 4.1.3-3 p population distribution rose centered on the shipyard and covering a 50-mile radius

Figure 4.1.3-3. 50-mile population distribution around Portsmouth Naval Shipyard On the Maine side of the Piscataqua River, the increase in population in York Count 1990 was 24,848 which was a 17.8% increase. On the New Hampshire side of the river municipalities within Rockingham County gained in population through the 1980 to 19 There was a gain of 55,500 people or about a 29.2% increase.

Portsmouth Naval Shipyard is located within the "seacoast region" which is de job centers. Each center includes the smaller communities adjacent to them.

The seacoast region is made up of the Portsmouth, Exeter-Epping, Hampton, Dov worth, and Rochester centers in New Hampshire and the Kittery and Biddeford centers

Historically, the economy of the seacoast region has been based on manufactur shoes, and marine vessels were for many years the most important products of the re Shipbuilding and ship repair, primarily at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, have maintain role in the economy. Textiles and shoe manufacturing have declined over the past 3 been supplemented in part by plastics, electronics, and metals industries. The wag employers are low relative to those paid at the shipyard. On balance, the seacoast experienced consistent declines in manufacturing employment in recent years.

Non-manufacturing employment, especially in the trade and service sectors, is The Hampton, Portsmouth, Kittery, and Biddeford job centers have experienced econom vacation resorts. Communities close to Massachusetts such as Hampton and Exeter-Ep grown as part of the Boston metropolitan area.

The city of Portsmouth is the seacoast region's trade and cultural center and tion market for points in northern New England.

The generally healthy state of Portsmouth's economy is reflected by its excel situation. As of July 1993, the unemployment rate was just 3.4% compared to the na of 6.9%. The civilian labor force in the Portsmouth labor market area numbered 14, 1993.

The majority of the labor force that would be employed at the shipyard for co operation of the naval spent nuclear fuel area would be expected to reside within a the shipyard. The calculated total population, labor force, and employment within base year (1995) are presented in Table 4.1.3-1. Projections of employment and pop years beyond 1995 have not been presented because, as discussed in Section 5, the n additional jobs that might be created at the shipyard under any alternative could b

Table 4.1.3-1. Regional employment factors at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

Regional Employment	Regional Labor Force	Regional Population
115,230	121,550	258,900

Portsmouth has the distinction of being the only natural deep-water harbor be and Portland, making it a major factor in New England seaborne commerce. Modern ye facilities, an established Foreign Trade Zone, and reliable container ship service

The chief commodities transported through the port are petroleum products whi over 90 percent of the marine commerce shipped. Large quantities of limestone (gyp are also received. The chief products shipped out of Portsmouth are petroleum prod scrap. Commercial fishing in the area represents a multi-million dollar industry.

As of 1994, the region's largest employer, with approximately 4900 employees, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. The shipyard is the largest employer in the states of M Hampshire. The 1993 payroll amounted to \$228 million.

Other contributing factors to the region's economic development include Pease Authority in Newington, the University of New Hampshire in Durham, and the New Hamp Vocational/Technical College in Stratham.

The Kittery-York labor market area in York County had 86,165 people in the ci force as of July 1993 and an unemployment rate of 2.3% for July 1993. The majority labor force was employed in non-farm related jobs including manufacturing, transpor utilities, wholesale and retail trade, finances, services, and government.

Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in M Populations and Low-Income Populations," requires federal agencies to identify and appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effe programs and activities on minority and low-income populations. An adverse environ a deleterious environmental impact determined to be unacceptable or above generally A disproportionately high impact refers to an impact (or risk of an impact) in a lo minority community that significantly exceeds that on the larger community. Data a U. S. Census of 1990 have been used to develop information on the locations of mino income populations within approximately 50 miles of the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, the population data provided in Figure 4.1.3-3.

Figure 4.1.3-4 shows the locations of populations in which minority membershi average within the 50-mile radius by more than 20 percentage points and populations more than 50 percent minority members. These populations have been identified foll approach developed by the Environmental Protection Agency which, for purposes of en justice evaluation, defines minority communities as those which have percentages of than the average in the region analyzed (EPA 1994).

Figure 4.1.3-5 shows the locations of populations which have more than 25 per members living in poverty, reflecting a common definition of low-income communities The U. S. Census Bureau characterizes persons in poverty as those whose income is l "statistical poverty threshold." For the 1990 census, this threshold was based on \$12,500 per household.

4.1.3.4 Cultural Resources

The Portsmouth-Kittery area has been part of the country's history since its v Many structures and sites from the late seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth cen survived within the framework of new development over the years, especially in the Portsmouth. Considered as a group, these preserved structures and sites constitute cultural, and educational resource, and a heritage with increasing value to future Portsmouth-Kittery vicinity.

Figure 4.1.3-4. Minority population distribution within 50 miles of the Portsmou

On November 17, 1977, the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard Historic District on the National Register of Historic Pl includes 54 acres of land, and 59 buildings and structures. The shipyard qualified Status because of its shipbuilding and repair function throughout the history of th unique industrial site, and its historical and architecturally interesting building colonial period to the present day, this shipbuilding and repair site served first,

government, later, the revolutionary colonies, and finally, the United States through steam, and atomic power. Portsmouth Naval Shipyard represents one of the country's complete industrial operations. (Navy 1993a)

There are no known cultural resources in the area of the site where naval spent fuel would be stored. Due to the historic nature of the shipyard, there might be areas of interest. In the past, artifacts from the early shipbuilding era have been uncovered in construction excavation.

4.1.3.5 Aesthetic and Scenic Resources

The majority of the 303 acres (278 acres on the shipyard, 25 in Admiralty Village) up the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard is considered industrial use land. Although the figures on the breakdown of land classifications, it is estimated that over 75% of the shipyard is covered by either buildings or pavement. The area within the shipyard where naval spent fuel would be stored has low visual sensitivity since the area is an industrial site. Improved grounds include the parade grounds, athletic fields and various lawns dispersed throughout the shipyard. Improved grounds include several small picnic areas on the shipyard, the Jamaica Is. Recreation area, and the isolated grassy areas on the fringe of the streets and sidewalk areas of unimproved grounds (includes all other unpaved acreage not classified as improved) include the two freshwater ponds and the small beach front on what was on Seavey Island. Because Admiralty Village is a housing facility, what little open space remaining for development was utilized for recreational purposes (e.g., tennis courts) or landscape aesthetic value.

4.1.3.6 Geology

4.1.3.6.1 General Geology.

Portsmouth Naval Shipyard is located on Seavey Island in the Seaboard Lowland Section of the New England Province. This section has a low, undulating topography with low hills that are either bedrock with a light veneer of rocks or sand and glacial clays, or marine clay.

The general area near Portsmouth Naval Shipyard is relatively flat, rising gradually to the foothills of the White Mountains and dissected by numerous streams and rivers that have carved gorges 20 to 100 feet deep in the granite hills of the Mount Agamentash area. What remains of the mountain range in the southern and western portions of the area is scattered and isolated, high, smooth, weathered rock hills.

The thickness of the overburden of loose materials varies from 0 to 200 feet with 80% of the area having less than 50 feet depth to bedrock. A predominant characteristic soil in the area is the presence of the groundwater table near or at the surface.

4.1.3.6.2 Geologic Resources.

The physical geography of the general area near the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard is characterized by bedrock prominences surrounded by and dissected by stream courses of the Piscataqua River. Seavey Island, itself a rock knob, is one of the bedrock outcrops. The bedrock of Seavey Island is almost entirely the Kittery formation, a lime-silicate material consisting of chalky sandstone formed under heat and pressure, and gray sandstone shale from approximately 400 million years ago. (Navy 1993a)

There are no economic geologic resources at the shipyard.

4.1.3.6.3 Seismic and Volcanic Hazards.

Seismic risk related to structural damage may be represented in the United States by a relative scale of 0 through 4, with Zone 0 no seismic hazard and Zone 4 expected to encounter the greatest seismic risk. The shipyard is located in Zone 2A according to the "Uniform Building Code" (UBC 1991). No volcanoes exist. The Uniform Building Code seismic classification provides a means for a comparative assessment of the seismic hazard between the alternate sites. If the Record of Decision site for the interim storage of naval spent fuel, then a detailed seismic evaluation is required. More detailed information regarding the design basis considerations for storage of

fuel at the shipyard is provided in Attachment D.

Numerous small faults are to be seen in all rock units of the region. Quantitative abundance appears to be related to the brittleness of the rock containing them. No displacement of a few inches or feet. Only one was deemed to be sufficiently important to the geologic map. This is the Portsmouth fault which forms the Rye-Kittery contact approximately 9 miles. There are so few outcrops of the fault zone, and these are attempts were made to calculate the fault displacement. It is not known if the fault extends into the Piscataqua River and into Southeastern Maine. (Navy 1993b)

4.1.3.7 Air Resources

4.1.3.7.1 Climate and Meteorology.

The overall climate in the Portsmouth region is characterized as variable. Weather conditions can change dramatically over short intervals alternating frontal systems on a day-to-day basis, widely ranging daily and annual overall differences between the same seasons in different years.

Although this region is situated in the path of the prevailing westerly winds, it experiences a variety of air changes over the course of a year. These include: cool air from the north, warm land air from the Gulf states, and cool, damp air from the Atlantic. The combinations of, or switches between, these conditions that generally cause the characteristic weather.

Weather conditions, especially temperature, in the Portsmouth general area are typical of its maritime setting. The average daily temperature ranges from 80°F in July to 32°F in February. Temperatures can fluctuate outside this range, but they are not usually

Precipitation is fairly evenly distributed over the year, with 2.7 to 4.6 inches per month for a 42.6-inch annual total. On the average, there are about 130 days each year with a trace of precipitation. Most summer precipitation results from showers and, occasionally, thunderstorms. Winter precipitation is generally associated with stormy conditions moving up along the coast.

The cool Atlantic waters can produce extensive advection fog when warmer moisture is carried over the cool water. With any persistent easterly component in the wind direction often lies just offshore during the summer can reach the coastline. This situation is often the summer by local sea breezes. All months of the year have a fairly consistent amount of fog. Localized and continuous fog was observed at the former Pease Air Force Base an average of 10 days a year and was dense enough to restrict visibility to 1.2 miles (2 kilometers) or less at the time.

The predominant direction the wind blows from for the Portsmouth Harbor area is a combination of the western, southwestern, and southern sectors for a combined total of 40% of the time. Differences in wind characteristics occur on a seasonal basis with westerly winds dominating in the winter, and southwest-southeast winds increasing in frequency during the summer.

The wind speed averages 8.8 miles per hour in the Portsmouth Harbor area. Speeds in excess of 40 miles per hour, however, can occur any time of the year. During the winter, high speeds are normally caused by the northeast winds moving down the coast, while during the summer high winds are more often associated with thunderstorms or squall lines moving through the area. (Navy 1991b)

4.1.3.7.2 Air Quality.

A Reasonably Available Control Technology analysis was conducted in response to Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) regulations requiring the use of Reasonably Available Control Technology for Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) emission sources, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, which are located in ozone nonattainment areas. The Reasonably Available Control Technology analysis was conducted for point and fugitive source emissions at the shipyard.

The shipyard is a large industrial complex that emits VOC emissions from a variety of sources located throughout the site. Many of the sources of VOC are small and represent minor losses of emissions. VOC emissions from these operations are best controlled through the implementation of good housekeeping practices.

It has been determined that current VOC operations at the shipyard meet Reasonably Available Control Technology. Continuation of current practices will ensure that VOC emissions remain within the limits of the regulations.

from the shipyard are maintained at or below Reasonably Available Control Technology (Navy 1991b)

An area can be designated by the Environmental Protection Agency as having air quality that is better than defined by the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (attainment) or more of those standards (nonattainment for one or more pollutants). The Code of Federal Regulations, Title 40, Part 81, states that the Air Quality Control Region for the moderate nonattainment for ozone and is better than national standards for total suspended matter and SO₂. The area has no specific classification for carbon monoxide and NO_x. Class I Area to the shipyard is at the Presidential Range - Dry River Wilderness Area, 120 kilometers (75 miles) from the shipyard.

4.1.3.7.3 Existing Radiological Conditions Radiological facilities at all naval shipyards are

designed to ensure that there are no uncontrolled discharges of radioactivity in air. Radiological controls are exercised to preclude exposure of working personnel to air concentrations exceeding federal limits. Air exhausted from radiological work facilities is passed through high-efficiency particulate air filters and monitored during discharges. The annual radioactivity emissions from the shipyards do not result in any measurable radiation to the general public. Calculations of site radioactive airborne emissions for 1992 have been described in Attachment F. These calculations have shown that emissions of radionuclides from the shipyard result in an effective dose equivalent of less than 0.1 mrem per year to a general public.

4.1.3.8 Water Resources

4.1.3.8.1 Surface Water.

A large portion of York County's surface runoff from precipitation is drained by coastal basins reaching a short distance inland from the coast. The drainage channels used by runoff waters, varying from very small brooks to larger rivers, are in a southeasterly direction towards the Atlantic Ocean, but tributaries flow in various directions into the larger channels. The remainder of the area is drained by large basins that reach further inland. The Saco River basin and the Piscataqua-Salmon River are the largest drainage systems, the Mousam and Kennebec Rivers being considerable. In each of these drainage basins, surface water is held in swamps, ponds and lakes, both natural and man-made, and by dams for storage, water supply, and development of power.

The largest quantities of surface runoff occur during March, April, and May, with the heaviest occurring in August and September. On the average, runoff is approximately 22 inches per year of annual precipitation. The combination of spring rains and snow melt not only increases stream flow, but also tends to replenish groundwater supplies.

The Piscataqua River, formed by the confluence of the Cocheco River and the Saco River, flows southeasterly for 13 miles until it enters the ocean at Portsmouth Harbor. The lower miles of the river is tidal. The river is one of the fastest flowing tidal waterways in the northeastern United States. Due to abrupt channel changes and the strong ebb currents, hazardous cross-currents and eddies are found in the main channel past the mouth of the river east of Pierce and New Castle Island. The average current velocity at full strength varies from about 2.6 to 4.0 knots, whereas in the back channels, the velocity varies from 1 to 2 knots.

The tide at Portsmouth occurs twice daily. The average tidal range from low water to high water is 8.4 feet. The average mean spring range is 9.7 feet and the average mean tide level is 10.1 feet.

New Hampshire and Maine have an agreement to maintain acceptable water quality in the Piscataqua River and both states regulate their effluent discharges into the river. The river is designated by the state of New Hampshire as a Class B segment and by the state of Maine as a Class B-1. New Hampshire Class B waters are acceptable for bathing, other recreational uses, and public water supply after adequate treatment. Maine Class B-1 waters are acceptable for all clean water uses including water contact recreation, fishing, shellfish harvest, propagation, and fish and wildlife habitat. (Navy 1984)

The Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM COMMUNITY-PANEL No. 230171 0008D) shows that the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard is not in a 100 or 500 year floodplain.

4.1.3.8.2 Groundwater.

Groundwater reserves constitute an important natural resource and are especially important to the more populated communities in the area. The majority of supply in the area is taken from lakes and rivers, with groundwater providing the requirements.

As much as 35% of the total area of York County is underlain by soils which are adapted to storage and yield of groundwater, but this figure is based only on surface localities, marine clays overlies deeper gravels and may represent excellent future favorable groundwater soils are measured to adequate depths, it is quite probable that groundwater yield areas will shrink to a few percent of the total land areas. (Nav

4.1.3.8.3 Existing Radiological Conditions.

The normal activities associated with current naval nuclear operations at all naval shipyards do not result in the intentional discharge of liquid effluent. However, there were occasions, primarily in the early 1960's, when levels of radioactivity were discharged with liquid effluent. In all cases, effluent was discharged in amounts less than permitted under the then current limits imposed by state and federal agencies.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency Office of Radiation Program performed monitoring of the water, plant life, aquatic life, and sediment in the vicinity of the Naval Shipyard. The purpose of the survey was to determine if operations related to nuclear warship activities resulted in releases of radionuclides which could contribute to population exposure or contamination of the environment. "Radiological Survey of Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Kittery, Maine and Environs" (Semler 1991) discusses the most recent Environmental Protection Agency monitoring data. Pertinent conclusions are as follows:

1. "No trace of Co-60 was detected in any samples at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. The radioactivity detected in the 40 sediment samples is attributed to natural radionuclides or fallout from past nuclear weapons testing.
2. Results of core sampling did not indicate any previous deposit of Co-60 in the sediment.
3. The water samples contained no detectable levels of radioactivity.
4. All radioactivity detected in the biota samples is attributed to naturally occurring radionuclides or fallout.
5. External gamma ray measurements did not detect any increased radiation exposure to the public above natural background levels.
6. Based on the survey, it was concluded that current practices regarding nuclear warship operations have resulted in no increases in radioactivity that would constitute a major exposure or contamination of the environment."

Environmental monitoring is conducted by the shipyard. The results of this monitoring program corroborate the Environmental Protection Agency's conclusions.

4.1.3.9 Ecological Resources

4.1.3.9.1 Terrestrial Ecology.

Portsmouth Naval Shipyard is an isolated land mass that has been highly developed. There is almost no remaining natural habitat in the shipyard area, with the exception being Clarks Island and the surrounding estuary. Even these areas are not free of human activities on the shipyard and nearby industry.

The estuary around the shipyard could be classified as an intertidal river system that supports a subtidal estuary community. The shoreline is characterized by steep, rocky banks and low-lying marshlands. The shipyard mass would probably be classified as a rock outcrop characterized by sparse vegetation of low-lying shrubs and herbs with scattered trees. The area would be classified as an acidic shoreline outcrop.

The vegetation of the shipyard is made up primarily of trees, shrubs, and grasses that have been planted for landscaping purposes. No naturally occurring species remain at the shipyard. Clarks Island has remained undeveloped, there is much greater diversity. It supports herbaceous and shrub species including rushes, skunk cabbage, jewelweed, spike grass, azalea, bittersweet, witch hazel, and dogwood. Several lowland tree species are also found on the island, including red maple, sycamore, willow, and poplar.

The fringe marshes along the shore of Admiralty Village and along portions of the shipyard are dominated by two species, cord grass (*Spartina alterniflora*) and salt hay (*Spartina patens*). Perennial grasses are year-round producers of vital organic matter that is distributed

food chain or deposited in the marsh as part of the underlying peat marsh.

Another important plant species present within the Piscataqua River and abundant shipyard is *Zostera marina*, commonly called eel grass. This submerged marine flower is vital to the health and productivity of the estuary. It provides habitat essential species such as crabs, fin fish, geese, and ducks. Eel grass beds are also preferred by lobsters. Other valuable functions of eel grass beds include: sediment trapping, and water filtration. This filtration ability also causes eel grass beds to be susceptible to excessive wastewater and fertilizer nutrients. Thus, eel grass is essential to the estuary and can also serve as an indicator of unhealthy conditions.

The limited amount of vegetation and the highly industrialized nature of the shipyard severely limit the availability of suitable habitat for most terrestrial species. Mammals on the shipyard, primarily those species that tend to live in close association with humans including: mice, squirrels, raccoons, and rabbits. There are white-tailed deer in the vicinity of the shipyard. However, there are no known resident species of deer on the shipyard. The Navy's 1993 "Natural Resources Management Plan for Portsmouth Naval Shipyard" contains a complete listing of all mammals and reptiles found in the southeastern New Hampshire region (Navy 1993b).

One notable ecological feature of the shipyard is its avian population. Birds are abundant in the region during the months of April and September, coinciding with the spring and fall seasons. The most common species in the area are the herring gull, American black double-crested cormorant, great blue heron, and American crow. The most abundant waterfowl species are Canada geese, greater scaup, bufflehead, and common goldeneye. Sea birds are the most abundant, and the year-round species include herring gulls and great black tern. The common tern can also be found in large numbers during the late spring and summer. There have also been known to frequent the area and there is one known nesting pair in the estuary vicinity. Appendix V. of the Navy's Natural Resources Management Plan contains a complete list of bird species common to the coastal region (Navy 1993b).

Clarks Island serves as a safe haven for a multitude of birds. It is an optimal migratory species in that it has rocky shore, a small beach area, and an inland area with wood and low-lying vegetation. It would not be unreasonable to expect that during spring and fall, Clarks Island would be utilized by a variety of songbird species along with coastal species mentioned above. (Navy 1993b)

4.1.3.9.2 Wetlands.

There are a few isolated marine wetlands in the vicinity of the shipyard and a small freshwater wetland on the shipyard. There are two freshwater ponds on the eastern side of the base, which have been characterized as palustrine, unconsolidated bottom, and flooded. There is a small area on the banks of the larger pond which is characterized by scrub shrub, broadleaf deciduous wetland. There are also two very minute areas of freshwater ponds which have been characterized as palustrine emergent, persistent, and wetlands. Two areas of estuarine wetlands are noted. Along the northeast shoreline of the shipyard, classified as intertidal, unconsolidated shore, mud bottom, and regularly flooded. A classification has been given to the northern shoreline of Clarks Island. Finally, on the southwest corner of Clarks Island and on the southwestern corner of the shipyard, there are areas of aquatic bed, algal, regularly flooded wetlands. It should be noted that these data are based on stereoscopic analysis of aerial photographs and cannot be considered completely accurate without ground truthing. (Navy 1993b)

Because natural drainage systems are limited, the shipyard has developed an effective water collection system and a drainage system to control flooding of the freshwater collection system eventually drains into the Piscataqua River, as does surface runoff.

4.1.3.9.3 Aquatic Ecology.

The waters surrounding the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard support a vast amount of marine life, from mammals to benthic organisms. Although the larger species, like whales and dolphins, are not common to the estuarine waters of the Portsmouth harbor, seals can be seen throughout the Great Bay region in winter and spring. The shipyard supports a number of commercially and recreationally important fin fish including Atlantic flounder, Atlantic silversides, alewives, and striped bass. A more complete list is contained in Appendix V. of the Navy's Natural Resources Management Plan (Navy 1993b).

These fish species rely heavily on a healthy benthic invertebrate population. Substrate type has a major impact on the number and variety of species that will be

particular area. The areas around the shipyard that have a rocky bottom will be po epibenthic organisms. Sandy or muddy bottoms can support both epibenthic and infau Some of the more common shellfish species include lobster, softshell clams, and blu more detailed list of benthic infauna can be found in Appendix V. . of the Navy's Management Plan (Navy 1993b).

The freshwater ponds on the shipyard also serve as a source of aquatic specie healthy benthic community within this ecosystem as well, including a variety of pol There is an abundance of vegetation in and around the ponds, which provides habitat fish. The most abundant fish species at this time is the smallmouth bass (Micropte which were stocked at one time. (Navy 1993b)

4.1.3.9.4 Endangered and Threatened Species.

In the coastal area from Portland, Maine to Portsmouth, New Hampshire, the threatened or endangered species include the Piping Tern, Bald Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Shortnose Sturgeon, and several species of whal turtles.

Appendix V. . of the Navy's Natural Resources Management Plan (Navy 1993b) i list of the threatened and endangered species of southeastern Maine and New Hampshi and New Hampshire officials were consulted and have determined that there is no evi that any threatened or endangered species reside on the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. mammals are afforded full federal protection under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (Navy 1993b).

4.1.3.10 Noise

Portsmouth Naval Shipyard is an existing industrial-type environment character from truck and auto traffic; ship loading cranes and related diesel-powered equipme continuously operating transmission lines for steam, fuel, water, and related compr and other liquids. In addition, new construction of buildings, reconstruction and activities for streets, buildings, parking lots, and ships all contribute to a perv environment.

4.1.3.11 Traffic and Transportation

The Kittery-Portsmouth area is very accessible to vehicular traffic due to th Interstate 95.

The major cities of Boston, Massachusetts and Portland, Maine are approximately one hour away. U.S. Route 1, a primary road, runs parallel to I-95 in a north-south di provides good access to the local communities along the seacoast. Because of the s on an island in the Piscataqua River, access is restricted to two federally owned b provide access directly to the shipyard's northern boundary from residential street Kittery. The majority of installation oriented traffic traverses five local second Avenue, Wenworth Street, and Shapleigh, Whipple, and Rogers Roads. Walker Avenue i primary access route to Bridge 1 and Whipple Road provides direct access to Bridge shipyard generated traffic is funneled from the two major highways, I-95 and U.S. R the local roadways and over the bridges.

Daily rail service, freight only, is provided to Portsmouth Naval Shipyard by Maine Railroad. The railroad connects Portsmouth with Manchester, New Hampshire; P Maine; and Boston, Massachusetts. Rail passenger service is available via AMTRAK c Boston.

Limited air service is provided at small airports at Eliot and Sanford, Maine and Rochester, New Hampshire. Pease Airport provides the opportunity for commuter Logan Airport in Boston, Massachusetts and to other cities. In addition, Portsmout hour travel time by car from major airports at Boston, Massachusetts and Portland,

The Portsmouth Harbor, about 3 nautical miles from deep water of the Atlantic accessible year round via the Piscataqua River channel. The river channel is 35 fe mean low water and 400 feet wide. There are about 500 vessel trips each way throug each year. About 150 of these trips involve ships with drafts greater than 18 feet trips are made by tankers. A Coast Guard Station is located at New Castle near the (Navy 1984)

Naval spent nuclear fuel has been removed from Navy nuclear-powered ships and

to the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory Expanded Core Facility (ECF) for examination evaluation as a routine part of their operating cycle. Naval spent nuclear fuel shipments from Portsmouth Naval Shipyard to ECF were initiated in 1959. Since that time, 43 shipments of spent nuclear fuel originating at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard have been made to ECF. Spent nuclear fuel was shipped by rail. Attachment A provides a list of these shipments by year. Attachment A also contains detailed descriptions of the shipping containers for spent nuclear fuel shipments from shipyards.

4.1.3.12 Occupational and Public Health and Safety

4.1.3.12.1 Occupational Radiological Health and Safety. Portsmouth Naval Shipyard and the

Admiralty Village housing area are physically located in York County, Kittery, Maine, on government-owned land. The U.S. Government provides its own police and fire protection for the shipyard, while Kittery provides police and fire protection for the Admiralty Village (Navy 1984).

The Navy has well established and effective Occupational Safety, Health, and Medicine programs at all of its shipyards. In regard to radiological aspects of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program policy is to reduce to as low as reasonably achievable exposure to personnel from ionizing radiation associated with naval nuclear propulsion. Stringent controls on minimizing occupational radiation exposure have been successful. Military personnel at Navy sites have never exceeded the federal accumulated radiation limit which allows 5 rem exposure for each year of age beyond age 18. Since 1967, no person has exceeded the federal limit which allows up to 3 rem per quarter year and since 1980 received more than 2 rem per year from radiation associated with naval nuclear propulsion. The average occupational exposure of each person monitored at all shipyards is 0.26 rem. The average lifetime accumulated radiation exposure from radiation associated with propulsion plants for all shipyard personnel who were monitored is 1.2 rem. (NNPP 1 corresponds to the likelihood of a cancer fatality of 1 in 2083).

The Navy's policy on occupational exposure from internal radioactivity is to reduce exposure to personnel from internal radioactivity. The limits invoked to achieve this are one-tenth of the levels allowed by federal regulations for radiation workers. As a policy, no civilian or military personnel at shipyards have ever received more than the federal annual occupational exposure limit from internal radiation exposure caused associated with naval nuclear propulsion plants.

For work operations involving the potential for spreading radioactive contaminants, controls are used to prevent personnel contamination or generation of airborne radioactivity. Controls for contamination are so strict that precautions sometimes have had to be taken to prevent contamination from fallout and natural sources into radiological areas because contamination control limits used in these areas were well below the levels of fallout contamination occurring outside in the general public areas. A basic requirement of control is monitoring all personnel leaving any area where radioactive contamination occurs. Workers are trained to survey themselves (i.e., frisk), and their performance is monitored by radiological control personnel. Frisking of the entire body is required, normally using hand-held survey instruments. Major work facilities are equipped with portable monitors in lieu of hand-held friskers. These stringent controls to protect the workers and contamination have proven effective in the past.

In 1991, researchers from Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, completed a comprehensive epidemiological study of the health of workers at the six naval shipyards that service the Navy's nuclear-powered ships (Matanoski 1991). The study evaluated a population of 70,730 civilian workers over a period from 1957, the first overhaul of the first nuclear-powered submarine, USS NAUTILUS, through 1981, to determine whether there was an excess risk of leukemia or other cancers associated with exposure to gamma radiation.

The Johns Hopkins study found no evidence to conclude that the health of people who work on U.S. naval nuclear-powered ships has been adversely affected by exposure to radiation incidental to this work. Additional studies are planned to investigate and update the shipyard study with data beyond 1981.

The radiation exposure during normal operations at each shipyard for workers is monitored. Radiation levels monitored is determined based on the annual radiation exposure of a worker for all shipyards based on Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program Report NT-94-2. The total number of shipyard personnel monitored for radiation exposure associated with the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program has been about 164,000.

Attachment A provides a discussion of the calculation of past health impacts all transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens. The radiation exposure to transportation workers for all historical shipments is 16.6 person-rem, which statistically equates to 0.0066 cancer fatalities. The maximum exposed individual (MEI) is a transportation worker since the workers are closer to the shipment for a longer time than any member of the general population. Under the limiting assumption that the same worker is associated with every shipment throughout the historical period, this person would receive a total exposure of 7.5 rem over the 40-year period, or about 0.19 rem per year, which is within DOE standards for occupationally exposed individuals. The radiation exposures to workers correspond to much less than one cancer fatality, which means that it is unlikely that there have been any past health impacts from historical shipments of naval spent nuclear fuel over the entire history of such shipments.

4.1.3.12.2 Occupational Non-radiological Health and Safety.

In the non-radiological Occupational Safety, Health, and Occupational Medicine area, the Navy complies with Occupational Safety and Health Administration Regulations. The Navy policy is to maintain a safe and healthful work environment at all Navy facilities. Due to the varied nature of facilities, there is a potential for certain employees to be exposed to physical and chemical hazards. These employees are routinely monitored during work and receive medical surveillance for hazards such as exposure to high noise levels or heat stress. In addition, employees are exposed to chemical hazards such as organic solvents, lead, asbestos, etc., and are placed into medical surveillance programs for these chemical hazards.

Attachment A provides a discussion of the calculation of past health impacts from all transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens. Approximately 0.0066 cancer fatalities are estimated as a result of non-radiological sources (vehicle emissions) associated with shipments of spent nuclear fuel. This number includes both the workers and the general population. Since this number is much less than one, it is unlikely that there has been any non-radiological impact due to the historical shipment of naval spent nuclear fuel over the entire history of such shipments.

4.1.3.12.3 Public Radiological Health and Safety.

In order to quantify the exposures resulting from normal shipyard radiological releases to the general public, detailed analyses based on very conservative estimates of radioisotopic releases since releases began have been provided. Detailed annual release values used in the analyses.

The GENII computer code (Napier et al. 1988) was used to calculate exposures to the general public due to the estimated radionuclide releases from normal operations at the shipyard.

A person on the shipyard boundary at the location where the largest exposures are received was used as the hypothetical maximally exposed off-site individual (MOI) for the calculation of exposures from releases of radioactive material from stored fuel. The population data used to calculate exposures were taken from 1990 census data provided by the U.S. Census Bureau. Methods were obtained as described in Attachment F.

The hypothetical exposures calculated in Attachment F for the period 1995 through 2035 were adjusted from an annual basis (1995) to the historical basis by multiplying by 38 years of 1.7 to take into consideration variations in the number of ships and operations.

The calculated accumulated exposures through 1995 to the general population within 10 miles of the site (about 2.4 million people) are 0.65 person-rem. To provide perspective, the annual radiation dose received due to natural radiation sources through 1995 is approximately 28 millirem based on 0.3 rem per person per year.

The results of environmental monitoring as described in Naval Nuclear Propulsion Plant Environmental Monitoring Report NT-94-1 show that Naval Nuclear Propulsion Plant activities had no distinction on normal background radiation levels at site perimeters (NNPP 1994b).

Attachment A provides a discussion of the calculation of past health impacts from all transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens. The radiation exposure to the general population for all historical shipments is 1.95 person-rem, which statistically equates to 0.00098 cancer fatalities.

All of the radiation exposures to the general population correspond to much less than one incident cancer, which means that it is unlikely that there has been any past health impact from historical shipments of naval spent nuclear fuel over the entire history of such shipments.

4.1.3.12.4 Public Non-radiological Health and Safety.

The Naval Medical Clinic located on the shipyard is used by Navy personnel and dependents for their general medical care. Medical problems that require treatment not available at the clinic are taken care of located in York, Maine and Portsmouth, New Hampshire. (Navy 1984)

Attachment A provides a discussion of the calculation of past health impacts from all transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens. Approximately 0.1 is estimated as a result of non-radiological sources (vehicle emissions) associated with shipments of spent nuclear fuel. This number includes both the workers and the general public. Since this number is much less than one, it is unlikely that there has been any non-radiological impact to the public due to all historical shipments of naval spent nuclear fuel over the years of such shipments.

4.1.3.13 Utilities and Energy

Portsmouth Naval Shipyard has its own Security, Fire, Public Works, and Supply departments.

Portsmouth Naval Shipyard obtains its electricity from Central Maine Power, but has a central power plant capable of producing all of the required steam and electricity. It is furnished by the town of Kittery, Maine. (Navy 1984)

The 1993 electrical power usage at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard was 76,262 megawatt-hours. The water usage at the shipyard was approximately 668 million gallons for 1993.

4.1.3.14 Materials and Waste Management

The shipyard's sewage is pumped to the town of Kittery's sewage treatment system.

Disposition of solid waste is as follows: 58% is recycled, 38% is burned for energy at the Maine Energy Recovery Incinerator, and 4% is landfilled at a licensed off-site facility. Hazardous waste is collected and shipped for off-site licensed treatment/disposal. Containerized hazardous waste is collected, consolidated, characterized, and labeled at the shipyard's state-licensed Storage Facility prior to manifesting to off-site licensed treatment/disposal/energy recovery. Oily waste is presently contracted for off-site disposal; however, an oily waste treatment system has been installed and should be on line in the near future. The effluent from treatment is discharged to the sewer, and the separated waste oil will be sold through the Defense Agency.

Solid radioactive waste materials are packaged in strong, tight containers, as necessary, and shipped to burial sites licensed by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission under agreement with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Shipyards and others are not permitted to dispose of radioactive solid wastes by burial on their own site. Approximately 74 cubic yards of routine low-level radioactive waste containing 2 curies from Portsmouth Naval Shipyard for burial.

Waste which is both radioactive and chemically hazardous is regulated under the Clean Air Act and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) as "mixed waste." In the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program, concerted efforts are taken to avoid combining radioactive and chemically hazardous substances so as to minimize the potential for generation of mixed waste. For example, these efforts include avoiding the use of acetone solvents, lead-based paints in disposal containers, and chemical paint removers. Radioactive wastes, including chemically hazardous substances, are handled in accordance with long-standing program requirements. Such handling includes solidification to immobilize the radioactivity of radioactive and chemically hazardous substances, removal of liquids from solids, and other techniques. A determination is then made as to whether the resulting waste is hazardous. Program efforts to avoid the use of chemically hazardous substances in radiological activities typically generate only a few hundred cubic feet of mixed waste each year. Amounts of mixed waste, along with limited amounts of mixed waste from program work prior to 1987, will be stored pending the licensing of commercial treatment and disposal.

4.1.4 PEARL HARBOR NAVAL SHIPYARD: PEARL HARBOR, HAWAII

4.1.4.1 Overview

The Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard is located in the Southeast Loch of Pearl Harbor, Hawaii (Figures 4.1.4-1 and 4.1.4-2). This shipyard consists of approximately 350 acres of Oahu is the third largest (593 square miles) in the State of Hawaii and is the population of the Hawaiian Islands. The 1990 Oahu population of approximately 820,000 residents is 75% of the state's total, and the City and County of Honolulu are the fastest growing state, with the highest population densities. Honolulu is the state capital, large business and government.

Pearl Harbor is a principal harbor for U.S. Navy activities and is the base of operations for the mid-Pacific. Figure 4.1.4-3 provides a Pearl Harbor site map. Its water area is 8 square miles and its docks accommodate all classes of Navy vessels up to the largest carriers. Ship maintenance and repairs are performed for all types of vessels in the Shipyard's dry docks and docking areas. All of the docks are located in the Southeastern exception of Dry Dock 4 which is adjacent to the Pearl Harbor main channel. (N

4.1.4.2 Land Use

There are six major land use activities at Pearl Harbor. Commander Naval Base (NAVBASE) hosts various operational commands that include the Headquarters for the Pacific Fleet and the Headquarters of the Third Fleet.

Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard provides the maintenance and repair services for the Navy. Naval Supply Center provides fuel, ammunition, other supplies, and storage. The other major land use activities are for: the Submarine Base; the Public Works Center; and the U.S. Navy Ship Maintenance Detachment.

Land use is designated as urban by the State of Hawaii, and military by the City of Honolulu. As can be seen in Figure 4.1.4-2, the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard is located in the Southeastern quadrant of the island. Figure 4.1.4-1 shows the remaining three quadrants. Other activities commonly occurring in the Pearl Harbor area include commercial fishing, tourism, and recreational facilities, along with a few retail centers. (Navy 1990b)

4.1.4.3 Socioeconomics

Oahu has experienced a high rate of economic growth over the past decade due to its location in the Pacific, which benefits both military defense and visitor industries. These industries have surpassed the two historical bases of the Hawaiian economy, which are pineapple and sugar production.

Oahu's visitor industry continues to prosper. Visitor arrivals to the state Department of Business and Economic Development to reach 7.8 million visitors by 2000, capturing approximately half of the visitors. This would represent a visitor growth rate of about 3.4 percent compounded annually.

Defense expenditures cushion Oahu's economy from the seasonal and cyclical fluctuations in tourism. The military is also a primary source of highly skilled employment opportunities for civilians. Pearl Harbor has the largest concentration of Department of Defense employees in the state, with about 7,700 shore-based Navy personnel and 10,900 civilians, for a total of 18,600. In 1993, shipyard employment accounted for about 5,000 of the total. The distribution within 50 miles of Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard is shown in Figure 4.1.4-1.

Unemployment figures in the state and for the island of Oahu are among the lowest in the nation. Oahu is at a 2.3 percent unemployment level as of October 1989, reflecting an economy that prevailed in the latter half of the 1980s. With the outlook for a favorable expansion, job growth is currently expected to equal or better the 2 to 3 percent annual increase in Oahu's work force. (Navy 1990b)

Figure 4.1.4-4. Population distribution within 50 miles of Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard. The operation of the naval spent nuclear fuel area would be expected to reside on the island. The calculated total population, labor force, and employment within this region for the year 2000 are presented in Table 4.1.4-1. Projections of employment and population for the year 2000 have not been presented because, as discussed in Section 5, the number of additional jobs that could be created at the shipyard under any alternative could be small.

Table 4.1.4-1. Regional employment factors at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard.

Regional Employment	Regional Labor Force	Regional Population
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393,260

407,530

812,190

Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minorities and Low-Income Populations," requires federal agencies to identify and appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects programs and activities on minority and low-income populations. An adverse environmental impact determined to be unacceptable or above generally acceptable levels. A disproportionately high impact refers to an impact (or risk of an impact) in a minority community that significantly exceeds that on the larger community. Data from the U. S. Census of 1990 have been used to develop information on the locations of minority and low-income populations within approximately 50 miles of the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard with the population data provided in Figure 4.1.4-4.

Figure 4.1.4-5 shows the locations of populations which have more than 50 percent of the population within the 50-mile radius. Minorities make up approximately 55 percent of the population in this area. These populations have been identified following an approach of the Environmental Protection Agency which, for purposes of environmental justice evaluation, identifies minority communities as those which have percentages of minorities greater than the region analyzed (EPA 1994).

Figure 4.1.4-6 shows the locations of populations which have more than 25 percent of the population living in poverty, reflecting a common definition of low-income communities. The U. S. Census Bureau characterizes persons in poverty as those whose income is less than the

Figure 4.1.4-5. Minority population distribution within 50 miles of the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard.

Figure 4.1.4-6. Low-income population distribution within 50 miles of the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard.

"statistical poverty threshold." For the 1990 census, this threshold was based on \$12,500 per household.

4.1.4.4 Cultural Resources

Pearl Harbor has been the site of several important historical events and is well known for its role in the Pacific Theatre Defense during World War II. Physical sites at Pearl Harbor have been designated as historically significant, including several buildings and the December 7, 1941 Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor, as well as sites where the USS Arizona Memorial, Naval Base Pearl Harbor was designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1964, and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Pearl Harbor area has been heavily modified over the past 70 years. This area has seen extensive changes that were intended to stabilize the marshy shorelines. Most surficial features pre-military occupation have long since been obliterated. Due to the historic nature of the area, there might be areas of archaeological interest. However, there are no archaeological resources within the boundary of the shipyard. Many native Hawaiian cultural resources exist on the islands. There are three Hawaiian fish ponds located outside the boundary, in West Loch, that have been recommended for preservation. (Navy 1990b)

4.1.4.5 Aesthetic and Scenic Resources

The Pearl Harbor viewshed is dominated by the sweeping mountain to sea vistas of nearshore areas on Oahu. The City and County of Honolulu's Coastal View Study (1990) states that the "flat terrain and the built up military facilities surrounding Pearl Harbor provide few public viewing opportunities into this bay." (Navy 1990b) The shipyard area, in its current setting. The area within the shipyard where naval spent nuclear fuel would be stored is of low sensitivity since the area is an industrial site.

4.1.4.6 Geology

4.1.4.6.1 General Geology.

Oahu's topography consists of two parallel mountain ranges running in a northwest to southeast direction, separated by a plateau. A large, relatively flat area borders the plateau at the south. The Pearl Harbor Naval Complex, for the most part, is on the coastal plain.

Land near the waterfront areas is very flat, rising slightly inland from Kamehameha. There are moderate slopes which exist around the rim of the Makalapa Crater.

4.1.4.6.2 Geologic Resources.

There are several different soil associations within the Pearl Harbor basin. The majority of the U.S. Navy lands surrounding Pearl Harbor are com Lualualei - Fill Land - Ewa Soil Association. This association consists of well-dr and moderate fine textured soils on fans and in drainage ways on the southern and w plains of Oahu. The soils are formed from sediment deposited by streams, and are n moderately sloping. This soil association makes up about 14 percent of the island

Pearl Harbor estuary occurs on the coastal sedimentary plain of southern Oahu consists of three lochs which join to form a single channel entrance. Streams, spr water flow into the harbor; the estuary was formed by freshwater flows that have er plain and retarded coral growth. Since their initial formation, the lochs have bee change, erosion, and silt. The west side of the harbor is composed mostly of limes known as the Ewa Plain. The east side of the harbor consists mainly of compacted v Hard, dense volcanic rock forms the bulk of the rock material to the north. Marine sediments occur around the perimeter of the harbor. (Navy 1990b)

Much of the land area in Pearl Harbor is fill land created by dredge spoils s major dredging effort took place between 1940 and 1943, when dredged material was p Waipio Peninsula and adjacent to Kuahua Island (now Kuahua Peninsula). This landfi present shoreline configuration. (Navy 1990b) There are no economic geologic reso shipyard.

4.1.4.6.3 Seismic and Volcanic Hazards.

Seismic risk related to structural damage may be represented in the United States by a relative scale of 0 through 4, with Zone 0 no encounter damage and Zone 4 expected to encounter the greatest seismic risk. The P Naval Shipyard is located in Zone 1. (UBC 1991) Except for the island of Hawaii i Hawaiian Islands are not a highly seismic area. Even on Hawaii, most of the earthq volcanic origin and do little or no damage, although a few have been quite severe. Building Code seismic classification provides a means for a comparable assessment o hazard between the alternate sites. If the Record of Decision identifies this site of naval spent fuel, then a detailed seismic evaluation would be conducted. More d regarding the design basis considerations for storage of naval spent nuclear fuel a provided in Attachment D.

From review of Tsunami Wave Runup Heights in Hawaii by Harold G. Loomis, Hawa Institute of Geophysics, University of Hawaii, May 1976, past inundation levels fro by seismic events have been about 3 feet above Mean Sea Level (msl). In addition, from the U.S. Army Engineering Division, Pacific Ocean, dated 10 January 1986 indic seismically induced wave elevations for the 10-year, 100-year, and 500-year event t feet, and 3.8 feet, respectively, for adjacent coastal areas. (Navy 1990b)

Pearl Harbor is fully protected from ocean waves and swells. Waves propagati 15,000-foot entrance channel are completely reduced. The normal tides in Hawaii oc with pronounced daily inequalities. Maximum high, or spring tides, reach 2.5 feet water level rise is caused by four components: astronomical tides, rise from atmos reduction (pressure setup), wind setup, and wave setup. Based on information obtai Naval Western Oceanography Center, maximum hurricane storm water level rise from se the worst conditions foreseeable would be approximately 12 feet above the existing maximum total storm water level rise would be approximately 14.5 feet above msl. U maximum foreseeable conditions, any material stored in the dry dock area of Pearl H Shipyard, which is about 8 feet above msl, could be flooded to a level of about 6.5

In September 1992, the worst storm in Pacific history, Hurricane Iniki, hit K sustained 145-mile-per-hour winds and gusts to 175 miles per hour. Oahu, 80 miles received comparatively minor damage to that experienced on Kauai. The last hurrica state prior to Iniki was Iwa in 1982 but it did not cause nearly as much damage.

The Hawaiian Islands were formed by volcanic eruptions; however, the only act area is on the island of Hawaii. There are no volcanic hazards on the island of Oa Dalrymple 1973).

4.1.4.7 Air Resources

4.1.4.7.1 Climate and Meteorology.

With the exception of minor differences in temperature and rainfall at Red Hill and Camp Stover, all of the activities at Pearl Harbor lie within the same weather zone and are subject to the same weather conditions.

The predominant winds are the northeast tradewinds, which prevail most of the year, particularly from February to November. Thus, the predominant winds would carry any contaminant from the shipyard to the unpopulated ocean region adjacent to Pearl Harbor. At certain times of the year, south to southwest winds and mild offshore breezes can occur. Winds with speeds up to 49 miles per hour may occasionally strike from the north or rarely reach gale velocities. The south winds are usually accompanied by wet tropical frequent heavy showers. During the summer months, periods of no wind occur occasionally but do not persist for more than a day or two. During the winter months, winds tend to be with longer periods of light and variable winds, and occurrences of strong southerly winds associated with weather fronts and storms.

The rainfall at Pearl Harbor is light and generally inadequate to sustain low vegetation for at least nine months of the year. Very heavy precipitation may occur at times of southerly winds, and this may cause local flooding because of the nature of the relatively low elevation. The mean annual rainfall for the naval base is between 20 and 30 inches, dependent upon the incidence of the occasional heavy southerly rains mentioned previously. The topography and meteorology of Oahu are responsible for the unusual annual rainfall pattern shown in Figure 4.1.4-2.

Temperatures vary by season as well as daily in the Pearl Harbor region. High temperatures are not uncommon during mid-afternoon in summer. Night temperatures during the summer season fall between 72°F and 76°F. During the winter and early spring, daytime highs are between 76°F and 78°F, and nighttime lows may fall to the low 60's or high 50's. This is generally caused by a shallow blanket of cold air that pours down from the mountain over the lowlands during periods of low-velocity tradewinds. The low temperatures are invariably accompanied by a heavy dewfall which is not normal to the region.

4.1.4.7.2 Air Quality.

An area can be designated by the Environmental Protection Agency as having air quality that is better than defined by the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) or as exceeding one or more of those standards (nonattainment for one or more of the standards). The Code of Federal Regulations, Title 40, Part 81, states that the Air Quality Criteria for the shipyard is better than national standards for total suspended particulate matter and has no specific classification for ozone, carbon monoxide, and NO₂.

Air quality on Oahu is primarily affected by the prevalence of the northeast tradewinds, which prevail approximately 80 percent of the year, particularly from February to November. Monitoring of the naval base area conducted in 1989 showed that there was no NAAQS violation. Thus, air quality was in attainment with federal standards. The state standards, which are more restrictive in many cases than federal requirements, were exceeded only at intersection during peak rush hours. (Navy 1990b) The nearest Class I Area is Haleakala, 188 kilometers (117 miles) from the shipyard.

4.1.4.7.3 Existing Radiological Conditions.

Radiological facilities at all naval shipyards are designed to ensure that there are no uncontrolled discharges of radioactivity into the environment. Radiological controls are exercised to preclude exposure of working personnel to air containing radioactivity exceeding federal limits. Air exhausted from radiological work facilities is filtered through high-efficiency particulate air filters and monitored during discharges. The radioactivity emissions from the shipyards do not result in any measurable radiation to the general public. Calculations of site radioactive airborne emissions for 1992 have been described in Attachment F. These calculations have shown that emissions of radionuclides from the shipyard result in an effective dose equivalent of less than 0.1 mrem per year to a member of the general public.

4.1.4.8 Water Resources

4.1.4.8.1 Surface Water.

Pearl Harbor receives surface runoff from seven watersheds. The Waikele Watershed (54 square miles) is the largest of the seven, comprising nearly Pearl Harbor Basin. It is drained primarily by Waikele Stream, which discharges the sediment load of any of the Pearl Harbor Basin streams.

The Waiawa Watershed (24.6 square miles) consists of forest, agricultural, and is drained by Waiawa Stream and its tributaries into Middle Loch. The Waimalu Watershed (square miles) is drained by the Waimano, Waimalu, and Kalauao Streams, which discharge into East Loch of Pearl Harbor. The watershed is primarily undeveloped forest land with urban areas on the coastal plain and lower slopes. The Aiea and Halawa Watersheds, the Aiea and Halawa Streams, respectively, which discharge into East Loch. They are of natural nature to the Waimalu Watershed. Honouliuli Stream drains the Honouliuli Watershed intermittently into West Loch. The watershed consists primarily of agricultural and forested land. Only 20 percent of the Ewa Beach Watershed drains into Pearl Harbor. Sediment discharges from Pearl Harbor from the flat lowland area adjacent to West Loch are negligible.

Of the eight streams discharging into Pearl Harbor, two are intermittent: Ho and Aiea Stream. The remaining are perennial streams (Waikele, Waiawa, Waimano, Waimalu, Kalauao, and Halawa), which have their headwaters in the high rainfall area of the island. All streams drain the forested and agricultural lands and pass through urban areas of Pearl Harbor. Some flooding occurs along the major streams throughout much of the year, a major problem on the Naval Complex, affecting only a narrow strip of land along Aiea Stream (Navy 1990b).

An assessment in 1988 by the State of Hawaii, Department of Health indicated that Pearl Harbor's large drainage basin in central Oahu and the abundant rainfall in headwater streams that flow into the harbor are major contributors to the harbor's role as a nonpoint runoff from agricultural, urban, and military sources. Violations of water quality were noted for nitrogen, phosphorus, turbidity, and fecal coliforms in the harbor water (Navy 1990b).

The Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) COMMUNITY-PANEL No. 150001 0110 C shows that the floodplain is "undetermined" for the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard. Based on aerial and topographical maps of areas approximately 3 miles away, the conceptual interim floodplain is in the 100-year floodplain. However, based on experience, the location considered for nuclear fuel is not in a high-hazard area (as defined by Title 10, Part 1022 of The Regulations for floodplains) which is an area where frequent flooding occurs.

4.1.4.8.2 Groundwater.

The major source of potable water on Oahu is dependent on a hydrologic cycle that starts with evaporation of water from the ocean, condensation of rain, and the capture of that rain by the Koolau Mountains. A portion of the rain falls down into the porous ground to become groundwater. The groundwater is a limited resource in three types of groundwater bodies, or aquifers: major basal aquifers, which consist of floating on heavier seawater sealed from the ocean by layers of dense, hard volcanic ash; aquifers in which rainfall is caught behind impermeable dikes at high elevations; and aquifers standing on impermeable beds of volcanic ash, thus creating springs. Naval Base Pearl Harbor receives most of its water from the Koolau Aquifer and a small portion from the Waiawa Aquifer, which are basal aquifers located in south central Oahu, partially within the Pearl Harbor Management Area (PHWMA). As of 1990, the military had an allocation of 28.125 million gallons per day (mgd) from the PHWMA, of which 22.670 mgd was authorized for the Navy. Over half of this allocation was not used in 1988. Approximately 3 mgd of this unused allocation was available to the Navy. The quality of groundwater from the above aquifers is good. (Navy 1990b)

4.1.4.8.3 Existing Radiological Conditions.

The normal activities associated with current naval nuclear operations at all naval shipyards do not result in the intentional discharge of liquid effluent. However, there were occasions, primarily in the early 1960's, when levels of radioactivity were discharged with liquid effluent. In all cases, effluent levels were less than permitted under the then current limits imposed by state and federal agencies.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency Office of Radiation Program

performed monitoring of the water, plant life, aquatic life, and sediment in the vi Harbor Naval Shipyard. The purpose of the survey was to determine if operations re Navy nuclear warship activities resulted in releases of radionuclides which could c significant population exposure or contamination of the environment. "Radiological Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Environs" (Callis 1987) is the most recent Environm Agency report which discusses data taken in 1985. Pertinent conclusions from this follows:

1. "Neither harbor water nor drinking water from surrounding areas contain de cobalt-60 or tritium radioactivity.
 2. Very small quantities of cobalt-60 were found in sediment and in two aquat samples from the harbor. No cobalt-60 was found in any of the aquatic lif
 3. The levels of cobalt-60 in the harbor sediment have decreased significantl surveys of 1966 and 1968 and are consistent with those expected from the r decay of the amounts found in the 1966 and 1968 surveys.
 4. The current practice of restricting the release of radioactive material in the minimum practical has been effective and should allow the cobalt-60 ra remaining in harbor sediment to continue to decrease.
 5. The levels and locations of radioactivity identified and the limited media found show that operations related to nuclear-powered warship activities r release of radionuclides having adverse effects on public health or the en
- Environmental monitoring is conducted by the shipyard. The results of this m program corroborate the Environmental Protection Agency's conclusion.

4.1.4.9 Ecological Resources

4.1.4.9.1 Terrestrial Ecology.

Because the Pearl Harbor area has been disturbed extensively and for such a long period of time, the vegetation is dominated by introduced or alien consists of maintained landscaped specimens or, on unmaintained areas, mangrove thi scrub. The few native taxa which occur on these unmaintained areas such as 'uhaloa indica) and 'ilima (Sida fallax) occur throughout the Hawaiian Islands and the Paci environmental habitats. No plants considered threatened or endangered occur on thi

Fauna in the Pearl Harbor area is also typically urban. In general, various cats and dogs, rodents, and exotic bird species are found in the area. No endemic recorded during the course of the field surveys completed in 1989. (Navy 1990b)

4.1.4.9.2 Wetlands.

There are several wetland areas at Pearl Harbor identified in the East Loch, Middle Loch, and West Loch, as well as an area on the Waipio Peninsula. There is a Harbor National Wildlife Refuge. These are habitats for endangered species of bird Hawaiian Coot and Hawaiian Stilt. A cooperative agreement established between the the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and the Department of Land and Natural Resources, protects these wetlands. (Navy 1990b)

4.1.4.9.3 Aquatic Ecology.

Most of the Pearl Harbor marine community structure is character-ized by four zones: sand-rubble zone, algal-mud zone, channel wall zone, and chann zone. Sedimentation is the major factor determining the constituents of the Pearl community. Hence, stony corals, which are especially sensitive to high sediment lo been observed. Predominant biota include the sea cucumber (Ophiodesoma spectabilis commonly found in areas of high organic particulate input; benthic (bottom dwelling Sabellid (feather duster) worms; Serpulid worm tubes; and various benthic shrimps a (Navy 1990b)

4.1.4.9.4 Endangered and Threatened Species.

Most of the land at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard has been urbanized, and the present vegetation consists almost exclusively

plant species. Consequently, no federally or state listed threatened or endangered habitats are known to exist within the confines of Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard. Be been greatly disturbed and the native vegetation completely eliminated, there is li terrestrial habitat of any consequence. Small tracts of weedy fields and isolated secondary vegetation within the station's boundaries provide limited habitat for in birds and rodents. Some migratory birds as well as endemic and indigenous waterfow occasionally frequent the shoreline areas of Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, but none residents of the activity. The mangrove stands and associated shoreline habitats a variety of fish and wildlife and aid in shoreline stabilization and erosion control

Marine mammals are afforded full Federal protection under the Marine Mammal P Act of 1972. As noted above, there are wetland areas in the Pearl Harbor Complex t National Wildlife Refuge and provide habitats for endangered species of birds, prin Hawaiian Coot (*Fulica americana alai*) and Hawaiian Stilt [*Himantopus mexicanus (=hi knudseni)*].

4.1.4.10 Noise

Noise sensitive locations in the Pearl Harbor area have been identified as th Memorial, U.S.S. Arizona Memorial Visitor Center, U.S.S. Bowfin Park, Marina Restau Richardson Recreation Center, and existing or planned residential areas of Ford Isl measurements were taken at these locations on December 5, 1989; previous measuremen taken at some of these locations. All appear to meet state and federal noise stand Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard is an existing industrial environment characterized by and auto traffic, ship loading cranes and related diesel-powered equipment, and con operating transmission lines for steam, fuel, water, and related compressors for th liquids. In addition, new construction of buildings, reconstruction and rehabilita streets, buildings, parking lots, and ships all contribute to the noise associated environment. (Navy 1990b)

4.1.4.11 Traffic and Transportation

The main portion of traffic into and out of the base is an aggregate of commu work, residential related traffic, and service traffic related to the business of t Kamehameha

Highway is the primary access route to the base from the Ewa/Pearl City/central Oah Both Kamehameha Highway and Interstate Highway H-1 provide access to the Naval Base Honolulu direction. (Navy 1990b)

The Honolulu International Airport provides scheduled passenger and cargo air major connecting hubs. In addition, Hickam Air Force Base services the military.

Naval spent nuclear fuel has been removed from Navy nuclear-powered ships and to the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory Expanded Core Facility (ECF) for exami evaluation as a routine part of their operating cycle. Naval spent nuclear fuel sh Harbor Naval Shipyard to ECF were initiated in 1962. Since that time, 20 shipments nuclear fuel originating at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard have been made to ECF. The nuclear fuel containers were transported by ship to the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard containers were then transported to ECF by rail. Attachment A provides a list of t made to date by year. Attachment A also contains detailed descriptions of the ship used for naval spent nuclear fuel shipments from shipyards.

Traffic circulation related to Naval Base Pearl Harbor is determined by the w residential populations of the base, by the geometry of the existing roadways and i the access gates into the base.

4.1.4.12 Occupational and Public Health and Safety

4.1.4.12.1 Occupational Radiological Health and Safety. The Navy has well established and

effective Occupational Safety, Health, and Occupational Medicine programs at all of yards. In regard to radiological aspects of these programs, the Naval Nuclear Prop reduce to as low as reasonably achievable the external exposure to personnel from i associated with naval nuclear propulsion plants. These stringent controls on minim radiation exposure have been successful. No civilian or military personnel at Navy exceeded the federal accumulated radiation exposure limit which allows 5 rem exposu

of age beyond age 18. Since 1967, no person has exceeded the federal limit which is 3 rem per quarter year and since 1980, no one has received more than 2 rem per year associated with naval nuclear propulsion plants. The average occupational exposure monitored at all shipyards is 0.26 rem per year. The average lifetime accumulated from radiation associated with naval nuclear propulsion plants for all shipyard personnel monitored is 1.2 rem. (NNPP 1994a) This corresponds to the likelihood of a cancer in 2083.

The Navy's policy on occupational exposure from internal radioactivity is to limit exposure to personnel from internal radioactivity. The limits invoked to achieve this are one-tenth of the levels allowed by federal regulations for radiation workers. As a policy, no civilian or military personnel at shipyards have ever received more than the federal annual occupational exposure limit from internal radiation exposure caused by occupational activities associated with naval nuclear propulsion plants.

For work operations involving the potential for spreading radioactive contaminants, controls are used to prevent personnel contamination or generation of airborne radioactive contaminants. Controls for contamination are so strict that precautions sometimes have had to be taken to track contamination from fallout and natural sources into radiological areas because contamination control limits used in these areas were well below the levels of fall-out contamination occurring outside in the general public areas. A basic requirement of contamination control is monitoring all personnel leaving any area where radioactive contamination occurs. Workers are trained to survey themselves (i.e., frisk), and their performance is monitored by radiological control personnel. Frisking of the entire body is required, normally using hand-held survey instruments. Major work facilities are equipped with portable monitors in lieu of hand-held friskers. These stringent controls to protect the workers and prevent contamination have proven effective in the past.

In 1991, researchers from Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, completed a comprehensive epidemiological study of the health of workers at the six naval shipyard facilities that service the Navy's nuclear-powered ships (Matanoski 1991). The study evaluated a population of 70,730 civilian workers over a period from 1957, the first overhaul of the first nuclear-powered submarine, USS NAUTILUS, through 1981, to determine whether there was an excess risk of leukemia or other cancers associated with exposure to gamma radiation.

The Johns Hopkins study found no evidence to conclude that the health of people working on U.S. naval nuclear-powered ships has been adversely affected by exposure to radiation incidental to this work. Additional studies are planned to investigate and update the shipyard study with data beyond 1981.

The radiation exposure during normal operations at each shipyard for workers is monitored. Radiation levels monitored are determined based on the annual radiation exposure of a worker for all shipyards based on Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program Report NT-94-2. The total number of shipyard personnel monitored for radiation exposure associated with the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program has been about 164,000.

Attachment A provides a discussion of the calculation of past health impacts from the transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens. The radiation exposure to transportation workers for all historical shipments is 16.6 person-rem, which translates to 0.0066 cancer fatalities. The maximum exposed individual (MEI) is a transportation worker who is closer to the shipment for a longer time than any member of the general public. Under the limiting assumption that the same worker is associated with every shipment throughout the historical period, this person would receive a total exposure of 7.5 rem over the 40-year period, or about 0.19 rem per year, which is within DOE standards for occupational exposure. The radiation exposures to workers correspond to much less than the occupational exposure limit, which means that it is unlikely that there have been any past health impacts from the transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel over the entire history of such shipments.

4.1.4.12.2 Occupational Non-radiological Health and Safety.

In the non-radiological Occupational Safety, Health, and Occupational Medicine area, the Navy complies with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration Regulations. The Navy's policy is to maintain a healthful work environment at all naval facilities. Due to the varied nature of work, there is a potential for certain employees to be exposed to physical and chemical hazards. Employees are routinely monitored during work and receive medical surveillance for such as exposure to high noise levels or heat stress. In addition, employees are monitored for exposure to chemical hazards such as organic solvents, lead, asbestos, etc., and when necessary, are placed into medical surveillance programs for these chemical hazards.

Attachment A provides a discussion of the calculation of past health impacts all transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens. Approximately 0 estimated as a result of non-radiological sources (vehicle emissions) associated with shipments of spent nuclear fuel. This number includes both the workers and the general population. Since this number is much less than one, it is unlikely that there has been any non impact due to the historical shipment of naval spent nuclear fuel over the entire history of shipments.

4.1.4.12.3 Public Radiological Health and Safety.

In order to quantify the exposures resulting from normal shipyard radiological releases to the general public, detailed analyses based on very conservative estimates of radioisotopic releases from 1961 through 1995. Attachment F provides detailed annual release values used in the analyses.

The GENII computer code (Napier et al. 1988) was used to calculate exposures to the general public due to the estimated radionuclide releases from normal operations at the shipyard.

A person on the shipyard boundary at the location where the largest exposures received was used as the hypothetical maximally exposed off-site individual (MOI) for releases of radioactive material from stored fuel. The population data used to calculate exposures were taken from 1990 census data provided by the U.S. Census Bureau. Methods were obtained as described in Attachment F.

The hypothetical exposures calculated in Attachment F for the period 1995 through 1999 adjusted from an annual basis (1995) to the historical basis by multiplying by 38 years of 1.7 to take into consideration variations in the number of ships and operations.

The calculated accumulated exposures through 1995 to the general population within 10 miles of the site (about 0.8 million people) are 1.9 person-rem. To provide perspective, the annual dose received due to natural radiation sources through 1995 are approximately 9.3 millirem based on 0.3 rem per person per year.

The results of environmental monitoring as described in Naval Nuclear Propulsion Report NT-94-1 show that Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program activities had no distinction on normal background radiation levels at site perimeters (NNPP 1994b).

Attachment A provides a discussion of the calculation of past health impacts all transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens. The radiation exposure to the general population for all historical shipments is 1.95 person-rem, which is statistically equivalent to 0.00098 cancer fatalities.

All of the radiation exposures to the general population correspond to much less than one incident cancer, which means that it is unlikely that there has been any past health impacts to the general public due to all historical shipments of naval spent nuclear fuel over the entire history of shipments.

4.1.4.12.4 Public Non-radiological Health and Safety.

The military is responsible for providing health care services for its personnel and dependents. Navy families receive inpatient and out-patient care at Tripler Army Medical Center. Services are also provided at military and dispensaries. Active-duty personnel are required to use military health care facilities. In addition, military dependents have the option of going to private providers and being reimbursed for the cost.

The Oahu Civil Defense Agency is responsible for developing, preparing, and implementing of civil defense plans and programs to protect the safety, health, and property of residents during disasters and emergency situations. However, responsibility for military personnel and dependents on the base rests with the Navy.

Fire protection within Naval Base Pearl Harbor is provided by the Federal Fire Department. A Mutual Aid Pact between the federal (military) fire departments and the Honolulu Fire Department affords dual coverage in times of emergencies.

Naval Base Pearl Harbor is under federal jurisdiction; therefore, federal authorities are normally responsible for providing all needed police service. The City and County Police Department, however, is responsible for traffic control in areas around the base. The police station is located in Pearl City. (Navy 1990b)

Attachment A provides a discussion of the calculation of past health impacts all transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens. Approximately 0 estimated as a result of non-radiological sources (vehicle emissions) associated with shipments of spent nuclear fuel. This number includes both the workers and the general population.

Since this number is much less than one, it is unlikely that there has been any non impact to the public due to all historical shipments of naval spent nuclear fuel ov of such shipments.

4.1.4.13 Utilities and Energy

4.1.4.13.1 Water Consumption. Naval Base Pearl Harbor receives most of its water from the

Koolau Aquifer and a small portion from the Waianae Aquifer, which are basal aquife south central Oahu, partially within the Pearl Harbor Water Management Area (PHWMA) 1989, a Water Management Plan for the PHWMA was proposed by the Commission on Water Resource Management (CWRM) to preserve and manage the Koolau and Waianae basal aqui the Schofield high-level aquifer. One important portion of the Water Management Pl that the sustainable yield for the PHWMA be revised downward from the then current gallons of water per day (mgd) to 195 mgd. The purpose of the revision was to elim shrinkage of the aquifer in the PHWMA from over-withdrawal. Actual use in 1989 tot mgd, of which the military portion was about 13 percent. The major water users in the Board of Water Supply (87.5 mgd) and the Oahu Sugar Company (78.6 mgd). In the plan, water allocation to the military is not decreased. The stated management pol is that "total allocation of authorized use will not at any time exceed sustainable the military had an allocation of 28.125 mgd from the PHWMA, of which 22.670 mgd wa authorized for the Navy. Of the total allocation to the U.S. Navy, Koolau Aquifer 20.333 mgd, and Waianae Basal Aquifer provides 2.337 mgd. (Navy 1990b)

4.1.4.13.2 Electricity Consumption.

The electrical power service for the Pearl Harbor Naval Complex is provided by the Hawaiian Electric Company. The Hawaiian Electric Compan grid on the island of Oahu consists of three power plants with a total capacity of plants in planning or under construction totaling 390 MW. The peak island demand i approximately 1,090 MW.

The power plants are located at Kahe, Waiau, and downtown Honolulu and are in connected via 138-kV transmission and 46-kV sub-transmission circuits. The Pearl H Complex is served via three 46-kV feeders, each from a separate 80-MVA transformer Makalapa substation, which is part of the island's 138-kV grid. The feeders serve Electric Company substations located on the base (Puuloa and Kuahua), which step th to 11.5 kV, and serve two normally separated 11.5-kV networks.

One of the 46-kV feeders serves only the Puuloa substation. The second serve Kuahua substation. The third serves both substations. Any one feeder has the capa entire Pearl Harbor load or approximately 57 MVA. In addition to the three feeders Makalapa substation, there are two alternate 46-kV circuits, one a dedicated spare, power plant.

The Puuloa substation consists of two 20/33-MVA transformers located in the P Naval Shipyard area and serves the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, Naval Station Pearl Ford Island. The Kuahua substation consists of two 15/20-MVA transformers located Submarine Base Pearl Harbor area and serves the Submarine Base Pearl Harbor and Nav Center Pearl Harbor areas.

4.1.4.13.3 Fuel Consumption.

One major type of energy use is vehicular fuel consumption. No estimates are available to differentiate vehicle fuel use at Pearl Harbor from othe system consumed 152,088 gallons of diesel fuel in 1988. An occupancy rate of 1.5 p vehicle was used, so the ratio of fuel consumed per person per trip was 0.144 gallo person crossing. The second major source of energy consumption originates in build analysis of building energy use is based on standards for energy consumption per un building floor area by type of building and the geographical location.

4.1.4.13.4 Wastewater Systems and Discharges.

Sewage at the Pearl Harbor Naval Complex

is collected and treated in several separate systems. Most of the sewage generated shore activities and family housing areas receives secondary treatment at Navy-oper treatment plants. The largest volume is treated at the Fort Kamehameha Sewage Trea which serves the Naval Station Pearl Harbor, Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, Naval Sup Pearl Harbor Complexes, Camp Smith, Navy and Air Force housing areas, Hickam Air Fo and other adjacent military areas.

4.1.4.13.5 Energy Conservation.

To minimize the use of fossils fuels and conserve energy, the military has adopted conservation criteria for new construction and major renovatio policies used under the conservation criteria focus on meeting design energy target square foot/per year (Btu/sf/yr). Guidelines are provided for ventilation, insulat cycle cost of structures. (Navy 1990b)

4.1.4.14 Materials and Waste Management

The City and County of Honolulu's HPOWER (Honolulu Program of Waste Energy Recovery) "garbage-to-energy" facility at Campbell Industrial Park is currently in burning roughly 1,500 to 1,800 tons per day, which is most of the combustibile rubbi the island of Oahu.

Approximately 20 percent (by weight) of the refuse handled by the HPOWER facility is reduced to ash and other residue which requires landfill disposal.

There are two city and county landfills: the Kapaa Landfill in Kailua (Windw the Waimanalo Gulch Landfill in Nanakuli (Leeward Oahu). The Kapaa Landfill has re capacity, and plans are underway to locate a new site in Windward Oahu. The Nanaku which opened in September 1989, is programmed for 1,000 tons per day for seven to e According to the city, the facility should be able to accommodate projected needs f and maybe longer. (Navy 1990b)

Solid radioactive waste materials are packaged in strong, tight containers, s necessary, and shipped to burial sites licensed by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Comm under agreement with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Shipyards and other s are not permitted to dispose of radioactive solid wastes by burial on their own sit approximately 110 cubic yards of routine low-level radioactive waste containing a t were shipped from the shipyard for burial.

Waste which is both radioactive and chemically hazardous is regulated under b Energy Act and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act as "mixed waste." Within Nuclear Propulsion Program, concerted efforts are taken to avoid commingling radioa chemically hazardous substances so as to minimize the potential for generation of m example, these efforts include avoiding the use of acetone solvents, lead-based pai in disposal containers, and chemical paint removers. Radioactive wastes, including chemically hazardous substances, are handled in accordance with long-standing Progr requirements. Such handling includes solidification to immobilize the radioactivit radioactive and chemically hazardous substances, removal of liquids from solids, an techniques. A determination is then made as to whether the resulting waste is haza of Program efforts to avoid the use of chemically hazardous substances in radiologi activities typically generate only a few hundred cubic feet of mixed waste each yea amount of mixed waste, along with limited amounts of mixed waste from Program work prior to 1987, will be stored pending the licensing of commercial treatment and dis

4.1.5 KENNETH A. KESSELRING SITE: WEST MILTON, NEW YORK

4.1.5.1 Overview

The Kenneth A. Kesselring Site of the Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory (KAPL) i the mid-eastern sector of New York State as shown on Figure 4.1.5-1. The Site is l Milton in Saratoga County, New York at 43y2'28" north latitude and 73y57'13" west l United States Government owned reservation consists of over 3900 acres centered abo north of the city of Schenectady and about 8 miles west of Saratoga Springs. The S operating naval nuclear propulsion prototype plants and support facilities. The Si prototype plant that is in the process of being permanently shut down; one of the

plants is currently scheduled to be shut down in 1996. All the operating facilities secure area near the center of the reservation (see Figure 4.1.5-2). A more detail site is provided in Figure 4.1.5-3.

4.1.5.2 Land Use

All the land within the Site perimeter is owned by the Department of Energy (are no permanent residents within this area. The surrounding region, within 50 miles contains a population of about 1,150,000 as obtained from the 1990 census.

Most of the land surrounding the Site is either wooded or is used for farming residential areas. Both dairy farms and agricultural farms are located in the immediate reservation.

The West Milton area is located within the undulating transition zone between Highlands and the Hudson-Mohawk Lowlands physiographic provinces. The area is characterized by a series of irregular northwest-southwest trending topographic steps that descend from southeasterly towards the lowlands.

Figure 4.1.5-1. Kesselring Site vicinity map. Figure 4.1.5-2. Kesselring Site sea level. The Glowegee Creek, its various tributaries, and the Crook Brook drain the developed portion of the reservation, which contains the prototype plants, consists of approximately 50 acres (see Figure 4.1.5-2). The terrain surrounding the Site forms a plateau with a bottom diameter of about 2000 feet and a maximum height of 150 feet. The Site is a flat-lying with ground elevations ranging from 480 to 490 feet. The western half of the Site is surrounded by elliptical hills approximately 600 feet in elevation. Drainage from the Site is to the Glowegee Creek.

4.1.5.3 Socioeconomics

As of 1993, the Kesselring Site employed about 1,450 civilian workers, and about 100 naval personnel worked at the Site.

The only industry within 4 miles of the Site is the Cottrell Paper Company, located in City Falls, about 3 miles from the Site.

The region surrounding the Site, within 50 miles, contains a population of about 1,150,000 as obtained from the 1990 census. Figure 4.1.5-4 provides a population distribution around the Site and lists the total population within concentric rings covering a 50-mile radius.

The majority of the labor force that would be employed at the Site for construction and operation of the naval spent nuclear fuel area would be expected to reside within a 50-mile radius of the Site. The calculated total population, labor force, and employment within this area (1995) are presented in Table 4.1.5-1. Projections of employment and population beyond 1995 have not been presented because, as discussed in Section 5, the number of jobs that might be created at the Site under any alternative could be small.

Table 4.1.5-1. Regional employment factors at the Kesselring Site.

Regional Employment	Regional Labor Force	Regional Population
165,830	176,600	373,970

Figure 4.1.5-4. 50-mile population distribution around the Kesselring Site. Executive Order 12896, "Populations and Low-Income Populations," requires federal agencies to identify and address, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects from programs and activities on minority and low-income populations. An adverse environmental impact is determined to be unacceptable or above generally acceptable levels. A disproportionately high impact refers to an impact (or risk of an impact) in a minority community that significantly exceeds that on the larger community. Data from the U. S. Census of 1990 have been used to develop information on the locations of minority and low-income populations within approximately 50 miles of the Kesselring Site, consistent with the population data provided in Figure 4.1.5-4.

Figure 4.1.5-5 shows the locations of populations in which minority membership is more than 20 percent within the 50-mile radius by more than 20 percentage points and populations in which more than 50 percent are minority members. These populations have been identified following the approach developed by the Environmental Protection Agency which, for purposes of environmental justice evaluation, defines minority communities as those which have percentages of minority members greater than the average in the region analyzed (EPA 1994).

Figure 4.1.5-6 shows the locations of populations which have more than 25 percent of the population living in poverty, reflecting a common definition of low-income communities. The U. S. Census Bureau characterizes persons in poverty as those whose income is less than the "statistical poverty threshold." For the 1990 census, this threshold was based on

\$12,500 per household.

4.1.5.4 Cultural Resources

Historically, the Kesselring Site reservation was used for agricultural purposes. farmhouses, foundations, grove sites, stone walls, and land fences exist on the Kesselring Site. There are no known archaeological, cultural, or Native American sites in the secure Kesselring Site (USAEC 1972). There are no historic structures on the Site that are eligible for or are listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NPS 1991).

Figure 4.1.5-5. Minority population distribution within 50 miles of the Kesselring Site. Figure 4.1.5-6. Low-income population distribution within 50 miles of the Kesselring Site. 4.1.5.5 Aesthetic and Scenic Resources

The Kesselring Site is located in an area of moderately undulating topography at the edge of the Hudson-Mohawk Lowlands. Most of the Site facilities including the prototype plants are located within a fenced security area. This security area and adjacent lands are located near the center of the Government reservation. (UE&C 1973) Since the reservation consists of wooded lands, there is very little public viewing opportunities from the boundaries of the Government reservation. The area within the reservation where naval spent nuclear fuel would be stored has low visual sensitivity as an industrial site.

4.1.5.6 Geology

4.1.5.6.1 General Geology.

In 1973, a Site evaluation and foundation engineering investigation were conducted for the Kesselring Site (UE&C 1973) to establish suitable parameters and design of the S8G prototype structures. A prior evaluation of the Site was conducted for Modifications and Addition to Reactor Facilities. In both investigations, the local geology and seismicity of the West Milton area were examined through a literature review, subsurface investigation, and a geophysical survey involving refraction and cross-hole measurements. Major soil boring, sampling, and laboratory testing for the S8G Site are reported in various documents (UE&C 1973; EDCE 1974a; EDCE 1974b). Additional boring information and a geophysical field investigation performed for the Modifications and Addition to Reactor Facilities project were also utilized in the S8G Site evaluation. A 1974 Site evaluation was also conducted and a report issued (DGC 1974).

4.1.5.6.2 Geologic Resources.

At Kesselring, unconsolidated materials, primarily of glacial origin, overlie bedrock. The thickness of these materials or overburden sequence is from 0 to several hundred feet. The overburden sequence, in ascending order, consists of several kinds of depositional units: glacier debris, lake, and ice-contact/outwash deposits. The ice-contact/outwash deposits overlie much of the bedrock and form the elliptical hills (drumlins) throughout the reservation. The glacier deposits are a dense and poorly sorted mixture of clay, silt, and boulders. Thinly stratified lake clay and silt deposits are mapped over the southeastern quadrant. The ice-contact/outwash deposits mostly consist of stratified gravels. The ice contact/outwash deposits, characterized by low clay and silt content, have a high aquifer potential than the silt-and-clay-rich glacier and lake deposits.

Bedrock geology is also variable at the reservation and consists of crystalline Sandstone, Galway Formation (dolomites and sandstones), Gailor Dolomite, Trenton/Amherst Lowville Limestones, and Canajoharie Shale. The Canajoharie Shale underlies the reservation. This black shale generally is considered a poor aquifer and its production is dependent on the presence or absence of fractures. Also, its water may contain naturally occurring sulfide.

At the Site, approximately 20 to 30 feet of overburden deposits overlie the bedrock. These deposits consist of layers of deposits from glaciers and lakes. Locally, the bedrock has been altered as the result of facility construction. Generally, groundwater exists below the ground surface. Groundwater flows easterly, toward the nearby Glowegee Creek.

There are no economic geologic resources at the Site.

4.1.5.6.3 Seismic and Volcanic Hazards.

In 1973, a seismicity evaluation of the Kesselring Site was conducted (UE&C 1973). An additional investigation was conducted in 1981 (EDCE). The following is a summary of their findings.

Three branch faults exist in the vicinity of the Site: The West Galway, the the Rock City Falls faults. These branch faults are the lines of demarcation between bedrock formations in the immediate area. The East Galway branch lies approximately northwest of the Site and is believed to be the predominant influence on the earthquake Site facilities. The two Galway faults are end branches of the Hoffman's Ferry fault.

Seismic risk related to structural damage may be represented in the United States scale of 0 through 4, with Zone 0 not expected to encounter damage and Zone 4 expected to encounter the greatest seismic risk. The Site is located in Zone 2A according to the "Building Code" (UBC 1991). The Uniform Building Code seismic classification provides a comparable assessment of the seismic hazard between the alternate sites. If the identifies this site for the interim storage of naval spent fuel, then a detailed study should be conducted. More detailed information regarding the design basis considerations for naval spent nuclear fuel at the Site is provided in Attachment D.

Data accumulated indicate that the maximum intensity earthquake for the region within a 100-mile radius of the Site had a value of VII. The most recent earthquake of that magnitude at Lake George, New York, on April 30, 1931. It is postulated that this event had point where the Rock City Falls fault meets the Hoffman's Ferry fault. Since the West and East Galway branch faults are extensions of the Hoffman's Ferry fault, an earthquake of that intensity might occur anywhere along the East Galway fault within the lifetime of the Site.

Several earthquakes having an intensity VIII or greater have occurred at distances of 100 miles from the Site. However, due to attenuation effects, the ground motion associated with these earthquakes has not been greater than that equivalent to an intensity VII. The most recent event occurred in 1983 at Newcomb, New York (about 75 miles northwest of the Site) and was of intensity VI.

Details regarding the seismic characteristics of the area and the design basis evaluations performed for the Kesselring Site are provided in the "Site Geology Evaluation for Kesselring Site" (UE&C 1973) and in "Geotechnical Site Investigation, Kesselring Site, New York" (EDCE 1981).

There are no volcanic hazards in the vicinity of the Site.

4.1.5.7 Air Resources

4.1.5.7.1 Climate and Meteorology.

The east-central part of New York State, in which the West Milton area is located, is situated at the northern end of the Hudson River Valley approximately 150 miles inland from the Atlantic coastline and about 200 miles south of the Canadian border. The climate of the region is primarily continental in character, but is subjected to the moderating effect of the Atlantic Ocean. The moderating effect on temperatures is more pronounced during the winter months than in summer when outbursts of cold air sweep down from Canada. In the winter, temperatures rise rapidly in the daytime, but also fall rapidly after sunset so that the nights are relatively cool. Occasionally, there are extended periods of oppressive heat up to several days in duration.

During the winter months, winds are generally from the west or northwest. During the warmer months, the winds are from the south. Wind velocities are moderate, and generally less than 10 mph. Destructive winds (i.e., winds in excess of 80 mph) occur infrequently. Tornadoes are rare in the region served by the Albany, New York weather station.

The mean monthly temperature of the region is about 50°F. Daily extremes can range from -30°F in the winter months to 100°F in the summer. On an annual basis, the mean daily humidity values range from 50 to 80 percent. During the summer months, relative humidity frequently approaches 100 percent during the night.

Total yearly precipitation averages about 36 inches. The average yearly snowfall is about 22 inches and the maximum snowfall in 24 hours is about 22 inches. On the average, a snow depth of about 3 feet can be expected.

For weather reporting purposes, the West Milton area of northeastern New York in the National Weather Service Zone Forecast for Saratoga County. The principal location is at the Albany, New York airport. Its elevation is 275 feet above mean of the proximity of West Milton to Albany, temperature data for the Site should differ from Albany data. The two locations are generally within one or two degrees of each other, West Milton tending to have lower temperatures.

4.1.5.7.2 Air Quality.

The principal sources of industrial gaseous effluents from the Kesselring Site are two 21-million, one 30-million, and one 110-million Btu/hr steam generating number 2 fuel oil that is used to fire all of the boilers contains less than 0.5 weight percent sulfur. Combustion gases from the boilers are released through three elevated exhaust stacks such as ozonide reproduction, carpenter shops, welding hoods, paint shop, and industrial processes constitute other permitted point sources of airborne effluents. All points must conform to the applicable state and federal clean air standards. Sulfur emitted from the Site is monitored via analysis of fuel sulfur content and reported to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on a quarterly basis in compliance with the EPA's New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) Code of Federal Regulations, Title 40, Part 60. Sulfur emissions from the boilers must meet the EPA's New Source Performance Standards emission standard for stationary combustion. All other industrial emission sources at the Kesselring Site do not require monitoring under the current New York State permits due to the very low levels of the emissions.

An area can be designated by the Environmental Protection Agency as having air quality that is better than defined by the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (attainment) or worse than those standards (nonattainment for one or more pollutants). The Code of Federal Regulations, Title 40, Part 81, states that the Air Quality Control Region for this nonattainment for ozone and is better than national standards for total suspended particulate and SO₂. The area has no specific classification for carbon monoxide and NO₂.

The nearest Class I area is at Lye Brook Wilderness, Sutherland, Vermont, 10 miles from the Site.

4.1.5.7.3 Existing Radiological Conditions.

Radiological facilities at the Kesselring Site are designed to ensure that there are no discharges of radioactivity in airborne exhausts exceeding prescribed operational limits. Radiological controls are exercised to preclude exposure of personnel to airborne radioactivity exceeding federal limits. Air exhausted from radiological facilities is passed through high-efficiency particulate air filters and monitored continuously. The annual airborne radioactive emissions from Kesselring Site do not result in a significant exposure to the general public. As described in the "Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory Monitoring Report for Calendar Year 1992" (KAPL 1992), the estimated 1992 radiation dose to off-site individuals attributed to radioactive air emissions from Kesselring Site is less than 1 percent of the Environmental Protection Agency standards given in Subpart H of 40 CFR (CFR 1989). In order to quantify the risk of normal (non-accident) Kesselring Site airborne releases to the general public, detailed analyses were performed based on conservative estimates of radioisotopic releases in the exhaust air. In 1992, the airborne radioactivity from the Kesselring Site totaled about 2 curies (KAPL 1992).

4.1.5.7.4 Existing Non-radiological Conditions.

New York State emission standards for all permitted emission sources at the Kesselring Site, with the exception of the site barge, are in the individual permits for these sources. State regulations provide specific guidance on emissions require a permit. Compliance with the operating permit is the responsibility of the permit holder under the condition that all planned changes in operating permit conditions require review and approval by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. In addition, all operating permits are reviewed and renewed at least every 5 years.

Stationary combustion sources such as the Site's boilers are not specifically regulated by NYSDEC, but fall under the federal New Source Performance Standards in The Code of Federal Regulations, Title 40, Part 60. Compliance with these standards is accomplished by ensuring that number 2 fuel oil certified by the vendor that it contains less than 0.5 percent sulfur. Documentation of fuel use and sulfur content are provided to the EPA Region II office on

basis.

4.1.5.8 Water Resources

The hydrology information contained herein was extracted from two independent One was performed by the U. S. Geological Survey in November 1951. The second survey performed in 1955. Additional hydrological surveys were performed in 1975 (Moody 1 DGC 1975), and 1985 and 1986 (DGC 1986).

4.1.5.8.1 Surface Water.

Most of the Site is drained by the Glowegee Creek, which meanders through rolling farmlands and woodlands to a junction with Kayaderosseras Creek at approximately 1 mile east of West Milton. The quality of the water in Kayaderosseras Creek is satisfactory for public water supply and most industrial purposes. Glowegee Creek is not used for these purposes. The average stream flow measured at Coast and Geodetic Survey gaging station 0.5 mile downstream of the Site is 41 cfs. elevation for Glowegee Creek is approximately 580 feet above mean sea level at the Site to about 380 feet above mean sea level at its junction with the Kayaderosseras area and natural surface storage in the basin are small, but the soils and the unconsolidated below the soils can hold a considerable volume of groundwater. A number of perennials in the area. There are no records indicating flooding of the Site.

The Kayaderosseras Creek empties into Saratoga Lake and ultimately, by way of into the Hudson River. Kayaderosseras Creek rises in the Kayaderosseras Range on the edge of the Adirondack Mountains. The basin above West Milton ranges approximately elevation and contains a sizeable aggregate area of swamps.

The Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM COMMUNITY-PANEL No. 360 722 B) shows that the Kesselring Site is not in a 100 or 500 year floodplain.

4.1.5.8.2 Groundwater.

At the Site, the overburden sequence, consisting of glacier and lake deposits, and the underlying Canajoharie Shale generally form poor aquifer systems. Milton area, neither of these systems are designated as sole source aquifers by the primary/principal aquifers by New York State.

The dense glacial deposits and fine-grained lake deposits have characteristic permeabilities in comparison to ice-contact/outwash deposits. Historically, both types of deposits produce very low volumes of groundwater. At the Site, shallow water table indicates that the groundwater gradient is low. This low gradient combined with the low permeability of glacial deposits indicates that the groundwater flow rate is very low, on the order of 10 to 100 feet per day. Also, water table mapping indicates that the Glowegee Creek, approximately 200 to 1000 feet from the operating facilities boundary, forms an aquifer boundary.

The source of potable water is a well field, located on the far eastern side of the Site composed of six wells which draw water from both deep and shallow aquifers. Monitoring groundwater from the Site service water well field has shown that all chemical constituents are within the New York State drinking water standards (KAPL 1992). This well field adjacent to the Kayaderosseras Creek, is underlain by two sand and gravel aquifers. A sand aquifer exists under water-table conditions and extends to a depth of approximately 55 to 100 feet below the ground surface. The lowermost aquifer exists under artesian head pressure with the surface rising several feet above the static water-table surface. The depth of the artesian head varies from 55 to 100 feet below the ground surface. Recharge to the water-table is simultaneous water withdrawal comes primarily from the Kayaderosseras Creek, and to a lesser degree from Crook Brook. (DGC 1986)

There are 19 monitoring wells within the operating area. These recently installed wells are used to provide depth-to-groundwater information, related water table mapping, and assessment. Test borings on the reservation have generally showed the water table 10 feet of the ground surface. The test boring data also indicate that the configuration of the water table is, for the most part, a replica of the configuration of the surface topography and somewhat softened in relief.

4.1.5.8.3 Existing Radiological Conditions.

The liquid effluent environmental monitoring program at the Kesselring Site consists of radiological monitoring of the Glowegee aquatic life, and sediment in the vicinity of the Site to confirm that the general by operations at the Site. There is no detectable radioactivity present in the Glo sediment due to Site operations (KAPL 1992). The concentrations of chemical consti effluent from the Kesselring Site resulted in no adverse effect on the quality of G aquatic life. This is substantiated by results of fish and aquatic life surveys th existence of a diverse and healthy aquatic community in the creek water. Only natu radionuclides were detected in the Glowegee Creek water samples. The results of an collected from Glowegee Creek show no radioactivity attributable to Site operations

Currently, Kesselring Site does not discharge radioactive liquid effluent to ment. Since the beginning of prototype operations, the release of radioactivity int been small (about 15 curies) and has had no measurable effect on the natural backgr in the sediment. Over 98 percent of the radioactivity discharged to the creek was traces of other radionuclides such as cobalt-60, iron-55, nickel-63, and antimony-1. The amount of tritium released was greatly decreased when water reuse was started b plants. In addition, the average concentration of tritium discharged to Glowegee C 1000 times lower than allowed by federal regulations. In over three decades of ope been no measurable impact from Kesselring Site operations on the environment or adv the community or the public.

4.1.5.9 Ecological Resources

4.1.5.9.1 Terrestrial Ecology.

The conceptual location where naval spent nuclear fuel would be stored is illustrated in Attachment D. This location is within an existing industr surrounded by buildings and paved areas. The industrial nature of the Site and the has already been disturbed from its natural state by earlier activities mean that p sensitive to disturbance by human activities would not be expected to be present.

4.1.5.9.2 Wetlands.

There are 13 areas located on the Kesselring Site classified as either Class II or III wetlands in accordance with the New York State Department of Environmental C (NYCRR 1987). Current operations which include the secured area of the Site, parki field, and pumphouse area do not impact the listed wetlands. Access and perimeter listed wetlands at four locations (within 100 feet); however, construction of these all current regulatory requirements.

4.1.5.9.3 Aquatic Ecology.

In accordance with the Environmental Statement for the S8G Prototype, Kesselring Site, West Milton, New York (USAEC 1972), an expanded chemica biological monitoring program was initiated in Glowegee Creek early in 1975. An im this monitoring program is an annual fish survey in Glowegee Creek upstream and dow Site discharges because Glowegee Creek is classified as a Class "C" trout stream by These surveys conducted by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservat environmental consultants from the Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory indicate that sto stream merely supplements the fish population that is removed by fishermen. The se Glowegee Creek above the Site, although not stocked, contains a population of nativ maintained by natural spawning of the fish.

4.1.5.9.4 Endangered and Threatened Species.

There are several endangered and threatened species listed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation locat Saratoga County area. The endangered species are the karner blue butterfly, bald e peregrine falcon, and the threatened species is the red-shouldered hawk. To date,

direct observations of these species documented on the Kesselring Site.

4.1.5.10 Noise

Plant operations and maintenance at the Kesselring Site generate noise equivalent industrial activity.

4.1.5.11 Traffic and Transportation

Two corridors, the Hudson-Champlain, 10 to 17 miles to the east, and the Moha 10 to 17 miles to the south and southwest, contain the major transportation systems industrial complexes in the vicinity of the Site.

The Cottrell Paper Company, located in Rock City Falls, 3 miles from the Site, is the only industry within a 5-mile radius.

Except for their use by Kesselring Site employees, the secondary routes bound auxiliary commuting and delivery routes for small products and produce. State Route to the north, State Route 147 runs 4 miles to the west, and State Route 67 runs 4 m State Route 50, 6 miles east, running from Saratoga Springs to Scotia, carries the amount of truck and bus traffic. The majority of through traffic uses either Inter route U.S. Highway 9, in the Hudson-Champlain corridor, 10 miles to the east.

Two lines of the Delaware and Hudson Railroad cross the region within 10 mile The main north-south line runs through Ballston Spa, just over 5 miles to the east, runs just over 5 miles to the northeast into the central Adirondack area.

Commercial barge traffic occurs on the New York State Barge Canal, 12 miles s the Site at its closest point, and on the less used Champlain Division, 17 miles ea

Saratoga County has the nearest airport, 4-1/2 miles east of the Site, follow and Albany airports, approximately 15 and 20 miles to the south-southeast. Data fu traffic representatives for the three area airports indicate that regular flight pa commercial, and private aircraft, large and small, do not pass within a 5-mile radi Only the instrument approach to the Saratoga County Airport, designated by the Fede Administration (FAA), has the potential for overflying the Site.

Albany County Airport, 22 miles south-southeast of the Site, is the nearest a scheduled flights by commercial jet aircraft. Schenectady County Airport, 15 miles is an auxiliary field with a low volume of traffic relative to size. No air carrie service out of Schenectady. The bulk of the airport's traffic is corporate and pri majority of the balance being military aircraft of the 109th New York Air National

Naval spent nuclear fuel has been removed from the prototypes and transported National Engineering Laboratory Expended Core Facility (ECF) for examination and ev matter of routine. Naval spent nuclear fuel shipments from the Kesselring Site to in 1961. Since that time, 21 shipments of naval spent nuclear fuel originating at have been made to ECF. The shipping containers were transported by heavy-lift tran nearby commercial rail line where the containers were then transported by rail. At provides a list of these shipments made to date by year. Attachment A also contain descriptions of the shipping containers used for naval spent nuclear fuel shipments

The Site exclusion area boundary, which is the boundary of the Site, defines area. No activities unrelated to plant operation are permitted within the exclusio fenced-in security area containing the operating facilities (centered within the ex boundary) is permitted only through one permanent gate facility which is manned by on a 24-hour-per-day basis.

No public roads, highways, railways, or navigable waterways traverse the excl

4.1.5.12 Occupational and Public Health and Safety

4.1.5.12.1 Occupational Radiological Health and Safety. The Navy has well established and

effective Occupational Safety, Health, and Occupational Medicine programs at all of regard to radiological aspects of these programs, the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Prog reduce to as low as reasonably achievable the external exposure to personnel from i associated with naval nuclear propulsion plants. These stringent controls on minim radiation exposure have been successful. No personnel at the Naval Reactors Depart facilities have ever exceeded the applicable federal annual radiation exposure limi was 15 rem per year in 1958 and is currently 5 rem per year. No one has exceeded t

limit of 5 rem per year since this limit was established in 1967 and since 1980, no more than 2 rem per year from radiation associated with naval nuclear propulsion plant average occupational exposure of each person monitored at Naval Reactors DOE facilities per year. The average lifetime accumulated radiation exposure from radiation associated with the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program for the 141,000 personnel who have been monitored at Naval Reactors facilities is about 0.35 rem (NNPP 1994c). This corresponds to the cancer fatality of 1 in 7142.

Naval Reactors policy on occupational exposure from ingested or inhaled radioactivity is to prevent significant radiation exposure to personnel from internal radioactivity. To achieve this objective are one-tenth of the levels allowed by federal regulations. Since 1972 as a result of this policy, no one has received more than one-tenth the occupational exposure limit from internal radiation exposure caused by radioactivity work at the DOE Naval Reactors facilities.

For work operations involving the potential for spreading radioactive contaminants, containments are used to prevent personnel contamination or generation of airborne contamination. The controls for contamination are so strict that precautions sometimes have had to be taken to prevent tracking contamination from fallout and natural sources into radiological areas. Contamination control limits used in these areas were well below the levels of contamination occurring outside in the general public areas. A basic requirement of control is monitoring all personnel leaving any area where radioactive contamination occurs. Workers are trained to survey themselves (i.e., frisk), and their performance is monitored by radiological control personnel. Frisking of the entire body is required, normally using hand-held survey instruments. Major work facilities are equipped with portable monitors in lieu of hand-held friskers. These stringent controls to protect the workers and contamination have proven effective in the past.

In 1991, researchers from Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, completed a very comprehensive epidemiological study of the health of workers at the six largest private shipyards that service the Navy's nuclear-powered ships (Matanoski 1991). The study evaluated a population of 70,730 civilian workers over a period from the first overhaul of the first nuclear-powered submarine, USS NAUTILUS, through 1981, to determine whether there was an excess risk of leukemia or other cancers associated with exposure to gamma radiation. This study is also of particular relevance to workers at the Naval Reactors prototypes because the type of radioactivity, level of exposure, and method of radiological controls at these shipyards are similar to the Naval Reactors prototypes.

The Johns Hopkins study found no evidence to conclude that the health of people who work on U.S. naval nuclear-powered ships has been adversely affected by exposure to radiation incidental to this work. The average annual radiation exposure for these workers is about two times higher than the exposure received by personnel assigned to Naval Reactors propulsion prototype sites. Additional studies are planned to investigate the observed health effects in the shipyard study with data beyond 1981.

Attachment A provides a discussion of the calculation of past health impacts from the transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens. The radiation exposure to workers for all historical shipments is 16.6 person-rem, which statistically corresponds to 0.0066 cancer fatalities. The maximum exposed individual (MEI) is a transportation worker who is closer to the shipment for a longer time than any member of the general population. Under the limiting assumption that the same worker is associated with every shipment throughout the historical period, this person would receive a total exposure of 7.5 rem over the 40-year period, or about 0.19 rem per year, which is within DOE standards for occupationally exposed individuals. The radiation exposures to workers correspond to much less than the cancer risk, which means that it is unlikely that there have been any past health impacts from historical shipments of naval spent nuclear fuel over the entire history of such shipments.

4.1.5.12.2 Occupational Non-radiological Health and Safety.

In the non-radiological Occupational Safety, Health and Occupational Medicine area, the Navy complies with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration Regulations. The Navy's policy is to maintain a healthful work environment at all naval facilities. Engineered systems and administrative controls are the primary means employed for minimizing potential employee exposure to occupational hazards. When engineering or administrative controls, personal protective equipment is used to provide additional protection. Due to the varied nature of work at naval facilities, there is a potential for certain employees to be exposed to physical and chemical hazards. These employees are routinely monitored during work and receive medical surveillance. Hazards such as exposure to high noise levels or heat stress. In addition, employee

their exposure to chemical hazards such as organic solvents, lead, asbestos, etc., are placed into medical surveillance programs for these chemical hazards.

Attachment A provides a discussion of the calculation of past health impacts from all transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens. Approximately 0.1 person-rem is estimated as a result of non-radiological sources (vehicle emissions) associated with shipments of spent nuclear fuel. This number includes both the workers and the general population. Since this number is much less than one, it is unlikely that there has been any non-radiological impact due to the historical shipment of naval spent nuclear fuel over the entire history of shipments.

4.1.5.12.3 Public Radiological Health and Safety.

The effluent and environmental monitoring results show that the radioactivity in liquid and gaseous effluents from 1992 operations at the Kesselring Site had no measurable effect on background radioactivity levels. There were no exposures from Site operations to off-site individuals were too small to be measured and were calculated using conservative methods. In accordance with the "Knolls Atomic Power Plant Environmental Monitoring Report for Calendar Year 1992" (KAPL 1992), the following were determined: (1) the radiation exposure to the maximally exposed individual in the Site was less than 0.1 mrem, (2) the average exposure to members of the public residing within 80-kilometer (50-mile) radius assessment area surrounding the Site was less than 0.1 mrem, (3) the collective exposure to the population residing within 50 miles of the Site was less than 0.1 person-rem.

The hypothetical exposures calculated in Attachment F for the period 1995 through 2000 (adjusted from an annual basis (1995) to the historical basis by multiplying by 40 years (the period of site operations) and by a factor of 1.7 to take into consideration variations in operations and prototypes).

The calculated accumulated exposures through 1995 to the general population within 50 miles of the site (about 1.15 million people) are 3.9 person-rem. To provide perspective, the collective exposure due to natural radiation sources through 1995 is approximately 14 million person-rem based on 0.3 rem per person per year.

The results show that the estimated exposures were less than 0.1 percent of the radiation protection standards listed in DOE Order 5400.5 (DOE 1993), and that the exposure to the population residing within 80 kilometers (50 miles) of the Site was less than 0.1 percent of the natural background radiation exposure to the population. In addition, the exposures were less than 1 percent of that permitted by the numerical guide listed in Appendix I (CFR 1986) for whole-body exposure, demonstrating that exposures are as reasonably achievable. The exposure attributed to radioactive air emissions was less than 0.1 percent of the EPA standard given in 40CFR61 (CFR 1989).

The collective radiation exposure to the public along travel routes from Kesselring Site shipments of radioactive materials during 1992 was calculated using data given by the "Final Environmental Statement of the Transportation of Material by Air and Other Modes" (DOE 1977). Based on the type and number of shipments made, the collective annual radiation exposure to the public along the transportation routes, including transportation workers, was 0.1 person-rem. This is less than 0.001 percent of the exposure received by the same population from natural background radiation.

Attachment A provides a discussion of the calculation of past health impacts from all transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens. The radiation exposure to the general population for all historical shipments is 1.95 person-rem, which is statistically insignificant (0.00098 cancer fatalities).

All of the radiation exposures to the general population correspond to much less than one incident cancer, which means that it is unlikely that there has been any past health impact on the general public due to all historical shipments of naval spent nuclear fuel over the entire history of shipments.

4.1.5.12.4 Public Non-radiological Health and Safety.

Liquid effluents from the Kesselring Site

are derived from several sources: Site boiler blowdown, sewage treatment plant blowdown and overflow, retention basin discharges, storm water, and site service cooling water. Liquid effluents from the Kesselring Site enter Glowegee Creek through two surface discharges (001 and 002), a submerged drain line from the sewage treatment plant (discharge 003) and a storm water runoff (discharge 004).

With the exception of the sewage treatment plant, intermittent cooling tower once-through cooling systems that operate continuously, all effluents are released of effluent concentrations is achieved by the analysis of liquid collected from the systems and from the collection tanks prior to each release from the batch systems.

A series of gates are located in discharge channels 001, 002, and the lagoon means to contain effluent if concentrations should ever exceed applicable discharge addition, continuous pH and temperature monitoring systems are installed in discharge 002, and the lagoon. These systems automatically control the discharge gates and p there is ever an out-of-specification pH or temperature level. Periodic samples co effluent channels are analyzed for chemical constituents, and demonstrate compliance New York State Department of Environmental Conservation State Pollutant Discharge E System permit.

Attachment A provides a discussion of the calculation of past health impacts all transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens. Approximately 0 estimated as a result of non-radiological sources (vehicle emissions) associated wi shipments of spent nuclear fuel. This number includes both the workers and the gen Since this number is much less than one, it is unlikely that there has been any non impact to the public due to all historical shipments of naval spent nuclear fuel ov of such shipments.

4.1.5.13 Utilities and Energy

4.1.5.13.1 Water Consumption. The Site Service Water System provides the Kesselring Site

with water for operations, fire protection, sanitary, and potable use. The Site us million gallons of well water per year. The Site is supplied by two pressurized ma located at the well field. Main and backup chlorination facilities are located at locations. Five loops, on site, comprise the central distribution system which is up to 3,800 gallons per minute. Surge capacity for fire fighting and peak usage is elevated head tanks with a combined capacity of 500,000 gallons.

4.1.5.13.2 Electricity Consumption.

The Kesselring Site is provided with two separate off-site commercial electrical power sources from the Niagara Mohawk Power Company. One sou 115-kv Transmission Line No. 1 that runs between Spier Falls, New York and Rotterda York. This line is approximately 40 miles long and is tapped at approximately the m service to the Site. The overhead line from the 115-kv tap on Line No. 1 to the Si long. The second physically independent commercial source feeding the Site is a 3 transmission line supplied from a radial system fed from Ballston Spa, New York. T is approximately 9.6 miles long. The Site uses 47 thousand megawatt-hours of elect security, building lighting, and prototype plant support.

4.1.5.13.3 Fuel Consumption.

There is no natural gas used on the Kesselring Site. Number 2 fuel oil is used to fire four Site steam generating boilers for Site heating for wh consumption averages 640,000 gallons.

4.1.5.13.4 Wastewater Systems and Discharges.

The sewage treatment facility for the Kesselring Site is a third-level treatment facility utilizing the extended aeration activated sludge and chemical precipitation of phosphorus followed by sand filtrati meets all federal and New York State standards for sewage treatment. Discharges ar conformance with the terms of a New York State Pollutant Discharge Elimination perm sludge is stored in a holding tank and is periodically removed by a licensed subcon at a state-approved, off-site disposal area. The treatment plant is automatic and ed. Routine analysis and adjustments are made daily. Approximately 9.125 million g processed by the Site Sewage Treatment Facility each year.

4.1.5.13.5 Energy Consumption.

The following energy conservation initiatives for the Kesselring Site are scheduled for completion between now and the year 2000:

- (1) The shutdown of one prototype plant.
- (2) The conversion from fuel oil to natural gas for operating the Site steam
- (3) Replacing the existing building lights and windows with modern, more energy systems.
- (4) Major building renovations including energy conservation upgrades to ventilation and testing facilities.

4.1.5.14 Materials and Waste Management

Operation of the Kesselring Site results in the generation of various types of materials that require detailed procedures for handling, packaging, transportation, disposal at a government-operated burial site. Radioactive materials that do not require disposal are handled and transferred in accordance with detailed material control and accountability. Internal reviews are made prior to the shipment of any radioactive materials from the site that the material is properly identified, surveyed, and packaged in accordance with local requirements.

Low-level radioactive solid waste material that requires disposal includes fire resin, rags, paper, and plastic. The volume of waste contaminated with radioactivity and shipped is minimized through the use of special work procedures that limit the amount that becomes contaminated during work on radioactive systems and reactor components. Compressible wastes are compacted in order to further reduce the volume of waste to be shipped. Radioactive liquids are solidified prior to shipment. All radioactive wastes are packaged in accordance with applicable regulations of the Department of Transportation given in 49CFR, Parts 171-178 (CFR 1985). The waste packages also comply with all applicable requirements of the DOE, and the burial sites. All shipments of low-level radioactive solid wastes are authorized common carriers to government-owned burial sites located outside of New Mexico. During 1992, approximately 215 cubic meters (281 cubic yards) of routine low-level waste containing 987 curies were shipped from the Site for burial.

Site operations produce a variety of industrial waste products including sewage sludge and effluent, once-through cooling water, chemical wastes, boiler exhaust gases, and other products typical of a large laboratory facility. All such waste products are handled in accordance with various permits as required by federal and state laws. Chemically hazardous wastes are controlled and disposed of in accordance with the requirements of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) in accordance with a permit held by the Site and administered by the State.

All hazardous wastes are transported off-site for disposal at permitted, commercial facilities. No treatment (with the exception of exempt simple treatment neutralization) or disposal occurs at the Kesselring Site. In 1992, the Kesselring Site disposed of approximately 15 tons of various hazardous wastes for off-site disposal. In accordance with the Site's hazardous waste minimization plan, the plan requires the Site to identify and minimize waste-producing operations, compare minimization efforts year to year, demonstrate progress, and establish waste minimization goals. This is accomplished through strict procurement procedures, substitution of non-hazardous materials where practicable, and other similar measures.

Waste which is both radioactive and chemically hazardous is regulated under the Energy Act and the RCRA as "mixed waste." Within the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program, concerted efforts are taken to avoid commingling radioactive and chemically hazardous wastes as to minimize the potential for generation of mixed waste. For example, these efforts include avoiding the use of acetone solvents, lead-based paints, lead shielding in disposal of chemical paint removers. Radioactive wastes, including those containing chemically hazardous substances, are handled in accordance with long-standing Program radiological requirements. Handling includes solidification to immobilize the radioactivity, separation of the chemically hazardous substances, removal of liquids from solids, and other simple treatment. A determination is then made as to whether the resulting waste is hazardous. As a result of these efforts to avoid the use of chemically hazardous substances in radiological work, the Program typically generates only a few hundred cubic feet of mixed waste each year. This small amount of mixed waste, along with limited amounts of mixed waste from Program work conducted

1987, will be stored pending the licensing of commercial treatment and disposal facilities. Sanitary wastewater is processed at a conventional extended aeration treatment plant located at the southeast corner of the fenced security area. The treatment train consists of equipment to remove large solids, aeration tanks in which air is bubbled through the waste to provide oxygen to the sludge to reduce biochemical oxygen demand, and a clarifier for the separation of sludge from the effluent. The treatment plant is effective in reducing biochemical oxygen demand and suspended solids to 90 percent in the effluent. Discharges are controlled in conformance with the terms of the State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit held by the Kesselring Site. Accumulated sludge is removed from the plant by a New York State licensed subcontractor and is disposed of at an approved off-site disposal facility also licensed by New York State. Non-hazardous wastes are reused and recycled or disposed of off-site. Sanitary wastes such as cafeteria waste, scrap paper, and the like are also disposed of at a licensed off-site. Hazardous wastes are being buried in the landfill. Most metal solid waste is accumulated and sold to a scrap salvage vendor.

4.2 IDAHO NATIONAL ENGINEERING LABORATORY

4.2.1 Overview

There are three naval reactor prototype plants at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEL) at the Naval Reactors Facility (NRF). These plants contain nuclear reactor components that have reached the end of their usefulness and are being placed in layup and safe storage. Dismantlement of each of the prototype plants will be accomplished in the future; however, a specific time has yet been set for this work. Appropriate documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) will be prepared for prototype dismantlement when a proposal for these actions has been developed.

Also located at the Naval Reactors Facility is the Expanded Core Facility (ECF). Spent naval nuclear fuel has been shipped for examination since 1957. After examination, the spent nuclear fuel is transferred to the Idaho Chemical Processing Plant, also located at the INEL. This section provides a brief summary of the INEL affected environment. A detailed description of the affected environment at the INEL is provided in Volume 1, Appendix B, and Volume 2, Section 4. The reader should refer to the applicable sections therein for more information.

4.2.2 Land Use

The INEL site (which has been designated a National Environmental Research Park) covers approximately 2300 square kilometers (about 890 square miles) of dry, cool desert in southeastern Idaho. Land at the INEL site is currently used for industrial and support operations, energy research and waste management activities, grazing, infrastructure, recreational activities, and environmental research. Only about 2 percent of the land is used for facilities and infrastructure. Access to most facility areas is restricted. Land surrounding the INEL site is primarily used for grazing, mineral and energy production, wildlife management, range land, and recreation.

4.2.3 Socioeconomics

INEL plays a substantial role in the regional economy. For fiscal year 1990, INEL employed approximately 11,100 personnel, or nearly 12 percent of the total regional population. The population directly supported by INEL employment was approximately 38,000 persons, or about 12 percent of the total regional population. Over 97 percent of INEL employees reside in the region of influence affected by the INEL. The INEL region of influence includes the seven counties surrounding and including the INEL: Bingham, Bonneville, Butte, Clark, Jefferson, Madison, and Blaine counties. Employment in this region experienced an annual average growth rate of approximately 1.3 percent from 1980 to 1991 while the population growth in the same period was about 0.6 percent per year. Volume 1, Appendix B provides a complete description of the affected environment at the INEL in this category.

Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations," requires federal agencies to identify and address disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of programs and activities on minority and low-income populations. An adverse environ-

a deleterious environmental impact determined to be unacceptable or above generally A disproportionately high impact refers to an impact (or risk of an impact) in a minority community that significantly exceeds that on the larger community. Data a U. S. Census of 1990 have been used to develop information on the locations of minority income populations within approximately 50 miles of the INEL, and are provided in A this volume of the Environmental Impact Statement. These data were developed in a ensures that they are consistent with the data on the total population provided in

4.2.4 Cultural Resources

Approximately 4 percent of the INEL has been surveyed for archaeological resources. 1500 sites have been identified; however, none are currently on the National Register of Historic Places, but may be placed there after formal evaluation. One structure on the INEL research and development, the Experimental Breeder Reactor I, is on the National Register of Historic Places and is a National Historic Landmark while a number of other reactors and associated facilities are eligible for inclusion. The entire INEL site is culturally important to Native Americans who believe the land is sacred. Further information on cultural resources at INEL is provided in Volume 1, Appendix B, Section 4.4 and in Volume 2, Section 4.4.2.

4.2.5 Aesthetic and Scenic Resources

The INEL site is bordered on the north and west by the Bitterroot, Lemhi, and Selkirk mountain ranges. Volcanic buttes near the southern boundary of the INEL can be seen from locations on the site. Most of the area within the INEL site consists of open, undeveloped land. Although many of the site facilities are visible to the public, most facilities are not visible from public roads. The reader should refer to the detailed description of the aesthetic resources in this category at the INEL in Volume 1, Appendix B.

4.2.6 Geology

The INEL site is located on the Eastern Snake River Plain which extends in a north-south direction along the Idaho-Oregon border in the west to the Yellowstone Plateau in the east. The resources within the site are sand, gravel, and pumice.

The Eastern Snake River Plain has low seismicity but is surrounded by an area of moderate seismicity. A summary of the seismicity at the ECF site is provided in Attachment 1.

Volcanic hazards at the INEL site have a low probability of occurrence. Volcanic hazards in the INEL area consist of possible recurrence of silicic volcanism, silicic dome eruptions, and basaltic eruptions. Of these three volcanic hazards, basaltic eruptions have been the highest expectation of occurrence. The potential for basaltic volcanism is less than 10⁻⁵ per year. The reason that the risk from volcanic hazards at ECF is low is that the facility is more than 9 miles north of the highest potential source of basaltic eruptions. The viscous nature of basaltic lava flows, they are very slow moving and can be diverted as that on the INEL. The potential for silicic volcanism impacting ECF is negligible. The center of silicic volcanism is now located under Yellowstone National Park which is east of ECF. Several small silicic domes were emplaced in the vicinity of INEL in the last million years. These silicic domes are about 17 miles south of the Expanded Core Facility. They have minimal impact on the site. (Rizzo 1994)

4.2.7 Air Resources

The Eastern Snake River Plain climate exhibits low relative humidity, wide diurnal swings, and large variations in annual precipitation. The average seasonal temperature range from -7.3 degrees C (18.8 degrees F) in winter to 18.2 degrees C (64.8 degrees F) in summer. Annual precipitation is light, averaging 22.1 centimeters (8.7 inches). The snowfall is 70.1 centimeters (27.6 inches). Other than thunderstorms, severe weather is infrequent.

The air quality on the INEL site and off-site is generally good and within applicable guidelines. Details of the non-radiological air quality and the radiological air quality are provided in Appendix B of Volume 1.

4.2.8 Water Resources

Surface water features near the INEL site are the Big Lost River, Little Lost Creek, and on-site man-made ponds. Water in the rivers does not exceed the applicable water quality standards. The potential for flooding has been assessed. Details on plains can be found in Appendix B and Volume 2.

Groundwater in the area is contained in the Snake River Plain Aquifer. Subsurface quality is affected by natural water chemistry and contaminants originating at the discharges to unlined ponds and deep wells have introduced radionuclides, non-radio inorganic salts, and organic compounds into the subsurface water. For a complete description of the affected environment in this category, the reader should refer to Volume 1, Appendix B.

4.2.9 Ecological Resources

Vegetation on the INEL site is primarily shrub-steppe vegetation, with sagebrush the dominant plant. The INEL supports animal communities typical of shrub-steppe vegetated habitats. Over 270 vertebrate species have been observed on the site. A more thorough description of ecological resources at the INEL is provided in Volume 1, Appendix B. Therein is a description of the threatened and endangered species which include the peregrine falcon.

4.2.10 Noise

The major sources of noise at the INEL occur primarily in developed operations and include various facilities, equipment, and machines. Existing INEL-related noises to which the public are exposed are those from transporting people and materials to and from the INEL and from facilities via buses, trucks, private vehicles, helicopters, and freight trains. The business travel of INEL personnel via commercial air transport represents an appreciable portion of such travel in and out of regional airports.

4.2.11 Traffic and Transportation

The INEL is surrounded by a system of interstate highways, U.S. highways, state roads, and airports. The regional railroads include main and branch Union Pacific Railroad in Southeastern Idaho. The two major airports in Idaho Falls and Pocatello provide passenger service.

The INEL transportation infrastructure consists of an on-site road system and there are about 140 kilometers (87 miles) of paved roads, of which 29 kilometers are considered service roads and are closed to the public. The Union Pacific Railroad's southern portion of the INEL and provides rail service to the site. Rail shipments of commodities, spent nuclear fuel, and radioactive materials.

4.2.12 Occupational and Public Health and Safety

4.2.12.1 Occupational Radiological Health and Safety. Radiation exposures to workers at

ECF in recent years have averaged approximately 100 millirem per year, compared to 5000 millirem per year specified by The Code of Federal Regulations, Title 10, Part 20. Radiation exposure to workers at ECF makes up about 30% of the occupational exposures experienced by workers at NRF. Approximately 280 workers at ECF work in radiological operations and are monitored for occupational radiation exposure. The average lifetime accumulated exposure from radiation associated with naval nuclear propulsion plants for the 141 who have been monitored at the DOE Naval Reactors facilities including ECF, is about 1000 millirem (NNPP 1994c). This corresponds to the likelihood of a cancer fatality of 1 in 7142.

Attachment A provides a discussion of the calculation of past health impacts from all transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens. The radiation exposure to transportation workers for all historical shipments is 16.6 person-rem, which translates to 0.0066 cancer fatalities. The maximum exposed individual (MEI) is a transportation worker who is closer to the shipment for a longer time than any member of the general public. Under the limiting assumption that the same worker is associated with every shipment during the historical period, this person would receive a total exposure of 7.5 rem over the a

40-year period, or about 0.19 rem per year, which is within Department of Energy (DOE) limits for occupationally exposed individuals. The radiation exposures to workers correspond to less than one incident cancer, which means that it is unlikely that there have been any due to all historical shipments of naval spent nuclear fuel over the entire history.

4.2.12.2 Occupational Non-radiological Health and Safety. In the non-radiological

Occupational Safety, Health, and Occupational Medicine area, the Navy complies with Occupational Safety and Health Administration Regulations. The Navy's policy is to provide a safe and healthful work environment at all naval facilities. Due to the varied nature of facilities, there is a potential for certain employees to be exposed to physical and chemical hazards. These employees are routinely monitored during work and receive medical surveillance for chemical hazards such as exposure to high noise levels or heat stress. In addition, employees are exposed to chemical hazards such as organic solvents, lead, asbestos, etc., and appropriate measures are placed into medical surveillance programs for these chemical hazards.

Operations at ECF have resulted in fewer than 210 days of work lost to injury and illness between 1987 and 1993 out of 736 total lost days of work at NRF during that period. Recordable injuries at ECF represented about 12 percent of the total number of such injuries during the same period.

Attachment A provides a discussion of the calculation of past health impacts from all transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens. Approximately 0.000031 cancer fatalities are estimated as a result of non-radiological sources (vehicle emissions) associated with shipments of spent nuclear fuel. This number includes both the workers and the general population. Since this number is much less than one, it is unlikely that there has been any non-radiological impact due to the historical shipment of naval spent nuclear fuel over the entire history of shipments.

Limited quantities of some materials classified as hazardous chemicals are handled at ECF, but the precautions used during the work prevent exposure of the workers to these materials.

4.2.12.3 Public Radiological Health and Safety. The Naval Reactors Facility has from its

beginning monitored potential sources of releases of radioactivity to the environment from the site in liquid and airborne effluents. Releases of water containing low levels of various radionuclides from disposal basins, leaching pits, and retention basins were made principally in the 1960s. This practice was discontinued in 1979 and the residual activity in the soil is estimated to be approximately 150 curies, consisting primarily of cesium-137, strontium-90, and cobalt-60. The Naval Reactors Facility maintains a program to monitor these areas to provide assurance that they continue to not present a hazard to the public. Operations at ECF, have had no effect on the groundwater of the Snake River Plain Aquifer. Monitoring of the aquifer on the NRF site indicates radioactivity is at or near natural background levels. A comprehensive INEL site radiation monitoring program (Hoff et al. 1992) shows that exposure to persons off-site as a result of all NRF operations is too small to be measurable.

Attachment A provides a discussion of the calculation of past health impacts from all transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens. The radiation exposure to the general population for all historical shipments is 1.95 person-rem, which corresponds to 0.000098 cancer fatalities. The maximum exposed individual (MEI) is a worker at the facility. These workers are closer to the shipment for a longer time than any member of the general population. The maximum exposure to an individual of the general population is 0.062 rem over the historical period, which statistically corresponds to 0.000031 cancer fatalities.

4.2.12.4 Public Non-radiological Health and Safety. Since operations began, NRF has

monitored site water and air released from operations at the site to ensure that the requirements of applicable federal and state environmental standards are met. Results of a monitoring program confirm that the operation of NRF has no discernible impact on the environment (WECNRF 1993). Operations at NRF have not caused degradation of the quality of the groundwater of the Snake River Plain Aquifer. Monitoring results indicate no detectable toxic or laboratory chemicals in the groundwater in the vicinity of NRF. Low levels of sodium chloride (like table salt) used to soften site water and nitrates (which leaked through sewage lagoon liners) and discharges to the industrial waste ditch are detectable in the vicinity of NRF at levels below the applicable drinking water standards. No constituent in the groundwater exceeds applicable drinking water standards.

Attachment A provides a discussion of the calculation of past health impacts all transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens. As stated in Section 4.2.12, it is unlikely that there has been any non-radiological health impact to the public due to shipments of naval spent nuclear fuel over the entire history of such shipments.

4.2.13 Utilities and Energy

The following discussion briefly describes the current utility and energy usage. For more detailed information, refer to Volume 1, Appendix B.

Commercial electrical power is supplied to the INEL site by the Idaho Power Company. Water supply for INEL is provided by a system of wells, pumps, and storage tanks which are administered by the DOE. Because of the distance between site facility areas, the systems for each facility are independent of each other. Wastewater systems at most areas consist primarily of septic tanks and drain fields, although two areas also have wastewater treatment facilities. The fuels consumed at the site (fuel oil, gasoline, diesel, liquid petroleum gas) are transported to the site by various distributors for storage.

4.2.14 Materials and Waste Management

The following discussion briefly describes the current waste disposal practices. For more detailed information, refer to Volume 1, Appendix B.

High-level waste is currently in storage at the INEL Idaho Chemical Processing Complex. High-level waste is blended and then treated by calcination to produce a granular calcine solid.

Transuranic waste is kept in retrievable storage at the Radioactive Waste Management Complex. Although there is no currently available disposal facility, all transuranic waste is intended to ultimately be retrieved, repackaged, certified, and shipped to the Waste Treatment Plant for final disposal.

Low-level waste has been stored and disposed of at the Radioactive Waste Management Complex. Most low-level waste is reduced in volume before disposal through incineration, compaction, and sizing at the Waste Experimental Reduction Facility; however, this has been curtailed since 1991 awaiting an operating permit from the State of Idaho. Low-level waste awaiting treatment is stored on asphalt/concrete pads at the Waste Experimental Reduction Facility and in radioactive waste storage containers at the generating facilities.

Most of the mixed low-level waste currently stored at the INEL is alpha-contaminated low-level mixed waste shipped to the INEL for storage and treatment from off-site generators. Only low-level mixed waste from INEL contractors is accepted at INEL for treatment. All low-level mixed waste generated at INEL is stored at interim storage facilities until treatment systems become available or operational.

Hazardous waste generated at the INEL is not treated or permanently stored at the INEL. It is collected and temporarily stored at the Hazardous Waste Storage Facility, or at accumulation areas, and shipped off-site to permitted treatment, storage, or disposal facilities.

The industrial/commercial solid waste generated at the INEL is disposed of in the INEL Landfill Complex located at the Central Facilities Area. Waste segregation takes place at the INEL facility so recyclable materials do not enter the solid waste stream.

4.3 SAVANNAH RIVER SITE

4.3.1 Overview

As mentioned previously, naval spent nuclear fuel has been shipped to the Expanded Core Facility (ECF) at the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory (INEL) for examination and treatment. One of the alternatives under consideration is to create a facility similar to ECF at the DOE-owned Savannah River Site (SRS) in South Carolina. A detailed description of the ECF at the SRS is provided in Volume 1, Appendix C. This section provides a summary of highlights from Volume 1, Appendix C. Therefore, specific source references for information contained in this section are omitted here but can be found in Volume 1, Appendix C.

Two sites have been identified as possible locations for the construction of the Expanded Core Facility. One location for the Savannah River ECF is just to the east of the geographic center of the complex (see Site A on Figure 4.3-1). The other location is the unused Barnwell Nuclear Fuel Plant located just outside of the eastern boundary of the complex.

complex. In either case, a separate security area would be established specifically for the Savannah River ECF, with all access controlled by the Naval Reactors Program as has been the case at the INEL-ECF.

4.3.2 Land Use

The SRS (which has been designated a National Environmental Research Park) occupies an area of approximately 800 square kilometers (310 square miles) in western South Carolina, generally rural area about 40 kilometers (25 miles) southeast of Augusta, Georgia. The Savannah River Site can be grouped into three major categories: forest/undeveloped, and developed facilities. Land use bordering SRS is primarily forest and agriculture. A large amount of open water and non-forested wetlands along the Savannah River Valley does not contain any public recreation facilities and only about 5 percent of the land is constructed facilities.

Figure 4.3-1. Candidate sites for an Expanded Core Facility. 4.3.3 Socioeconomics

Approximately 90 percent of the SRS work force lives within the region of influence by the SRS. The SRS region of influence includes Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg, and Beaufort Counties in South Carolina, and Columbia and Richmond Counties in Georgia. The employment region experienced an annual average growth rate of approximately 5 percent between 1970 and 1990. Over this same time period, the labor force in the six-county region of influence grew by 39 percent. Personal income in the region of influence is about \$7 billion. The population of influence increased 13 percent from 376,058 in 1980 to 425,607 in 1990. Appendix Volume 1 provides a complete description of the affected environment at the SRS in

Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations," requires federal agencies to identify and address disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of programs and activities on minority and low-income populations. An adverse environmental impact is a deleterious environmental impact determined to be unacceptable or above generally accepted levels. A disproportionately high impact refers to an impact (or risk of an impact) in a low-income or minority community that significantly exceeds that on the larger community. Data from the U. S. Census of 1990 have been used to develop information on the locations of minority and low-income populations within approximately 50 miles of the SRS, and are provided in Appendix Volume 1 of the Environmental Impact Statement. These data were developed in a way that ensures that they are consistent with the data on the total population provided in

4.3.4 Cultural Resources

Cultural resources on the SRS can be summarized by stating that approximately 850 archaeological sites have been identified. These range in age from Clovis Paleolithic to historic. Most structures were demolished during initial establishment of the SRS. Appendix Volume 1 provides a complete description of the affected environment at the SRS in

4.3.5 Aesthetic and Scenic Resources

The dominant aesthetic setting in the vicinity of the SRS consists mainly of forest and open land, with some limited residential and industrial areas. Because of the distance from the SRS, the rolling terrain, normally hazy atmospheric conditions, and heavy vegetation, facilities are not generally visible from off the Site. The land on the SRS is heavily developed areas occupy only approximately 5 percent of the total land area.

4.3.6 Geology

The SRS is on the Upper Atlantic Coastal Plain of South Carolina, which consists of approximately 200 to 400 meters of sands, clays, and limestones formed millions of years ago. These sediments are underlain by sandstones of Triassic age and older metamorphic and igneous rocks.

There are no known capable faults as defined by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission regulatory guidelines in the SRS region. Therefore, earthquakes capable of producing damage are not likely in the vicinity of SRS. Two notable earthquakes have occurred within 200 kilometers (200 miles) of the SRS. The first was a major earthquake in 1886 in the Charleston area with an estimated Richter magnitude of 6.8. The second earthquake occurred in 1913, which had an estimated Richter magnitude of 2.6, and it occurred about 160 kilometers (100 miles) from the SRS. Two earthquakes have occurred at SRS during recent years. One on June 8, 1985, with a local magnitude of 2.6, and the other on August 5, 1988, with a local magnitude of 2.0. Appendix C of Volume 1 provides a description of the affected environment at the SRS in this category.

4.3.7 Air Resources

The annual average temperature at the SRS is 17.8 degrees C (64 degrees F); monthly averages range from 7.2 degrees C (45 degrees F) in January to 27.2 degrees C (81 degrees F) in July. Relative humidity readings taken four times per day range from 36 percent in January to 81 percent in August. The average annual precipitation at the SRS is approximately 12 inches. Precipitation distribution is fairly even throughout the year, with the highest in the summer and the lowest in autumn. Winter storms in the SRS area occasionally bring gusty surface winds with speeds as high as 32 meters per second (72 miles per hour).

The SRS is in a Class II area in attainment with National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for pollutants, which include sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, particulate matter, and ozone (as volatile compounds), and carbon monoxide. The SRS has demonstrated its compliance with the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control regulation R.61-68, "Toxic Air Pollutants," which regulates the emission of 257 toxic substances. Appendix C of Volume 1 provides a more detailed description of the affected environment in this category.

4.3.8 Water Resources

The Savannah River bounds the SRS on its southern border for about 32 kilometers (20 miles), approximately 260 kilometers (160 miles) from the Atlantic Ocean. At the SRS, River flow averages about 283 cubic meters (10,000 cubic feet) per second. Five tributaries to the Savannah River are on the SRS: Upper Three Runs Creek, Four Mile Branch Creek, Steel Creek, and Lower Three Runs Creek. Neither of the sites identified in the Savannah River ECF is located on the 100-year floodplain. Further discussion on the SRS as well as the 100-year floodplain is available in Volume 1, Appendix C. Approximately 100 Carolina Bays are scattered across the SRS. Carolina Bays are naturally occurring depressions that often hold water. The quality of the water in the Savannah River and the SRS is such that on April 24, 1992, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control reclassified the classification of these waterways from "Class B waters" to "Freshwaters." This is a more stringent set of water quality standards.

Excellent quality groundwater is abundant in this region of South Carolina from the SRS aquifers. The main source of recharge to the groundwater is rainfall and the direct vadose zone is predominantly downward. In general, the vadose zone thickness ranges from approximately 40 meters (130 feet) in the northernmost part of the SRS to 0 meter where the aquifer intersects wetlands, streams, or creeks. The groundwater beneath 5 to 10 percent of the SRS has been contaminated by industrial solvents, metals, tritium, or other constituents on the Site. Appendix C of Volume 1 provides a complete description of the affected environment at the SRS in this category.

4.3.9 Ecological Resources

At the time of acquisition by the U.S. Government, the SRS was approximately 50 percent forested and one-third cropland and pasture. At present, more than 90 percent is forested. An extensive forest management program is conducted by the Savannah River Forest Station, an important contributor to the biodiversity of Georgia and South Carolina. Carolina Bays, Savannah River Swamp, and several relatively intact longleaf pine-wiregrass communities are important contributions to the diversity of biota of the SRS and of the entire region.

The removal of all human inhabitants in 1951 and the restoration of forest cover have provided the wildlife associated with the wetlands of the Savannah River and the sandhills of coastal South Carolina found on the SRS with excellent wildlife habitat.

thorough treatment of the topic of ecological resources at the SRS is provided in V C. Also presented therein is a description of threatened, endangered, and candidate species known to occur or that might occur on the SRS.

4.3.10 Noise

The major noise sources at SRS occur primarily in developed operational areas various facilities, equipment, and machines (e.g., cooling towers, transformers, engines, boilers, steam vents, paging systems, construction and materials-handling equipment). Major noise sources outside the operational areas consist primarily of vehicles and airplanes. Existing SRS-related noise sources of importance to the public are those related to transportation of people and materials to and from the Site. These sources include vehicles, helicopters, and freight trains. In addition, a portion of the air cargo using commercial air transport through the airports at Augusta, Georgia, and Columbia, South Carolina, are attributable to SRS operations. Appendix C of Volume 1 provides a complete description of the affected environment at the SRS in this category.

4.3.11 Traffic and Transportation

The SRS is surrounded by a system of interstate highways, U.S. highways, state and local roads, and railroads. The regional transportation networks service the four South Carolina counties that generate about 90 percent of SRS commuter traffic.

The SRS transportation infrastructure consists of more than 230 kilometers (143 miles) of primary roads, 1,931 kilometers (1,200 miles) of unpaved secondary roads, and 103 kilometers (64 miles) of railroad track. These roads and railroads provide connections among the facilities and to off-site transportation linkages.

4.3.12 Occupational and Public Health and Safety

The sources of radiation exposure to individuals consist of natural background radiation from cosmic, terrestrial, and internal body sources; radiation from medical diagnostic and therapeutic practices; and radiation from man-made sources, including consumer products, industry, and nuclear facilities. Programs are in place at the Savannah River Site to protect against radiological and non-radiological hazards. These programs help to maintain the dose to individuals below the regulatory dose limit of 5 rem/year and the DOE Administrative Control Level of 2 rem/year. Appendix C of Volume 1 provides a complete description of the affected environment at the SRS in this category.

4.3.13 Utilities and Energy

The principal source of water for SRS facilities is the Savannah River, with groundwater wells. The Savannah River Site has its own electric generating facilities, although it purchases much of the power it uses from the South Carolina Electric and Gas Company.

4.3.14 Materials and Waste Management

The SRS generates high-level radioactive waste, transuranic waste, low-level radioactive waste, hazardous waste, mixed waste, and sanitary waste. DOE treats and stores waste from on-site operations at the SRS in waste management facilities. This includes a 20,000 cubic meters (700,000 cubic feet) of low-level waste generated annually. SRS low-level waste for disposal on the site in accordance with the waste category and surface dose rate.

Mixed low-level waste contains low-level radioactive materials and hazardous waste. SRS mixed waste program consists primarily of providing safe storage until treatment facilities are available. Appendix C of Volume 1 provides a complete description of the affected environment for this category.

4.4 HANFORD SITE

4.4.1 Overview

As mentioned previously, naval spent nuclear fuel has been shipped to the Exp Facility (ECF) at the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory (INEL) for examination alternative under consideration to performing spent naval nuclear fuel inspections to construct a facility providing similar capabilities at the Hanford Site. Two op an alternate ECF at the Hanford Site are to: (1) construct a new ECF between the 2 West Areas adjacent to the proposed spent nuclear fuel storage facility, or (2) mod unused Fuels and Materials Examination Facility (FMEF), located in the 400 Area, to operations (see Figure 4.4-1).

This section provides a brief summary of the affected environment at Hanford. discussion of the Hanford Site affected environment is contained in Volume 1, Appen reader should refer to the applicable sections therein for additional information.

4.4.2 Land Use

The Hanford Site (which has been designated a National Environmental Research encompasses approximately 1450 square kilometers (560 square miles) and includes se Department of Energy (DOE) operational areas. Most of the site is open, vacant lan 6 percent of the land occupied by constructed facilities. Land uses in the surroun urban and industrial development, irrigated and dry-land farming, and grazing.

The Hanford Site includes some land-use resources that Native Americans have interest in, regarding the Treaty of 1855. DOE is assisting them in this effort. in Volume 1, Appendix A.

Figure 4.4-1. Hanford Site map. 4.4.3 Socioeconomics

The Hanford Site plays a dominant role in the socioeconomics of the Tri-Citie Pasco, and Kennewick) and other parts of Benton and Franklin counties. Approximate people live within an 80-kilometer (50-mile) radius of the site. The agricultural represents a sizeable part of the local economy. Any major changes in Hanford acti potentially most affect the Tri-Cities and other areas of Benton and Franklin count particular, but generally the 10 counties surrounding the Hanford Site, constitute of influence (Volume 1, Appendix A).

Hanford employment accounted for nearly one-quarter of the total non-agricult Benton and Franklin counties in 1991. Approximately 93 percent of the direct emplo Hanford consists of residents of Benton and Franklin counties; approximately 81 per Tri-Cities area. Population in the two counties increased by about 4 percent from

Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in M Populations and Low-Income Populations," requires federal agencies to identify and appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effe programs and activities on minority and low-income populations. An adverse environ a deleterious environmental impact determined to be unacceptable or above generally A disproportionately high impact refers to an impact (or risk of an impact) in a lo minority community that significantly exceeds that on the larger community. Data a U. S. Census of 1990 have been used to develop information on the locations of mino income populations within approximately 50 miles of the Hanford Site, and are provi A to this volume of the Environmental Impact Statement. These data were developed which ensures that they are consistent with the data on the total population provid

4.4.4 Cultural Resources

The Hanford Site is rich in cultural resources. It contains numerous, well-p archaeological sites representing both the prehistoric and historical periods and i homeland by many Native American people. Two single sites and seven archaeological included in the National Register of Historic Places. Management of Hanford's cult follows the Hanford Cultural Management Plan and is conducted by the Hanford Cultur Laboratory of Pacific Northwest Laboratory. DOE is assisting Native Americans who an interest in renewing their use of some Hanford land-use resources, in accordance

of 1855. Details are provided in Volume 1, Appendix A.

4.4.5 Aesthetic and Scenic Resources

The land in the vicinity of the Hanford Site is generally flat. Rattlesnake western boundary of the Site, and Gable Mountain and Gable Butte are the highest la the Site. Both the Columbia River, flowing across the northern part of the Site an eastern boundary, and the spring-blooming desert flowers provide a source of visual people. The White Bluffs, steep bluffs above the northern boundary of the river in striking feature of the landscape.

4.4.6 Geology

The Hanford Site is located within the central part of the Pasco Basin of the Plateau. Its surface features were formed by catastrophic floods and have undergone since, with the exception of more recently formed sand dunes. The elevation o from about 105 meters (345 feet) above mean sea level in the southeast corner to ab (803 feet) in the northwest. Much of the Hanford Site is underlain by sand, gravel deposits which could have economic value. The major geologic units and a descripti be found in Volume 1, Appendix A.

Seismicity of the Columbia Plateau is relatively low when compared to other r Pacific Northwest. There are several major volcanoes in the Cascade Range west of Site. The nearest is Mount Adams which is about 165 kilometers (102 miles) from th most active volcano is Mount St. Helens which is about 220 kilometers (136 miles) w from Hanford.

4.4.7 Air Resources

The Hanford Site is located in a semi-arid region where the climate is mild a occasional periods of high winds. The summers are generally hot and dry; the winte cool and mild. Average monthly temperatures at the Hanford Site range from -1.5 de (29.3 degrees F) in January to 24.7 degrees C (76.5 degrees F) in July. The annual humidity is 54 percent and is usually highest in winter (approximately 75 percent) summer (about 35 percent). The Cascade Mountains west of the Hanford Site greatly local climate by acting as a natural barrier to Pacific Ocean storm systems. This Site's relatively low average annual precipitation of 16 centimeters (6.3 inches). serves as a source of cold air drainage which has a considerable effect on the wind Hanford Site.

Air quality is within federal standards. Details of the non-radiological air radiological air quality are provided in Appendix A of Volume 1.

Information on severe weather, precipitation extremes, and air dispersion/sta characteristics is provided in Volume 1, Appendix A for the Hanford Site. The sour ical information used in analytical calculations is provided in Attachment F.

4.4.8 Water Resources

The major surface water features near the Hanford Site are the Columbia and Y The Columbia River flows through the northern part of the Site at an average annual about 3400 cubic meters per second (120,000 cubic feet per second). The Yakima Riv low annual flow rate compared to the Columbia River, flows along the southern porti Hanford Site at an average annual rate of 104 cubic meters per second (3673 cubic f The Hanford ECF site or the modified FMEF site would not be affected by a 500-year Columbia River. Details are provided in Volume 1, Appendix A.

The State of Washington Department of Ecology classifies the Columbia River a (excellent) from the Grand Coulee Dam, past the Hanford Site, to the mouth of the r Pacific Ocean. The Hanford Reach of the Columbia River is the last free-flowing po in the United States. Radiological monitoring shows low levels of radionuclides in River. Hydrogen-3 (tritium), iodine-129, and uranium are found in slightly higher downstream of the Hanford Site than upstream, but are well below concentration guid lished by the DOE and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) drinking water

Groundwater quality on the Hanford Site has been affected by defense-related produce nuclear materials. While most of the Site does not have contaminated ground underlying areas of the Site do have elevated levels of both radiological and non-r. The liquid effluents, discharged into the ground, have carried with them certain radionuclides and chemicals which move through the soil column at varying rates, eventually enter water forming plumes of contamination. Groundwater monitoring is conducted on an annual basis. Results indicate that concentrations of various radionuclides in some wells in or near the Site have exceeded drinking water standards. Tritium continues to slowly migrate with the groundwater where it enters the Columbia River. Nitrate concentrations also exceeded drinking water standards at various locations around the Hanford Site. More information on groundwater quality is provided in Volume 1, Appendix A.

4.4.9 Ecological Resources

The Hanford Site is a relatively large, undisturbed area of shrub-steppe vegetation that contains numerous plant and animal species adapted to the region's semi-arid environment. Vegetation at the Hanford Site consists of 10 major kinds of plant communities, with the dominant plant on fields. More than 300 species of insects, 12 species of amphibians and about 39 species of mammals are found on the Hanford Site. The horned-lark and meadowlark are the most abundant nesting birds. A more thorough treatment of the ecological resources at the Hanford Site is provided in Volume 1, Appendix A. Also therein is a description of threatened and endangered species. These include four species of birds, and one species each of mammals and insects.

4.4.10 Noise

Hanford measurements of the propagation of noise have been concerned primarily with occupational noise at work sites. Environmental noise levels have not been extensively measured because of the remoteness of most Hanford activities. Most industrial facilities are located far enough away from the site boundary that noise levels at the boundary are not measurable or are barely distinguishable from background noise levels. Some field well drilling and sampling, have the potential for producing noise in the field area. Permanent facilities that could be disruptive to wildlife.

4.4.11 Traffic and Transportation

The area is serviced by a system of interstate highways and state roads. Per material shipments are transported by road. Bulk materials or large items are shipped by rail. Transportation is used to move irradiated fuel and certain high-level radioactive waste transport equipment and materials.

Hanford's on-site road network consists of rural arterial routes. Only 65 of paved roads at Hanford are accessible to the public. On-site rail transport is provided by a railroad owned and operated by the DOE. This line connects just south of the Yakima Union Pacific, which in turn interchanges with the Washington Central and Burlington Northern Railroads at Kennewick. The Hanford Site infrequently uses the Port of Benton dock on the Columbia River for off-loading large shipments. Overland trailers are then used to transport shipments to the Site.

4.4.12 Occupational and Public Health and Safety

Programs are in place at the Hanford Site to protect workers from radiological hazards. In 1989, about 9000 individuals were monitored at the Hanford Site. 6000 received a measurable radiation dose equivalent to an average annual dose of 0.02 rem per person. This is well below the regulatory dose limit of 5 rem per year and the DOE control level of 2 rem per year.

Doses and exposures to the public from airborne releases at the Hanford Site are reported annually. It is calculated that the maximally exposed off-site individual would receive an exposure of 0.02 millirem per year of radioactive emissions, while the average exposure would be 0.002 millirem per year.

4.4.13 Utilities and Energy

The principal source of water in the Tri-Cities and at the Hanford Site is the Electrical power for the Hanford Site is purchased wholesale from the Bonneville Power Administration, a federal power marketing agency. Hydropower, and to a lesser extent nuclear power, are used to generate the region's electricity.

4.4.14 Materials and Waste Management

The Hanford Site contains several waste areas associated with nuclear defense materials. These areas are scheduled for remediation in accordance with the Hanford Agreement and Consent Order.

The following discussion briefly describes the current waste disposal practices at the Hanford Site. For more detailed information, and information on historical waste disposal practices, see Volume 1, Appendix A.

Wastes at the Hanford Site are generated by both facility operations and environmental restoration activities. Non-dangerous solid waste is disposed of at the Solid Waste Landfill in the 200 Area. The existing capacity of this landfill will be expended by the mid 1990s. Newly generated non-radioactive hazardous waste is shipped off-site for treatment, recovery, and/or disposal.

Low-level mixed waste contains low-level radioactive materials and hazardous wastes are either stored until technology is modified or verified to allow treatment through an evaporator. Solid low-level radioactive waste is placed in unlined, shallow pits in the 200 Area Low-Level Waste Burial Grounds. Hanford also receives low-level waste from generators for disposal. High-level wastes are being stored in single-shell and double-shell tanks. A treatment facility is constructed to allow treatment and disposal of the waste.

Transuranic waste is stored in above-ground storage facilities in the Hanford Complex and Transuranic Waste Storage and Assay Facility. This waste is planned to be sent to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in New Mexico for final disposal.

4.5 OAK RIDGE RESERVATION

4.5.1 Overview

As mentioned previously, naval spent nuclear fuel has been shipped to the Experimental Breeder Reactor Facility (ECF) at the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory (INEL) for examination as an alternative to continuing naval spent nuclear fuel operations at the ECF at INEL is a facility providing similar capabilities at the Oak Ridge Reservation (ORR). The new facility is sited near the K-25 Site which is located on the western portion of the ORR (see Figure 4.5-1). A separate security area would be established specifically to enclose the ECF at ORR, controlled by the Naval Reactors Program as has always been the case at the ECF at INEL.

This section provides a brief summary of the affected environment at the Oak Ridge Reservation. A detailed discussion of the ORR affected environment is contained in Appendix F. The reader should refer to the applicable sections of that appendix for more information and for information source references.

4.5.2 Land Use

The ORR is located on approximately 54 square miles (140 square kilometers) of land within Anderson and Roane Counties, Tennessee, with Knox and Loudon Counties to the north. Most of the ORR is located within the corporate limits of the city of Oak Ridge. The city of Oak Ridge is approximately 30 miles (48 kilometers) southeast of Oak Ridge and is the largest city in the area. The ORR includes three intensively developed industrial areas at the Y-12 Plant, the K-25 Site, and the National Laboratory (ORNL), and the K-25 Site separated by mostly undeveloped forest. Surrounding land uses include residential, commercial, public, and industrial areas. The land surrounding the ORR is characterized by residences, small farms, forest, and pasture. Approximately 21 square miles (54 square kilometers) of undeveloped ORR land have been designated as the Environmental Research Park.

Figure 4.5-1. Oak Ridge Reservation site map. 4.5.3 Socioeconomics

Socioeconomic parameters are defined in this Environmental Impact Statement to influence encompassing Anderson, Knox, Roane, and Loudon Counties, Tennessee. About 10 percent of ORR employees presently live in this region of influence. The employment of ORR in 1990 was 17,082 persons. The 1990 population of 489,230 in the region of influence is expected to increase at less than 1 percent annually through the year 2004, to 538,000, housing stock, with a 1990 vacancy rate of 1.5 percent, is expected to grow in proportion to population.

Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations," requires federal agencies to identify and avoid, to the maximum extent practicable, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects from programs and activities on minority and low-income populations. An adverse environmental impact is determined to be unacceptable or above generally acceptable levels if a disproportionately high impact refers to an impact (or risk of an impact) in a low-income community that significantly exceeds that on the larger community. Data from the U. S. Census of 1990 have been used to develop information on the locations of minority and low-income populations within approximately 50 miles of the ORR, and are provided in Appendix F of this volume of the Environmental Impact Statement. These data were developed in a manner that ensures that they are consistent with the data on the total population provided in Appendix G.

4.5.4 Cultural Resources

A cultural resources survey conducted in 1975 did not identify any cultural resources on the proposed Oak Ridge ECF site. Therefore, no prehistoric or historic resources are located on the proposed Oak Ridge ECF site. There are no known Native American resources on the proposed site of the Oak Ridge ECF. Further discussion is provided in Appendix F of this volume of the Environmental Impact Statement.

4.5.5 Aesthetic and Scenic Resources

The view on and near the ORR consists mainly of rural land. Views are limited by terrain, forest cover, and frequent haziness. The three main developed areas at the ORNL, and K-25 Site have low vulnerability to visual impacts (visual sensitivity); lands range from low to moderate visual sensitivity.

4.5.6 Geology

The ORR lies within the western portion of the Valley and Ridge Province, near the Cumberland Plateau. The Valley and Ridge Province is characterized by numerous ridges and valleys which extend northeast-southwest. Local geology is characterized by rocks of Cambrian and Ordovician age. Areas of the ORR underlain by limestones and contain sinkholes and caves ("karst" geology). Soils generally belong to the Ultisols, which are moderately acidic soils that exhibit severe mineral weathering with precipitated iron and aluminum oxides. No prime or unique farmlands are located on the ORR.

From 1811 to 1975, five earthquakes or earthquake series with Modified Mercalli (MMI) of V to VI have affected the ORR area. No MMI VII earthquakes have been recorded at the ORR during this period. An MMI VII earthquake does not typically cause severe damage; it causes breaking of weak chimneys at the roof line, cracks in masonry, and the falling of bricks, and stones. MMI VII earthquakes generally occur one order of magnitude less frequently than MMI V to VI earthquakes. Seismic records indicate that the ORR is located in a region of low seismic activity having an average of one to two earthquakes per year with seismic activity in bursts followed by long periods of no activity. No deformation of recent surface has been detected, and seismic shocks from the surrounding, more seismically active areas are at a distance from the epicenter. The ORR is located in Uniform Building Code Zone 2A.

4.5.7 Air Resources

Climate at the ORR is characterized by moderate temperatures (low daily average

in January and high daily average of 76.6yF in July), ample precipitation (annual a inches), and frequent summer thunderstorms. Although infrequently subjected to tor did experience a tornado from a severe thunderstorm in February 1993. The tornado Plant and ended just north of Knoxville. Wind speeds along the tornado path ranged per hour (18 meters per second) to nearly 130 miles per hour (58 meters per second) the areas within the Air Quality Control Region which includes the ORR were designa attainment with respect to all National Ambient Air Quality Standards. Great Smoky National Park, a Prevention of Significant Deterioration Class I area, is located r the southeast. The estimated 50-year effective dose equivalent to any member of th airborne radiological emissions from the ORR is approximately 3.3 millirem. This l regulatory limits.

4.5.8 Water Resources

The ORR is drained by the Clinch River and its network of tributaries. The Cl tributary of the Tennessee River, extends roughly 350 miles and drains roughly 4,41 The section of the river bordering the ORR is impounded by Melton Hill Dam and is a component of the inland waterway system. The average discharge from Melton Hill Da 1963 and 1979 was 150 cubic meters (5,300 cubic feet) per second. The Clinch River source of water withdrawn to meet operational demands on the ORR. The only groundw the ORR suitable for withdrawal is found in the Knox Aquifer, but withdrawals are f abundance of surface water. Concentrations of radiological and non-radiological co applicable water standards have been observed at a number of groundwater monitoring the ORR. Such concentrations are probably a result of past waste disposal practice discharge of radioactive material to ponds and impoundments). However, data indica the contamination remains close to the source. Further discussion concerning the w ORR is provided in Appendix F of Volume 1.

4.5.9 Ecological Resources

Most undeveloped land on the ORR supports forest, including naturally establi growth forest and pine plantations that have been established on former agricultura habitats on the ORR include tailwaters, impoundments, reservoir embayments, large s perennial streams, and wetlands. Wetlands on the ORR include shallow embayments on River impoundments, narrow strips of forested wetlands along groundwater seeps and abandoned farm ponds. Twenty-five plant and animal species known to be present on listed by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation as either endang threatened, or of special concern.

4.5.10 Noise

Noise from the operation of industrial facilities and equipment on the ORR is limited to the developed areas at the Y-12 Plant, ORNL, and K-25 Site. Noise from the ORR is generally limited to vehicular and rail traffic. Noise at the ORR bound indistinguishable from background noise.

4.5.11 Traffic and Transportation

Segments of some arterial roads in the vicinity of the ORR operate close to d certain times. Several arterial roads that are open to the public traverse ORR lan River is a navigable component of the inland waterway system but primarily serves o boaters. Airports in the vicinity of the ORR include the McGhee Tyson Airport in K numerous smaller private airfields.

4.5.12 Occupational and Public Health and Safety

Health impacts to the public are minimal due to administrative and design cont facilities that keep releases of radioactive or otherwise hazardous materials to th compliance with applicable regulatory standards. Occupational doses to persons wor

facilities also fall within regulatory limits. Refer to Appendix F of this volume in this area.

4.5.13 Utilities and Energy

The Clinch River and Melton Hill Reservoirs provide all water resources to the city of Oak Ridge through two pumping stations. The ORR uses an average of 69.3 million (18.3 million gallons) per day. Total potable water capacity available to the ORR (40.2 million gallons) per day, obtained through the K-25 and Y-12 treatment plants is provided to the ORR by the Tennessee Valley Authority. The current ORR power demand is approximately 115 megawatts, while the connected capacity of ORR facilities is approximately 115 megawatts. The average usage of natural gas at the ORR in 1994 was 3.6 billion Btu compared to a contractual capacity of 7.6 billion Btu per day.

4.5.14 Materials and Waste Management

Each of the three main areas of the ORR is responsible for its own air and water discharges and the associated treatment facilities. Non-radioactive hazardous waste by each area, typically by shipment to off-site commercial treatment or disposal for managing radioactive wastes, radioactive mixed wastes, and sanitary and industrial generally involve more than one of the areas or involve land/facilities outside the ORR. Solid sanitary and industrial wastes are disposed of on the ORR. Most radioactive are stored on-site pending future disposal actions. The Toxic Substance Control Act located at the K-25 Site, is used to incinerate uranium-contaminated polychlorinated and other mixed wastes.

4.6 NEVADA TEST SITE

4.6.1 Overview

As mentioned previously, naval spent nuclear fuel has been shipped to the Experimental Facility (ECF) at the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory (INEL) for examination. Two of the alternatives under consideration result in the creation of a facility at a DOE-owned Nevada Test Site (NTS) in Nevada. A detailed description of the environment of the NTS is provided in Volume 1, Appendix F. This section provides a summary of some of the highlights from that volume. Therefore, specific source references for information not included here are omitted but can be found in Volume 1, Appendix F.

A site has been identified as a possible location for the construction of a facility at the Nevada Test Site. The potential location for the Nevada ECF is in Area 5 in the north of the NTS, adjacent to Mercury Highway and south of the NFS High Explosive Assembly (see Figure 4.6-1). A separate security area would be established specifically to enclose the Nevada Test Site ECF, with all access controlled by the Naval Reactors Administration. This has always been the case at the Idaho ECF. This would place the Nevada ECF in close proximity to a location being proposed under one of the Centralization alternatives for construction of an interim spent nuclear fuel storage facility.

4.6.2 Land Use

The NTS occupies an area of approximately 3,500 square kilometers (1,350 square miles) in southern Nevada in a remote area about 104 kilometers (65 miles) northwest of Las Vegas. The southern two-thirds of the NTS is dominated by three large valleys or basins: Yucca, Amargosa, and Jackass flats. Mountain ridges and hills rise above gradually sloping streambeds enclosing these basins. The northern and northwestern sections of the NTS are dominated by the Mesquite and Ranier Mesa. The NTS does not contain any public recreation facilities and a small percentage of the land is occupied by constructed facilities. The NTS is almost entirely surrounded by other federally owned lands which buffer it from lands open to the public. Figure 4.6-1. Candidate site for an Expanded Core Facility at the Nevada Test Site Management on the south and southwest.

4.6.3 Socioeconomics

Socioeconomic parameters defined in this Environmental Impact Statement are for the county region of influence encompassing Clark and Nye Counties, Nevada. Ninety-eight NTS employees live in Clark County (88 percent) or Nye County (10 percent). Economies have continued to improve in Southern Nevada since the mid-1980s. Economic growth accelerated relative to the national trends because of the expansion in hotel and gaming. Appendix F of Volume 1 provides a complete description of the affected environment in this category.

Executive Order 12898, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations," requires federal agencies to identify and address disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of programs and activities on minority and low-income populations. An adverse environmental impact determined to be unacceptable or above generally acceptable levels. A disproportionately high impact refers to an impact (or risk of an impact) in a low minority community that significantly exceeds that on the larger community. Data from the U. S. Census of 1990 have been used to develop information on the locations of minority income populations within approximately 50 miles of the NTS, and are provided in Appendix F of this volume of the Environmental Impact Statement. These data were developed in a way that ensures that they are consistent with the data on the total population provided in

4.6.4 Cultural Resources

People have inhabited the NTS site for approximately 12,000 years. The area was inhabited by Shoshone and Southern Paiute Native American tribes prior to European settlement. These tribes are known to be affiliated with sites located in the northern portions of the NTS including the Pahute and Rainier Mesas. No prehistoric or historic resources are located on the proposed site for the ECF facilities. Also, there are no areas currently known to be subject to Native American Treaty rights. Appendix F of Volume 1 provides a complete description of the affected environment at the NTS in this category.

4.6.5 Aesthetic and Scenic Resources

The view across the NTS comprises a mixture of open desert, mountain ranges, and other natural features. Areas on and surrounding the NTS are generally of low to moderate vulnerability to visual impact (visual sensitivity). Appendix F of Volume 1 provides a more complete description of the affected environment at the NTS in this category.

4.6.6 Geology

The NTS lies in the southern part of the Great Basin Section of the Basin and Range Physiographic Province. Local geology is characterized by sediment-filled topographic valleys surrounded by ranges composed of sedimentary rocks and compacted volcanic ash. Appendix F of Volume 1 provides a complete description of the affected environment in this category.

4.6.7 Air Resources

The climate at lower elevations at the NTS is characterized by bright sunlight, low relative humidity, and large daily temperature ranges. Climate changes markedly at higher elevations. In Pahute Mesa at an elevation of 2,000 meters above mean sea level, the average daily maximum/minimum temperatures are 44°F/22°F (40°F/28°F) in January and 26.7°C/16.7°C (80°F/62°F) in July. At Yucca Flat, at an elevation of 1,200 meters (3,920 feet) above mean sea level, the average daily maximum/minimum temperatures are 10.6°C/-6.1°C (51°F/21°F) in January and 35.6°C/13.9°C (96°F/57°F) in July.

The NTS is located in an attainment area for all criteria pollutants, and the air quality region presently meets all applicable federal and Nevada regulations. For all activities, the estimated effective dose equivalent to any member of the public from all airborne

emissions is approximately 0.01 millirem per year, which is well under regulatory 1

4.6.8 Water Resources

Perennial surface water in the vicinity of the NTS is mostly limited to wide springs, short river reaches, and playas (seasonally inundated lakes). Intermittent bodies include ephemeral streams which briefly flow following heavy rainfall and pl contain standing water for brief periods following storms. Localized flash floods heavy rainfalls can be destructive. Aquifers underlying the NTS are generally deep and 1640 feet. Due to the scarcity of surface water, groundwater is the principal NTS activities and surrounding communities. Appendix F of Volume 1 provides a complete description of the affected environment at the NTS in the general category of water including both surface water and groundwater.

4.6.9 Ecological Resources

The NTS lies in an ecological transition area between the Mojave and Great Basin Terrestrial habitats on the NTS comprise desert scrub-shrub plant communities and a mesa community dominated by pinion pine and juniper. Aquatic habitats and wetlands NTS are limited to widely scattered springs, ephemeral stream channels, and playa 1 five federally and state listed threatened, endangered, or other special status species identified on or near the NTS. Of particular concern is the federally listed (three tortoise, which is vulnerable to physical injury from construction and human activities) federally listed (endangered) Devils Hole pupfish, which is vulnerable to declining

4.6.10 Noise

Major noise sources at the NTS occur primarily in developed operational areas various facilities, equipment, and machines (e.g., cooling towers, transformers, engines, boilers, steam vents, paging systems, construction and materials-handling equipment aircraft operations, and testing. No NTS environmental noise survey data are available boundary, away from most facilities, noise from most sources is barely distinguishable background noise levels.

4.6.11 Traffic and Transportation

Arterial roads in the vicinity of the NTS, including Nevada Route 375 and U.S. generally support free flow of traffic. Airports in the vicinity of the NTS include International Airport in Las Vegas and numerous smaller private airports. Additional this category can be found in Volume 1, Appendix F.

4.6.12 Occupational and Public Health and Safety

Health impacts to the public are minimal due to administrative and design controls facilities that keep releases of radioactive or other hazardous materials to the environment with applicable regulatory standards. Occupational doses to persons working at also fall within regulatory limits. Appendix F of Volume 1 provides a complete description of the affected environment at the NTS in this category.

4.6.13 Utilities and Energy

Water is presently supplied to NTS facilities at a rate of 6139 gallons per minute wells that tap underlying groundwater (aquifers). Between 40 and 45 megawatts of energy is presently available to the NTS from the Nevada Power Company. Proposed expansion with capacity to approximately 200 megawatts.

4.6.14 Materials and Waste Management

Numerous surface and subsurface contamination sites from previously conducted and ancillary operations have been identified on the NTS. Non-radiological contamination on the NTS is minimal because there have been no industrial-type production operations on the NTS.

A "Mixed Waste Management Unit" is located just north of the Radioactive Waste Management Station and will be part of routine disposal operations in the near future. If waste disposal operations ceased due to Environmental Protection Agency issuance of Disposal Restrictions of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act for the Third T Active mixed waste disposal operations will commence upon completion of a National Policy Act documentation and issuance of a State of Nevada Part B permit.

Appendix F of Volume 1 provides additional documentation on materials and waste management practices at the Nevada Test Site.

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5. ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

5.1 NAVY AND PROTOTYPE SITES FOR NAVAL SPENT NUCLEAR

FUEL

5.1.1 PUGET SOUND NAVAL SHIPYARD: BREMERTON,

WASHINGTON

5.1.1.1 Overview of Environmental Impacts

The following sections discuss the major differences in potential environmental consequences associated with the choice of alternatives that include storage of naval spent nuclear fuel at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard. The review of the environmental consequences associated with these activities has shown that the impact on the environment associated with these activities is small. There would be no impact to the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard regional environment with any alternatives that do not involve the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard.

5.1.1.2 Land Use

Construction of a storage area at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard for temporary naval spent nuclear fuel storage would require a modest change in the current land in use by the description of the alternate storage containers and water pools and approximate storage of naval spent nuclear fuel at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard. Attachment C provides a comparison of spent nuclear fuel storage in water pools versus dry container storage. The shipyard area is already an industrial area and there would be no impact on land use. No additional land outside the naval complex would be required. The alternative of storing naval spent nuclear fuel in water pools would require a pool facility be constructed in the vicinity of the area that is designated for dry modification of the existing water pool to provide additional space. The water pool has sufficient capacity to accommodate storage of all spent nuclear fuel expected to be stored at the shipyard.

In addition to the alternative involving storage at naval facilities of spent nuclear fuel generated in the future, the existing water pool facility would be used for the alternate inspections of high priority naval spent nuclear fuel would be conducted at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard. A description of the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard water pool facility and operations under the alternative of inspecting high priority spent nuclear fuel at the shipyard are also provided in Attachment D.

Native American rights and interests would not be modified by construction or operations associated with any of the alternatives considered.

5.1.1.3 Socioeconomics

The calculated number of direct construction and operating jobs that would be created during the 10-year period between 1995 and 2004 for each storage alternative at the shipyard is shown in Table 5.1.1-1. Since there would be no naval spent nuclear fuel storage or inspection at the shipyard under the 1992/1993 Planning Basis and Centralization alternatives, no jobs would be required at the shipyard under these alternatives.

Table 5.1.1-1. Number of construction and operating jobs created at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard for each alternative.

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Railcar (1)	1	1	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Immobile Containers on Pads (2)	1	1	1	1	2	6	8	8	8	8
Shipping Containers on Pads (3)	1	1	1	1	2	6	2	2	2	2
Water Pool Storage (2)	16	16	73	113	138	99	106	40	40	40
Water Pool Inspection (3)	0	0	82	123	142	60	60	60	60	60

(1) Storage mode under the No Action and Decentralization alternatives.

(2) Storage mode under the Decentralization alternative.

(3) Inspection at Puget Sound would occur under the Decentralization B alternative.

The only discernible socioeconomic consequence of storing naval spent nuclear fuel at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard is that a relatively small number of construction workers (ranging from a maximum of several hundred) would be required for construction of the storage area.

force would consist of skilled craftsmen and unskilled laborers. This work force would be required during the storage facility expansion and water pool modification and would be available in the area.

The operation of the spent fuel storage area using dry storage containers would require additional workers to secure the fuel in the storage area and to support surveillance activities. For the alternative involving storing fuel in immobile dry storage containers, workers would be required to handle the spent nuclear fuel when it is placed into the containers. This work force would normally only be needed when fuel is being inserted into the containers. For the alternative involving shipping containers, fewer workers would be required to handle and secure the containers in the storage area. The operation of a water pool facility for the alternative involving storing naval spent nuclear fuel in a water pool would require additional workers. The operation of a water pool facility for the alternative involving storing naval spent nuclear fuel would require approximately 60 workers. The number required for shipyard and prototype site storage alternatives would be small and is expected to be either within the existing shipyard work force or from the local work force. Considering the Department of Defense employs approximately 10,200 civilians at the shipyard, the additional workers to support the alternatives would have no discernible impact on the local social conditions of the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard site and Bremerton area.

For the alternatives where dry storage containers would be manufactured, some jobs would be created in the locations where the containers are made. The process of container manufacture is subject to federal procurement requirements and would be included in the Record of Decision. Consequently, the specific socioeconomic impacts from container manufacture cannot be specified. The net effect of container fabrication would be to create and bolster the local economy of the area(s) where containers are made. It is considered that the selection of the contractor would depend on the alternative storage site selected, and construction of casks provides no basis for selection of a storage site.

5.1.1.4 Cultural Resources

The action considered would not affect any site that is listed on the National Historic Places (NPS 1991), any known archaeological areas, or any other cultural resources. Therefore, there would be no impacts to cultural resources associated with the alternative of inspecting naval spent nuclear fuel at this location.

None of the alternatives considered would impact known archaeological or National Historic Sites. Procedures which comply with all applicable laws and regulations would be implemented to protect previously undetected archaeological and cultural sites.

5.1.1.5 Aesthetic and Scenic Resources

The naval spent nuclear fuel storage area would be located within the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard and would not affect the visual quality of the area since it is compatible with the character of the site. Physical changes to the site resulting from the expansion of the storage area would not alter this industrial setting. There are no particulate air emissions with storage of naval spent nuclear fuel and thus no visibility impacts are expected. Scenic resources in the vicinity of the shipyard would be affected by the construction of the storage facility.

5.1.1.6 Geology

The expansion and operation of the naval spent nuclear fuel storage facility is not expected to affect the geologic character or resources of the region. If an alternative is selected which required the storage area to be constructed, the ground would be excavated and necessary to prepare the surface. This would not affect the geologic characteristics of the layers nor the characteristics of the aquifer or vadose zone.

5.1.1.7 Air Resources

5.1.1.7.1 Radiological Consequences.

If the alternative where naval spent fuel would be stored in dry storage containers were to be selected, no airborne radioactivity releases would be expected.

occur as a result of normal storage operations. The fuel would be contained such that barriers exist to prevent fission products from becoming airborne. These barriers spent nuclear fuel in an air-tight containment until it is moved to a permanent storage. There would be no airborne radioactive material released from routine operations for this. The only radiation exposure would be direct radiation from the array of filled storage containers would be fenced off and shielded if necessary such that there is no distinguishable effect on the current radiation readings at the site perimeter.

For the alternatives where naval spent nuclear fuel would be stored in a water alternative where fuel would be inspected in the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard water pool, radioactivity would be emitted beyond current emissions. The airborne releases are less than the emissions from the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory (INEL) Environmental Engineering Facility (EEF) because the water pool size and the number of inspections performed at the shipyard and the shipyard would not conduct the shielded cell operations that the EEF. To conservatively estimate the radiological consequences, airborne releases based on releases from 1991 are used. The radiological source term used and the detailed calculations performed to determine expected normal releases are provided in Attachment F.

The radiation exposures to human beings due to estimated radionuclide release into the atmosphere plus direct radiation from the stored spent nuclear fuel at the shipyard alternative involving water pool storage and the alternative involving dry storage described in Attachment F. Postulated releases were calculated for wet storage of fuel in a water pool plus inspection of naval spent nuclear fuel.

A person on the shipyard boundary at the location where the largest exposures received was used as the hypothetical maximally exposed off-site individual (MOI) for releases of radioactive material from the stored spent fuel. The population data and population doses were taken from 1990 census data provided by the U.S. Census Bureau. Meteorology data were obtained as described in Attachment F. Estimated exposures were also calculated.

The hypothetical exposures calculated are based on an exposure to the estimated effluents and the direct radiation exposure for one year from the naval spent nuclear shipyard. The calculations include the external effective exposure equivalent from deposition, deposition to surface water, and air immersion pathways and the 50-year effective exposure equivalent from internal exposure through the ingestion and inhalation. All pathways were considered for persons potentially exposed, except that the ingestion was omitted for the workers because they do not grow their food on-site. Solubilities that produce the highest calculated exposures were chosen for internal exposure factors. Human dietary consumption patterns were taken from "Age Dependent Values of Dietary Intake for Assessing Human Exposures to Environmental Pollutants" (Rupp 1980). The hypothetical exposures calculated can be converted into a risk of fatal cancer or a risk of non-fatal health effects (e.g., non-fatal cancers, hereditary defects) based on recommendations of the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP 1991).

Attachment F summarizes the calculated exposures and fatal cancers to the worst exposed off-site individual (MOI), nearest public access (NPA), and the population exposed to radioactivity and direct radiation exposure in one year for each location and storage alternative. Table 3.7 provides a comparison of the annual number of fatal cancers calculated for the worst exposed individual for each location and alternative.

The number of fatal cancers calculated is so small that there would be essentially no fatal cancers resulting from the storage of naval spent nuclear fuel during the time it is expected to continue to be stored. Putting this into perspective, it could be stated that the population might experience a fatal cancer due to incident-free storage of naval spent nuclear fuel at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard if operations continued for 15,400 years.

5.1.1.7.2 Non-radiological Consequences.

As noted in Attachment F, no increase in non-radioactive airborne emissions would be expected to result from spent nuclear fuel examination facility operations. Storage and examination facility operations would not involve the use of carcinogenic toxins, criteria pollutants, or other hazardous or toxic chemicals except for industrial cleaning agents and paint thinner may be used for housekeeping and cleaning. These would be the same as those already used at the shipyard. Consequently, there would be no impact on ambient air quality as a result of implementing any of the alternative storage alternatives.

If an alternative were to be selected that required a storage facility to be renovated, fugitive dust emissions would be expected to result from excavation operations. The quantity of dust generated would be small, consistent with typical excavation activities within local requirements for dust control.

5.1.1.8 Water Resources

5.1.1.8.1 Radiological Consequences.

Spent nuclear fuel storage and inspection operations at the shipyard would not result in discharges of radioactivity in liquid effluents due regardless of the alternative selected for storage or inspection of spent nuclear fuel due to fallout of nuclides released to the air onto the surface water is included in discussed in Section 5.1.1.7. The air fallout impact is so small that there would be radiation levels in the water.

Puget Sound Naval Shipyard does not reside in the 100 or 500 year floodplain. Therefore, the floodplain would not be impacted by spent naval nuclear fuel storage and activities at the shipyard.

5.1.1.8.2 Non-radiological Consequences.

Other than chemicals used to maintain the storage area, no hazardous wastes would be generated by the storage of naval spent nuclear fuel at the shipyard. Any hazardous liquid effluents that may be generated at the storage area would be sent to an Environmental Protection Agency approved disposal site.

The only source for liquid discharges from the naval spent nuclear fuel storage area is the environment consists of storm water runoff which would be consistent with the type of activities associated with common light industrial facilities and related activities. It can be concluded that there would be no impact to the human environment due to runoff water from the naval spent nuclear fuel storage area.

The increased water usage associated with any alternative would be negligible compared to the existing shipyard demand.

5.1.1.9 Ecological Resources

Construction and operation of a spent fuel storage area would not impact any threatened or endangered species and no major changes to the industrial environment. Therefore, no major ecological impacts to the region would result from selection of alternatives.

The conceptual location where naval spent nuclear fuel would be stored is shown in Attachment D. This location is within an existing industrial complex and is surrounded by paved areas. The industrial nature of the shipyard and the fact that the land has been disturbed from its natural state by earlier activities mean that plant or animal species disturbance by human activities would not be expected to be present. Therefore, the ecological impacts associated with construction or operation of a spent nuclear fuel storage location. The radiological controls that are in effect at the shipyard ensure that the vicinity of the shipyard are maintained at or near natural background. Since the same controls would be applied to spent nuclear fuel activities, no ecological effects due to radiation would be expected to occur.

5.1.1.10 Noise

Puget Sound Naval Shipyard is an existing industrial-type environment characterized by truck and automobile traffic; ship loading cranes and related diesel-powered equipment continuously operating transmission lines for steam, fuel, water, and related pumps for those and other liquids. No ambient noise level increases are expected to occur as a result of the alternatives. Therefore, no noise impacts would be expected to occur.

5.1.1.11 Traffic and Transportation

Shipments of radioactive materials in the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program are to be made in accordance with applicable regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation, U.S. Department of Energy, and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The purpose of the

regulations is to ensure that shipments of radioactive material are adequately contained in the environment and the health and safety of the general public. These regulations are for radioactive material shipments and provide requirements for the container design, identification as applicable for the specific quantity, type, and form of radioactive material shipped. Naval shipping container design requirements invoke shielding and integrity and meet all regulatory requirements. They provide for testing of container design, qualification of workers who construct containers, and quality control inspections to ensure that the containers will meet their design requirements. A detailed description of containers used for naval spent nuclear fuel shipments is provided in Attachment A. The impacts associated with normal and accident conditions associated with transport of spent nuclear fuel is provided in Attachment A.

5.1.1.11.1 Regional Infrastructure.

The alternatives under consideration are described in Section 3. The No Action alternative or the first variation of the Decentralization alternative is to store naval spent nuclear fuel on-site. This alternative would reduce the number of rail shipments to the shipyard or prototype site compared to the past practice of transporting all naval spent nuclear fuel to INEL. The second variation of the Decentralization alternative would ship about 10 percent of naval spent nuclear fuel to Puget Sound. This would have some transportation impact much less than transporting all naval spent nuclear fuel off-site. The third Decentralization alternative, which ships all naval spent nuclear fuel to INEL, examines it, and returns it to the original site. This alternative involves more transportation than the previous practice of storing spent nuclear fuel at INEL, since the naval spent nuclear fuel is not returned from the original site. The 1992/1993 Planning Basis alternative, the Regionalization alternative, and the Centralization at INEL alternative would involve the same transportation as has been the past, namely transportation to INEL and retention there. The Centralization at the Hanford Site would result in more transportation impact than any of the previous alternatives due to the distances and population distribution between Hanford and the shipyards and the Centralization alternative at the Savannah River Site would result in the most transportation impact of any of the alternatives.

5.1.1.11.2 Site Infrastructure.

The alternatives associated with naval spent nuclear fuel storage and inspection at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard would create some small amount of additional highway traffic because any additional employees needed to operate the water pool for inspection or storage alternatives would need to travel to and from work. This impact would be very small considering the total number of employees at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard and the fact that the additional workers might be provided from the existing work force. Storage and inspection activities would increase the internal traffic in the shipyard in that the total impact on shipyard traffic would not be detectable.

5.1.1.12 Occupational and Public Health and Safety

Detailed analyses of incident-free naval spent nuclear fuel transportation and handling impacts on worker and public health are described in Attachment A (transportation), Attachment F (storage and inspection). The transportation analysis results, and the storage and handling analysis are summarized separately in the following subsections.

5.1.1.12.1 Incident-free Transportation Occupational and Public Health and Safety.

The radiological and non-radiological health effects associated with the incident-free transport of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens have been assessed for the general population, workers, and hypothetical maximum exposed individual for each alternative. As discussed in Section 3.7, it is unlikely that there will be any fatal cancers as a result of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimen shipments since the estimates are much less than one fatal cancer per alternative. The details of the transportation analysis are provided in Attachment

5.1.1.12.2 Incident-free Occupational and Public Health and Safety During Naval Spent**Nuclear Fuel Storage and Handling.**

The public health and safety impacts of radioactivity releases and direct radiation from storage of naval spent nuclear fuel were analyzed as discussed in 5.1.1.7 and Attachment F. Attachment F summarizes the results of the analysis of releases and direct radiation from stored naval spent nuclear fuel. This analysis shows that exposure to the workers, maximally exposed off-site individual, and nearest public from naval spent nuclear fuel would result in far less than one fatality per year. It should be stated that one member of these population groups might experience a fatal cancer from naval spent nuclear fuel at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard if operations continued.

Projections of the number of occupational accidents that might occur during construction of naval spent nuclear fuel storage and examination facilities have been made for each alternative. These projections are presented in Attachment F. Based on the results of these projections, it is concluded that the number of occupational fatalities and injuries from construction activities and storage and examination operations would be very small.

No public or occupational radiological health and safety impacts would be expected from naval spent nuclear fuel storage area construction activities since the construction would not involve radioactive work.

Attachment F also discusses toxic chemical issues for naval spent nuclear fuel storage. Attachment F concludes that there would be no additional types or volumes of toxic chemicals required at the shipyards or prototype site for naval spent nuclear fuel storage. Therefore, there would be no incident-free non-radiological impact resulting from storage of naval spent nuclear fuel at shipyards or prototype site.

5.1.1.12.3 Incident-free Occupational and Public Health and Safety Effects on Environ-**mental Justice Due to Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel Storage and Handling.**

As discussed in the preceding paragraphs, the impacts on human health or the environment resulting from operations associated with the management of naval spent nuclear fuel at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard would be small under any of the alternatives considered. For example, a single fatal cancer would occur as a result of naval spent nuclear fuel management under any alternative. Since the potential impacts due to normal operations or accident conditions under any alternative considered present no significant risk and do not constitute a credible threat to the surrounding population, no adverse effects would be expected for any particular population, minorities and low-income groups included.

The conclusion that there would be no disproportionately high and adverse impacts on human health or the environment is not affected by the prevailing winds or direction of water flow. This is true for normal operations because the effects of routine operations are random. It is also true for accident conditions because the consequences of any accident would be random conditions at the time it occurred, and the wind directions at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard do not display any strongly dominant direction. Similarly, the conclusion is not affected by subsistence consumption of fish or game since environmental monitoring at this relatively small and restricted site has shown no detectable difference in the radioactivity present in the environment from levels in similar parts of the region.

To place the impacts on environmental justice in perspective, the risk associated with naval spent nuclear fuel management operations under any of the alternatives considered is less than one fatality per year for the entire population. For comparison, in 1990 there were approximately 510,000 cancer deaths in the United States population and there were 15,000 cancer deaths among people of color in the U. S. Even if all of the impacts associated with the alternatives considered for naval spent nuclear fuel management were assumed to be experienced by people of color, that group would be unlikely to experience a single additional fatality in any year. Therefore, the cancer risk for that population from naval spent nuclear fuel management would not constitute a disproportionately high and adverse impact on human health or the environment. The same conclusion can be drawn for low-income groups.

5.1.1.13 Utilities and Energy

If an alternative associated with storage of spent nuclear fuel at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard

were to be selected, construction and operation of the storage area would not be ex large expenditure of utilities and energy resources. Construction activities would require quantities of water and electricity typical of any small to medium size construction project. Op container spent fuel storage facility would likely require only minimal electricity and to support industrial equipment necessary to move spent fuel.

Alternatives associated with water pool storage and inspection would require tion, water, and electrical systems suitable for a work environment and to properly the airborne discharges to the atmosphere. The utility and energy demands and impa than that identified in Section 5.2.13 for operation of ECF (10,000 MWh per year) s pool facility at Puget is smaller and the scope of operations would be less.

The amount of utilities and energy expected to be consumed would be a small i increase in the total amount of utilities and energy used at the shipyard and would discernible environmental consequence.

5.1.1.14 Facility and Transportation Accidents

5.1.1.14.1 Facility Accidents. There has never been an accident in the history of the Naval

Nuclear Propulsion Program that resulted in a significant release of radioactivity or that resulted in radiation exposure to workers in excess of abnormal occurrence as defined by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. A description of potential a considered and a summary of the accident analyses that were conducted with regard t and storage of naval spent nuclear fuel are contained in Attachment F.

5.1.1.14.1.1 Radiological Accidents. Section 3.7.3 provides a summary of the impacts

due to the most severe accidents considered for each site. The facility accident w potential impact at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard involves accidental drainage of the accident of this magnitude would result in less than one fatal cancer to the genera 50 years, as described in Attachment F. The likelihood of such an accident occurri which is very small. For perspective, an accident such as this would not be expect the facility operated for about 100,000 years.

5.1.1.14.1.2 Non-radiological Accidents. As discussed in detail in Attachment F, the

limiting hypothetical non-radiological accident for naval spent nuclear fuel storag shipyard or prototype location would be a diesel fuel spill and fire. A catastroph fuel storage tank that might be used for an emergency diesel generator to provide b power was postulated to occur, resulting in the spilling of the entire quantity of subsequent fire. The fire would generate the following toxic chemicals:

- Carbon monoxide
- Oxides of nitrogen (90% nitric oxide and 10% nitrogen dioxide)
- Lead
- Sulfur dioxide.

Measures would be taken to reduce the health impacts of potential releases of These measures would involve controls to protect both workers and the general publi shipyard and prototype sites have emergency planning, emergency preparedness, and e response programs in place to protect both workers and the public, and involve esta such as warning communications, fire departments, and emergency command centers.

The airborne concentrations of the combustion products listed above, resultin were calculated at the locations of the on-site individuals, an individual at the s general population within a 50-mile radius of the facility. Detailed results are p Attachment F. If the accidental fire that has been hypothesized were to actually o measures that would be in place would ensure no adverse health impacts to the gener minimal health impacts to the workers.

5.1.1.14.2 Transportation Accidents.

Shipments of radioactive materials associated with naval spent nuclear fuel have never resulted in any measurable release of radioactivity t

(NNPP 1994a). There have never been any significant accidents involving release of material during shipment since the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program began. The effort transportation accidents during the various stages of transportation of naval spent presented in Attachment A.

The health effects associated with accidents during shipments of naval spent test specimens have been assessed for the general population and the hypothetical individual for each alternative. As summarized in Section 3.7, it is unlikely that fatal cancers as a result of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimen shipments is much less than one fatal cancer for each alternative. Details of the transportation provided in Attachment A.

5.1.1.14.3 Other Impacts of Accidents.

In addition to the possible human health effects associated with facility or transportation accidents described in the preceding sections such as the impacts on socioeconomic and land use in the area and the costs of cleanup estimated in order to develop a perspective and to evaluate potential differences. The analyses described in Attachment F showed that an area ranging from about 8 acres approximately a quarter mile (for an inadvertent criticality accident) to about 110 acres approximately 0.9 mile (for a large airplane crashing into a dry storage container) contaminated to the point where exposure could exceed 100 millirem per year. Beyond these distances, the exposure would be less than 100 millirem per year, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's standard for protection of the general population from radiation. For this area might be evacuated or otherwise experience restrictions in their daily activities period, and those who work at locations within this area might be prevented from going until measures had been taken to reduce the potential for exposure. It should be noted that the affected area within approximately a half mile from the spent nuclear fuel facility boundaries of the federally owned site.

An accident might result in short-term restrictions on access to a relatively small area where there would be no enduring impacts on cultural or similar resources or concerns such as American rights or interests, partially because the area involved would be small and remedial actions would be conducted in a careful, controlled manner in full compliance with applicable laws and regulations. The area impacted would only vary slightly among alternatives. Overall, the risks are small so these considerations do not assist in distinguishing among alternatives.

Facility or transportation accidents associated with any of the alternatives would have a negligible or appreciable effect on the ecology of the area, considering the potential for human impacts and the amount of land which might be affected, as described in earlier parts of this section. There is little consensus among scientists on methods for estimating the effects of radiation on natural resources such as plant or animal life, but since human health effects for all the small and most plants and animals are not thought to be more sensitive to radiation than human beings, the small impacts on human health provide an indication that the impacts on species in the area would also be small for all alternatives considered. Similarly, areas which might be contaminated to measurable levels by chemicals or radioactive materials from hypothetical accidents would be relatively small, any effects on the ecology would be negligible. There are no endangered or threatened species unique to the area surrounding the federally owned site, so an accident would not be expected to result in destruction of any species alternatives considered. The effects of accidents related to any of the alternatives for cleanup which might be performed would be localized in a small area which extends only a short distance beyond the boundaries of the federally owned site and thus would not be expected to appreciably affect the potential for survival of any species in the area. Based on evaluation of impacts of accidents on ecological resources does not help to distinguish among alternatives.

5.1.1.14.4 Effects of Accidents on Environmental Justice Due to Naval Spent Nuclear

Fuel Storage and Handling.

As discussed in the preceding paragraphs, the impacts on human health or the environment resulting from facility or transportation accidents associated with management of naval spent nuclear fuel at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard would be small for all of the alternatives considered. For example, it is unlikely that a single addition of fuel would occur as a result of naval spent nuclear fuel management activities under any alternative. Potential impacts due to an accident for any of the alternatives considered would be small risk and do not constitute a credible adverse impact on the surrounding population,

from accidents associated with the management of naval spent nuclear fuel would be particular segment of the population, minorities and low-income groups included.

The conclusion that there would be no disproportionately high and adverse impact on health or the environment is not affected by the prevailing winds or direction of surface water flow. This is because the consequences of any accident would depend on the local conditions in effect at the time an accident occurred, and the wind directions at the Naval Shipyard are highly variable with no strongly dominant direction.

To place the impacts on environmental justice in perspective, the risk associated with accidents caused by naval spent nuclear fuel management under any of the alternatives would amount to less than one additional fatality per year for the entire population. In 1990 there were approximately 40,000 traffic fatalities in the United States population. There were about 7,400 deaths caused by traffic accidents among people of color in the U.S. The additional cancer deaths associated with an accident involving any of the alternatives for naval spent nuclear fuel management were assumed to occur only among people of color. The group would experience less than one additional fatal cancer per year. The same conclusion is drawn for low-income groups.

5.1.1.15 Waste Management

The alternative in which naval spent nuclear fuel is stored at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard would produce limited amounts of solid municipal waste, solid low-level radioactive hazardous wastes.

In addition, no transuranic or high-level radioactive wastes would be generated by spent nuclear fuel activities at the site under any alternative. The quantity of waste generated would be small and most likely consist of industrial cleaning agents of the type encountered at the site. Small quantities of sanitary wastes would result from the force but this volume would be small. The wastes produced from the storage of naval fuel would be controlled and minimized in accordance with the existing waste management at the shipyard. The amount of additional wastes generated would be minimal compared to existing baseline and would not cause any adverse impacts to public health and safe environment in the vicinity of the shipyard.

5.1.1.16 Cumulative Impacts

5.1.1.16.1 Radiological Cumulative Impacts. Spent nuclear fuel storage and examination at

Puget Sound would not result in discharges of radioactivity in liquid effluents during operations regardless of the alternative selected. Therefore, there would be no increase of radioactivity to surface or ground water as a result of normal operations for any of the alternatives involving the storage of spent nuclear fuel in dry storage and shipping. Airborne radioactivity emissions are expected, so there would be no cumulative air impact associated with these storage methods. Consequently, the only radiological cumulative impact would result from dry storage alternatives would be due to direct radiation exposure from containers of spent nuclear fuel.

For alternatives involving the storage and examination at Puget Sound of naval fuel in water pools, there would be no discernible direct radiation exposure to the elements due to the shielding provided by the water in the pool. Therefore, any cumulative impact which would result from water pool storage (and examination at Puget Sound) would be due to airborne emissions, and the addition of these emissions would cause an indistinguishable increase in the area (see Section 5.1.1.7). Current operations at the site are in Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 61, "National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants." Cumulative air emissions would not threaten to exceed any applicable requirement or regulation, either federal, state, or local in radiological and non-radiological categories.

A summary of the cumulative radiological impacts is provided in the following table.

An overview of the historical radiological impacts from naval nuclear operations at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard and from transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel is provided in Section 4.1.1.12 and detailed analyses are provided in Attachments F and A. Prior to this project, nuclear fuel inspections and storage operations have been conducted only at INEL. No cumulative impacts have resulted from previous naval spent nuclear fuel inspection operations at any alternate site except for INEL.

The radiological impacts associated with the alternatives where naval spent nuclear fuel is stored at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard are summarized in the following table.

be inspected or stored at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard are very small and are described in Section 5.1.1.12, with the detailed results of analyses provided in Attachment F. In order to evaluate cumulative impacts for the period between 1995 and 2035, the annual radiological impacts at each location and alternative were summed over 40 years. The results of this analysis are tabulated in Tables 3-5 and 3-6 of Section 3.

The cumulative transportation impacts for the population groups from naval spent nuclear fuel transportation activities since the beginning of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program have been calculated and are very small. In addition, the cumulative impacts from transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel over the 40-year period between 1995 and 2035 for each alternative have been calculated. The detailed results of these calculations are presented in Attachment A and summarized in Section 3.7.4.

The total exposure to the population in the vicinity of the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard for all of the alternatives considered would be approximately 5.30 person-rem. This means that there would be much less than one fatal cancer from these operations over the entire 40-year period evaluated. The total exposure to a theoretical maximally exposed off-site individual living at the shipyard boundary for the entire 40-year period would be 7.0×10^{-3} rem due to the resulting in the largest exposure. This maximally exposed off-site individual would have a risk of contracting a fatal cancer during his or her lifetime due to storage of spent nuclear fuel. When existing site radiological impacts due to naval nuclear operations are added to the most limiting spent nuclear fuel alternative, the exposure to the population would be 7.6 person-rem and to the maximally exposed off-site individual would be 7.6×10^{-3} rem. This results in much less than one fatal cancer in the population and the risk of the maximally exposed off-site individual contracting a fatal cancer during his or her lifetime is 3.8×10^{-5} .

The total exposure related to naval spent nuclear fuel activities to a worker working continually 100 meters from the spent nuclear fuel under the alternative with the largest exposure is 0.22 rem accumulated over 40 years. That corresponds to a fatal cancer risk of 8.9×10^{-5} during the worker's lifetime. The exposure to the same worker when existing radiological impacts due to naval nuclear operations are added to the spent nuclear fuel activities is 0.222 rem over 40 years which corresponds to a fatal cancer risk of 8.9×10^{-5} during the worker's lifetime. The impacts associated with transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel for the alternatives considered would be similarly low.

No contribution to cumulative impacts from accidents involving naval spent nuclear fuel has been included in the analyses presented in this Environmental Impact Statement because there has never been a nuclear reactor accident, criticality accident, transportation accident, or radioactive release which had a significant effect on the environment.

Sections 4.1.1.14 and 5.1.1.15 describe the management of low-level radioactive waste at the site. The volume of low-level radioactive wastes which would be generated by the alternatives has not been calculated. However, considering the nature of radioactivity, the level of waste would be associated with spent nuclear fuel storage (and examination) activities, the level of radioactive waste produced during spent nuclear fuel activities would be much less than the current site generation rate (651 m³ per year). This additional waste would not introduce any changes to the site's waste management practices. The small amount of waste involved would not impose any discernible additional stress on the capacity of the waste burial ground. Therefore, any cumulative impacts associated with the generation of additional low-level wastes would be very small.

Since no mixed, transuranic, or high-level radioactive wastes would be generated by naval spent nuclear fuel activities at this site under any alternative, there would be no cumulative impacts associated with these materials.

5.1.1.16.2 Non-radiological Cumulative Impacts.

An overview of the historical non-radiological impacts from naval nuclear operations at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard and from the management of naval spent nuclear fuel is provided in Section 4.1.1.12 and detailed analyses are provided in Attachments F and A. Prior to this time, naval spent nuclear fuel inspections and handling have been conducted only at INEL. Therefore, no non-radiological cumulative impact from previous naval spent nuclear fuel inspection and storage operations at any alternative has been identified for INEL.

The non-radiological impacts associated with the alternative where naval spent nuclear fuel would be inspected or stored at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard are described in Section 3.7.4. The detailed results of analyses provided in Attachment F. As summarized in Section 3.7.4, there would be no additional chemicals required at the shipyard for naval spent nuclear fuel management and therefore no non-radiological impacts from normal operations. Consequently, no cumulative impacts to air quality or water resources would result since the incremental addition of chemicals would be very small.

shipyard that might result from naval spent fuel activities would be very small. The environmental problems associated with these materials.

The non-radiological cumulative transportation impacts for the population from nuclear fuel transportation activities since the beginning of the Naval Nuclear Program also have been calculated. In addition, the cumulative impacts from transportation of nuclear fuel over the 40-year period between 1995 and 2035 for each alternative have been calculated. The detailed results of these calculations are presented in Attachment A. The non-radiological impacts associated with the transportation and storage of naval spent nuclear fuel alternatives considered would be low.

No cumulative land use impacts would be expected to occur as a result of spent fuel storage and examination at Puget Sound. The land that would be dedicated for this existing federal property and situated in an industrial setting which has already been in its natural state (approximately 327 acres are developed land). The conversion of this of spent nuclear fuel would not result in the need to disturb undeveloped land or for land to be added to the federally owned property in the foreseeable future.

From a socioeconomic perspective, the introduction of naval spent nuclear fuel at the site would create a small number of additional jobs and could have a very small socioeconomic impact. The site currently employs approximately 10,200 civilian personnel. Shipyard employment has been associated with spent nuclear fuel activities in the past. Nuclear fuel activities have not been conducted at the site. An average of approximately 10 additional jobs might be added as a result of possible spent nuclear fuel activities. The peak number of additional jobs created at the site in any given year would be approximately 20, which is associated with construction and operation of a water pool facility for spent nuclear fuel and modification of the existing water pool for limited examination of fuel. That the regional labor force consists of approximately 527,000 workers, the additional jobs under any alternative would have little or no discernible socioeconomic impact. Jobs would be filled either from within the existing site work force or from the available labor force without discernible effect. There are no foreseeable future projects or no known projects planned in the region that would cause the small number of workers associated with naval spent nuclear fuel activities to become an important impact.

The cumulative impacts associated with non-radiological waste management are expected to be small. As stated previously, any industrial wastes generated from spent fuel storage and examination at Puget Sound would be small and limited to industrial wastes of the type normally encountered at the site. The volume of municipal solid wastes generated which would be expected to be proportional to the number of additional jobs added, and this small incremental increase would not be discernible. The amount of radiological wastes generated would not introduce any changes to the site's waste management practices and would not impose any additional stress on the capacity of on-site or off-site disposal or treatment facilities. Therefore, any cumulative impacts associated with the disposal of additional wastes would be very small. There are no current environmental impacts associated with these types of waste.

5.1.1.17 Unavoidable Adverse Effects

There are no discernible unavoidable adverse effects associated with the implementation of any of the alternatives and none which would help to choose among the alternatives. The alternative in which naval spent nuclear fuel is inspected or stored at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard would cause the public to be exposed to small amounts of radiation, described in Section 5.1.1.16. Similarly, continued operation of the storage facility would produce limited amount of municipal waste and solid low-level radioactive waste. These amounts of waste would not cause any major impacts in the vicinity of the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard. There will be no impacts on the ecological, cultural, geological, and aesthetic resources due to the implementation of the alternatives. There will also be no impact on ambient noise levels.

5.1.1.18 Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitments of Resources

The only irreversible and irretrievable commitment of resources that results from the alternative in which naval spent nuclear fuel would be stored at the shipyard would be the cost that would be spent by the federal government to construct the necessary facilities. The total cost of storing spent naval nuclear fuel at the shipyards and prototype ranges from approximately \$100 million to \$200 million.

to \$5.7 billion. This cost represents the total cumulative cost over the 40-year period for shipyards and prototype. This cost includes construction costs of the new storage depending on the alternative selected, the operation of a limited examination facility at Naval Shipyard combined with the costs associated with shutting down ECF, or the operation of the INEL-ECF. The major expense in the highest cost alternatives is the procurement of containers. Refer to Section 3.7 for a comparison of the total cumulative costs among alternatives.

5.1.2 NORFOLK NAVAL SHIPYARD: PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA

5.1.2.1 Overview of Environmental Impacts

The following sections discuss the major differences in potential environmental impacts associated with the choice of alternatives that include storage of naval spent nuclear fuel at Naval Shipyard. The environmental consequences associated with storage of naval spent nuclear fuel at Norfolk Naval Shipyard are based on the estimates of naval spent nuclear fuel throughput at Norfolk Naval Shipyard through the year 2035 and current knowledge of the design associated with spent fuel storage containers. The review of the environmental consequences associated with these alternatives has shown that the impact on the environment at Shipyard associated with all activities is very small. There would be no impact to Shipyard regional environment associated with any alternatives that do not involve Shipyard.

5.1.2.2 Land Use

Norfolk Naval Shipyard has identified a centrally located area within the contiguous area as a potential site for spent nuclear fuel storage. The site is located approximately 1/2 mile from the southern branch of the Elizabeth River. Public access to the 900 feet of site evaluated is restricted. There are no known existing adverse environmental consequences. The area is already an industrial site; therefore, there would be no impact on land identified should be sufficient depending on the type of storage mode ultimately chosen. The number of storage containers and water pools and their approximate storage locations is presented in Attachment D. Attachment C provides a comparison of spent nuclear fuel storage in water pools versus dry container storage.

The alternative of storing naval spent nuclear fuel in water pools would require a pool facility be constructed in the vicinity of the area that is designated for dry storage. The water pool would have sufficient capacity to accommodate storage of all spent nuclear fuel expected to be stored at the shipyard.

No additional land use outside the shipyard would be required.

Native American rights and interests would not be modified by construction or operation associated with any of the alternatives considered.

5.1.2.3 Socioeconomics

The calculated number of direct construction and operating jobs that would be created over a 10-year period between 1995 and 2004 for each storage alternative at the shipyard is presented in Table 5.1.2-1. Since there would be no naval spent nuclear fuel storage or inspection at the shipyard under the 1992/1993 Planning Basis and Centralization alternatives, no additional jobs are required at the shipyard under these alternatives.

Table 5.1.2-1. Number of construction and operating jobs created at Norfolk Naval Shipyard for each alternative.

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Railcar(1)	1	1	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Immobilized Containers on Pads(2)	1	1	1	1	2	6	8	8	8	8
Shipping Containers on Pads (2)	1	1	1	1	2	6	2	2	2	2
Water Pools(2)	16	16	70	107	132	94	103	40	40	40

(1) Storage mode under the No Action and Decentralization alternatives.

(2) Storage mode under the Decentralization alternative.

The only discernible socioeconomic consequence of storing naval spent nuclear Norfolk Naval Shipyard is that a relatively small number of construction workers (r to a maximum of several hundred would be required for construction of the storage a force would consist of skilled craftsmen and unskilled laborers. This work force w during the storage facility construction and would be available from within the are

The operation of the spent fuel storage area using dry storage containers wou additional workers to support surveillance and monitoring activities. For the alte storing fuel in immobile dry storage containers, about 20 workers would be required spent nuclear fuel when it is placed into the storage containers. This work force be needed when fuel is being inserted into the containers. For the alternative inv containers, fewer workers would be needed to handle and secure the containers in th The operation of a water pool facility for the alternative involving storing naval a water pool would require approximately 40 additional workers. The number require shipyard and prototype site storage alternatives would be small and is expected to either within the existing shipyard work force or from the local work force. Consi Department of Defense employs approximately 8,500 civilians at the shipyard, the ad workers to support the alternatives would have no discernible impact on the local s conditions of the Norfolk Naval Shipyard site.

For the alternatives where dry storage containers would be manufactured, some jobs would be created in the locations where the containers are made. The process container manufacturer is subject to federal procurement requirements and would be Record of Decision. Consequently, the specific socioeconomic impacts from containe cannot be specified. The net effect of container fabrication would be to create ad bolster the local economy of the area(s) where containers are made. It is consider selection of the contractor would depend on the alternative storage site selected, with construction of casks provide no basis for selection of a storage site.

5.1.2.4 Cultural Resources

The action considered would not affect any site that is listed on the Nationa Historic Places (NPS 1991), any known archaeological areas, or any other cultural r Therefore, there would be no impacts to cultural resources associated with the alte naval spent nuclear fuel at this location.

None of the alternatives considered would impact known archaeological or Nati sites. Procedures which comply with all applicable laws and regulations would be i protect previously undetected archaeological and cultural sites.

5.1.2.5 Aesthetic and Scenic Resources

The naval spent nuclear fuel storage area would be located within the Norfolk which is an existing industrial setting and would not affect the visual quality of compatible with the landscape character of the site. Physical changes to the site construction of a spent nuclear fuel storage area would not alter this setting. Th air emissions associated with storage of naval spent nuclear fuel and thus no visib expected. No aesthetic or scenic resources in the vicinity of the shipyard would b construction and operation of the storage facility.

5.1.2.6 Geology

The construction and operation of the naval spent nuclear fuel storage facili Naval Shipyard is not expected to affect the geologic character or resources of the alternative were selected which required a storage facility to be constructed, the excavated as necessary to prepare the surface. This would not affect the geologica tics of the underlying layers nor the characteristics of the aquifer or vadose zone storing fuel in a water pool facility, the ground surface would need to be excavate approximately 40 feet. This excavation would not affect the geological characteris Since the Columbia aquifer is at a depth of 3 to 5 feet throughout the shipyard, th considerations make a water pool facility more difficult and expensive than an abov facility. However, if water pools were selected, all precautions necessary to prot be taken.

5.1.2.7 Air Resources

5.1.2.7.1 Radiological Consequences.

If the alternative where naval spent fuel would be stored in dry storage containers were to be selected, no airborne radioactivity releases would occur as a result of normal storage operations. The fuel would be contained such that barriers exist to prevent fission products from becoming airborne. These barriers spent nuclear fuel in an air-tight containment until it is moved to a permanent storage. There would be no airborne radioactive material released from routine operations for this alternative. The only radiation exposure would be direct radiation from the array of filled storage containers would be fenced off and shielded if necessary such that no distinguishable effect on the current radiation readings at the site perimeter.

For the alternative where naval spent nuclear fuel would be stored in a water pool, radioactivity would be emitted beyond current emissions. The airborne releases for this alternative are expected to be less than the emissions from the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory Expanded Core Facility (ECF) because the water pool size and the number of inspections would be smaller at the shipyard and the shipyard would not conduct the shielded cell operations performed at ECF. To conservatively estimate the radiological consequences, airborne releases based on ECF releases from 1991 are used. The radiological source term used and the calculations performed to determine expected normal releases are provided in Attachment G.

The radiation exposures to human beings due to estimated radionuclide release to the atmosphere plus direct radiation from the stored spent nuclear fuel at the shipyard alternative involving water pool storage and the alternative involving dry storage described in Attachment F. Postulated releases were calculated for wet storage of fuel in a water pool plus inspection of naval spent nuclear fuel.

A person on the shipyard boundary at the location where the largest exposures were received was used as the hypothetical maximally exposed off-site individual (MOI) for releases of radioactive material from the stored spent fuel. The population data and population exposures were taken from 1990 census data provided by the U.S. Census Bureau. Meteorology data were obtained as described in Attachment F. Estimated exposures were also calculated.

The hypothetical exposures calculated are based on an exposure to the estimated effluents and the direct radiation exposure for one year from the naval spent nuclear fuel shipyard. The calculations include the external effective exposure equivalent from deposition, deposition to surface water, and air immersion pathways and the 50-year effective exposure equivalent from internal exposure through the ingestion and inhalation. All pathways were considered for persons potentially exposed, except that the ingestion was omitted for the workers because they do not grow their food on-site. Solubilities were used to produce the highest calculated exposures were chosen for internal exposure factors. Human dietary consumption patterns were taken from "Age Dependent Values of Dietary Intake for Assessing Human Exposures to Environmental Pollutants" (Rupp 1980). The hypothetical exposures calculated can be converted into a risk of fatal cancer or a risk of non-fatal health effects (e.g., non-fatal cancers, hereditary defects) based on recommendations of the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP 1991).

Attachment F summarizes the calculated exposures and fatal cancers to the worst exposed off-site individual (MOI), nearest public access (NPA), and the population releases of radioactivity and direct radiation exposure in one year for each location. Section 3.7 provides a comparison of the annual number of fatal cancers calculated for the population for each location and alternative.

The number of fatal cancers calculated is so small that there would be essential no cancers resulting from the storage of naval spent nuclear fuel during the time it is expected to continue to be stored. Putting this into perspective, it could be stated that the population might experience a fatal cancer due to incident-free storage of naval spent nuclear fuel at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard if operations continued for 7,100 years.

If a water pool facility would be constructed at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard for the storage of spent nuclear fuel, the airborne emissions from the facility would be less than those identified for the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard because no spent nuclear fuel inspection beyond visual examinations would be conducted in the water pools.

5.1.2.7.2 Non-radiological Consequences.

As noted in Attachment F, no increase in non-radioactive airborne emissions would be expected to result from spent nuclear fuel operations. Storage facility operations would not involve use of carcinogenic toxic pollutants, or other hazardous or toxic chemicals except for small quantities of insecticides and paint thinner that may be used for housekeeping and cleanliness control be the same as those already used at the shipyard. Consequently, there would be no ambient air quality as a result of implementing any of the alternatives at the shipyard.

If an alternative were to be selected that required a storage facility to be renovated, fugitive dust emissions would be expected to result from excavation operations. The quantity of dust generated would be small, consistent with typical excavation activities within local requirements for dust control.

5.1.2.8 Water Resources

5.1.2.8.1 Radiological Consequences.

Spent nuclear fuel storage operations at the shipyard would not result in discharges of radioactivity in liquid effluents during routine operations of the particular alternative chosen for storage of spent nuclear fuel. The health of nuclides released to the air onto the surface water is included in the analysis in Section 5.1.2.7. The air fallout impact is so small that there would be no distinguishing levels in the water.

Most of the Norfolk Naval Shipyard, including the location considered for the storage of naval spent nuclear fuel, is in the 100-year floodplain. However, the location for storage of spent nuclear fuel is not in a high-hazard area (as defined by Title 10, Part 1022 Federal Regulations for floodplains) which is an area where frequent flooding occurs. The majority of the shipyard is already developed and covered with impervious material, and operation of a naval spent nuclear fuel storage facility at the shipyard would produce no impacts on the floodplain.

Flooding in the area where shipping and immobile dry storage containers are stored would result in any adverse environmental consequences. These containers are completely sealed, and no radioactivity would be released from the interior even if they were completely submerged. In addition, the massive nature of these containers prevents them from floating or moving.

Since the shipyard resides in a floodplain, the design of the facility and operations would minimize the potential for flooding and damage to the facility. However, in the event the facility would be flooded, the exchange of pool water with the flood waters could be discussed in Attachment F, Section F.1.4.2.1.6.2, the radioactivity concentration in the pool is below the Nuclear Regulatory Commission limits specified in Title 10, Part 1022 Federal Regulations for liquid effluent except for Co-60 which is slightly higher (for storage or examination of naval spent nuclear fuel would be maintained to comparable levels). Any release of radioactivity would have to result from the exchange of flood water. This exchange would reduce the level of radioactivity even further. Consequently, environmental impacts would result from flooding of water pools at naval spent nuclear fuel sites.

5.1.2.8.2 Non-radiological Consequences.

Other than chemicals used to maintain the storage area, no hazardous wastes would be generated by the storage of naval spent nuclear fuel at the Naval Shipyard. Any hazardous liquid effluents that may be generated at the storage facility would be disposed of at an Environmental Protection Agency approved disposal site.

The only source for liquid discharges from the naval spent nuclear fuel storage facility to the environment consists of storm water runoff which would be consistent with the runoff associated with common light industrial facilities and related activities. It can be concluded that there would be no impact to the human environment due to runoff water from the naval spent nuclear fuel storage area.

The increased water usage under any of the alternatives would be negligible compared to existing shipyard demand.

5.1.2.9 Ecological Resources

There are no threatened or endangered species known to exist within the shipyard major changes to the industrial environment are planned. Therefore, no major ecological impacts to the region would result from selection of any of the alternatives.

The conceptual location where naval spent nuclear fuel would be stored is in Attachment D. This location is within an existing industrial complex and is surrounded by paved areas. The industrial nature of the shipyard and the fact that the land has been disturbed from its natural state by earlier activities mean that plant or animal species disturbance by human activities would not be expected to be present. Therefore, the ecological impacts associated with construction or operation of a spent nuclear fuel storage location. The radiological controls that are in effect at the shipyard ensure that the vicinity of the shipyard are maintained at or near natural background. Since they would be applied to spent nuclear fuel activities, no ecological effects due to radiation would be expected to occur.

5.1.2.10 Noise

Norfolk Naval Shipyard is an existing industrial-type environment characterized by heavy truck and automobile traffic; ship loading cranes and related diesel-powered equipment continuously operating transmission lines for steam, fuel, water, and related pumps for those and other liquids. No ambient noise level increases are expected to occur as compared to the alternatives. Therefore, no noise impacts would be expected to occur.

5.1.2.11 Traffic and Transportation

Shipments of radioactive materials in the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program are to be made in accordance with applicable regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation, U.S. Department of Energy, and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The purpose of these regulations is to ensure that shipments of radioactive material are adequately controlled to protect the environment and the health and safety of the general public. These regulations apply to radioactive material shipments and provide requirements for the container design, container identification as applicable for the specific quantity, type, and form of radioactive material shipped. Naval shipping container design requirements invoke shielding and integrity and meet all regulatory requirements. They provide for testing of container design, qualification of workers who construct containers, and quality control inspections to ensure that the containers will meet their design requirements. A detailed description of containers used for naval spent nuclear fuel shipments is provided in Attachment A. The impacts associated with normal and accident conditions associated with transport of spent nuclear fuel is provided in Attachment A.

5.1.2.11.1 Regional Infrastructure.

The alternatives under consideration are described in Section 3. The No Action alternative or the first variation of the Decentralization alternative would store naval spent nuclear fuel on-site. This alternative would reduce the number of rail shipments to the shipyard or prototype site compared to the past practice of transporting all naval spent nuclear fuel to INEL. The second variation of the Decentralization alternative would ship about 10 percent of naval spent nuclear fuel to Puget Sound. This would have some transportation impacts much as transporting all naval spent nuclear fuel off-site. The third Decentralization alternative, all naval spent nuclear fuel to INEL, examines it, and returns it to the original site. This alternative involves more transportation than the previous practice of transporting spent nuclear fuel to INEL, since the naval spent nuclear fuel is not returned from INEL to the original site. The 1992/1993 Planning Basis alternative, the Regionalization alternative, the Centralization at INEL alternative would involve the same transportation as has been the past, namely transportation to INEL and retention there. The Centralization alternative at the Hanford Site would result in more transportation impact than any of the previous alternatives due to the distances and population distribution between Hanford and the shipyards and the Centralization alternative at the Savannah River Site would result in the most transportation impacts of any of the alternatives.

5.1.2.11.2 Site Infrastructure.

If the alternative of storing naval spent nuclear fuel at Norfolk Naval Shipyard were to be selected, operation of a naval spent nuclear fuel storage noticeably affect site highway traffic because any increase in the work force would small incremental increase in overall traffic to and from the shipyard. Internal t Naval Shipyard would increase in the short-term; however, the total impact on shipy surrounding area traffic would be very small.

5.1.2.12 Occupational and Public Health and Safety

Detailed analyses of incident-free naval spent nuclear fuel transportation an handling impacts on worker and public health are described in Attachment A (transpo Attachment F (storage and inspection).

The transportation analysis results, and the storage and handling analysis are summarized separately in the following subsections.

5.1.2.12.1 Incident-free Transportation Occupational and Public Health and Safety.

The radiological and non-radiological health effects associated with the incident-free naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens have been assessed for the general popu tion workers, and hypothetical maximum exposed individual for each alternative. As Section 3.7, it is unlikely that there will be any fatal cancers as a result of nav and test specimen shipments since the estimates are much less than one fatal cancer alternative. The details of the transportation analysis are provided in Attachment

5.1.2.12.2 Incident-free Occupational and Public Health and Safety During Naval Spent**Nuclear Fuel Storage and Handling.**

The public health and safety impacts of radioactivity releases and direct radiation from storage of naval spent nuclear fuel were analyzed as disc tion 5.1.2.7 and Attachment F. Attachment F summarizes the results of the analysis releases and direct radiation from stored naval spent nuclear fuel. This analysis exposure to the worker, maximally exposed off-site individual, and nearest public a naval spent nuclear fuel would result in far less than one fatality per year. For be stated that one member of these population groups might experience a fatal cance of naval spent nuclear fuel at Norfolk Naval Shipyard if operations continued for 7

Projections of the number of occupational accidents that might occur during c operation of naval spent nuclear fuel storage and examination facilities have been alternative. These projections are presented in Attachment F. Based on the result projections, it is concluded that the number of occupational fatalities and injurie construction activities and storage and examination operations would be very small tive.

No public or occupational radiological health and safety impacts would be exp from naval spent nuclear fuel storage area construction activities since the constr involve radioactive work.

Attachment F also discusses toxic chemical issues for naval spent nuclear fue storage. Attachment F concludes that there would be no additional types or volumes required at the shipyards or prototype site for naval spent nuclear fuel storage. incident-free non-radiological impact resulting from storage of naval spent nuclear shipyards or prototype site.

5.1.2.12.3 Incident-free Occupational and Public Health and Safety Effects on Environ-**mental Justice Due to Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel Storage and Handling.**

As discussed in the preceding paragraphs, the impacts on human health or the environment resulting from operations associated with the management of naval spent nuclear fuel at the Norfol

would be small under any of the alternatives considered. For example, it is unlike fatal cancer would occur as a result of naval spent nuclear fuel management alternative. Since the potential impacts due to normal operations or accident conditions alternatives considered present no significant risk and do not constitute a credible threat to the surrounding population, no adverse effects would be expected for any particular population, minorities and low-income groups included.

The conclusion that there would be no disproportionately high and adverse impact on health or the environment is not affected by the prevailing winds or direction of water flow. This is true for normal operations because the effects of routine operations. It is also true for accident conditions because the consequences of any accident would be random conditions at the time it occurred, and the wind directions at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard do not display any strongly dominant direction. Similarly, the conclusion is not affected by subsistence consumption of fish or game since environmental monitoring at this relatively small and restricted site has shown no detectable difference in the activity present in the environment from levels in similar parts of the region.

To place the impacts on environmental justice in perspective, the risk associated with naval spent nuclear fuel management operations under any of the alternatives considered is less than one fatality per year for the entire population. For comparison, in 1990 approximately 510,000 cancer deaths in the United States population and there were approximately 100,000 cancer deaths among people of color in the U. S. Even if all of the impacts associated with the alternatives considered for naval spent nuclear fuel management were assumed to be borne by people of color, that group would be unlikely to experience a single additional fatality in any year. Therefore, the cancer risk for that population from naval spent nuclear fuel management would not constitute a disproportionately high and adverse impact on human health or the environment. The same conclusion can be drawn for low-income groups.

5.1.2.13 Utilities and Energy

If an alternative associated with storage of spent nuclear fuel at Norfolk Naval Shipyard is to be selected, construction and operation of the storage facility would not be expected to require large expenditure of utilities and energy resources.

Construction activities would require quantities of water and electricity typical of any small to medium size construction project. Operation of a container spent fuel storage facility would likely require only a small amount of energy and to support industrial equipment necessary to move spent nuclear fuel. Alternatives with water pool storage would require heating, ventilation, water, and electrical services in a work environment and to properly filter and exhaust the airborne discharges to the environment. Utility and energy demands would be less than those required to operate ECF (10,000 gallons) (Section 5.2.13) since the water pool used for spent fuel storage would be smaller and operations beyond visual examinations would be conducted in the water pool.

The amount of utilities and energy expected to be consumed would be a small increase in the total amount of utilities and energy used at the shipyard and would have a discernible environmental consequence.

5.1.2.14 Facility and Transportation Accidents

5.1.2.14.1 Facility Accidents. There has never been an accident in the history of the Naval

Nuclear Propulsion Program that resulted in a significant release of radioactivity or that resulted in radiation exposure to workers in excess of abnormal occurrence as defined by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. A description of potential accidents is considered and a summary of the accident analyses that were conducted with regards to naval spent nuclear fuel are contained in Attachment F.

5.1.2.14.1.1 Radiological Accidents. Section 3.7.3 provides a summary of the impacts

due to the most severe accidents considered for each site. The facility accident with the potential impact at Norfolk Naval Shipyard involves an airplane crash. An accident would result in a calculated 16 fatal cancers to the general population over 50 years. Attachment F. The likelihood of such an accident occurring is 1×10^{-6} , which is very low in perspective, an accident such as this would not be expected to occur unless the facility operated for about 1,000,000 years.

5.1.2.14.1.2 Non-radiological Accidents. As discussed in detail in Attachment F, the

limiting hypothetical non-radiological accident for naval spent nuclear fuel storage shipyard or prototype location would be a diesel fuel spill and fire. A catastrophic fuel storage tank that might be used for an emergency diesel generator to provide power was postulated to occur, resulting in the spilling of the entire quantity of subsequent fire. The fire would generate the following toxic chemicals:

- Carbon monoxide
- Oxides of nitrogen (90% nitric oxide and 10% nitrogen dioxide)
- Lead
- Sulfur dioxide.

Measures would be taken to reduce the health impacts of potential releases of These measures would involve controls to protect both workers and the general public shipyard and prototype sites have emergency planning, emergency preparedness, and emergency response programs in place to protect both workers and the public, and involve establishments such as warning communications, fire departments, and emergency command centers.

The airborne concentrations of the combustion products listed above, results were calculated at the locations of the on-site individuals, an individual at the site, and the general population within a 50-mile radius of the facility. Detailed results are presented in Attachment F. If the accidental fire that has been hypothesized were to actually occur, measures that would be in place would ensure no adverse health impacts to the general public and minimal health impacts to the workers.

5.1.2.14.2 Transportation Accidents.

Shipments of radioactive materials associated with naval spent nuclear fuel have never resulted in any measurable release of radioactivity to the environment

(NNPP 1994a). There have never been any significant accidents involving release of material during shipment since the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program began. The few transportation accidents during the various stages of transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel are presented in Attachment A.

The health effects associated with accidents during shipments of naval spent nuclear fuel test specimens have been assessed for the general population and the hypothetical maximum individual for each alternative. As summarized in Section 3.7, it is unlikely that fatal cancers as a result of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimen shipments are much less than one fatal cancer for each alternative. Details of the transportation accidents are provided in Attachment A.

5.1.2.14.3 Other Impacts of Accidents.

In addition to the possible human health effects associated with facility or transportation accidents described in the preceding sections, such as the impacts on socioeconomics and land use in the area and the costs of clean up, the impacts of accidents were estimated in order to develop a perspective and to evaluate potential differences among alternatives. The analyses described in Attachment F showed that an area ranging from about 8 acres for an inadvertent criticality accident to about 110 acres for a large airplane crashing into a dry storage container would be evacuated to the point where exposure could exceed 100 millirem per year. Beyond these areas, exposure would be less than 100 millirem per year, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's limit for protection of the general population from radiation. Persons who live in this area would be evacuated or otherwise experience restrictions in their daily activities for a brief period. Those who work at locations within this area might be prevented from going to their jobs until the area has been taken to reduce the potential for exposure. It should be noted that all of the area within about a quarter of a mile from the spent nuclear fuel facility would be inside the federally owned site.

An accident might result in short-term restrictions on access to a relatively small area. There would be no enduring impacts on cultural or similar resources, partially because the area involved would be small and partly because the remedial actions would be conducted in a controlled manner in full compliance with applicable laws and regulations. The impacts are very small and vary only slightly among the alternatives. Overall, the risks are small so these impacts are not a major concern.

assist in distinguishing among alternatives.

Facility or transportation accidents associated with any of the alternatives appreciable effect on the ecology of the area, considering the potential for human the amount of land which might be affected, as described in earlier parts of this s little consensus among scientists on methods for estimating the effects of radiatio resources such as plant or animal life, but since human health effects for all the small and most plants and animals are not thought to be more sensitive to radiation beings, the small impacts on human health provide an indication that the impacts on species in the area would also be small for all alternatives considered. Similarly which might be contaminated to measurable levels by chemicals or radioactive materi hypothetical accidents would be relatively small, any effects on the ecology would areas. There are no endangered or threatened species unique to the area surroundin owned site and an accident would not be expected to result in destruction of any sp alternatives considered. The effects of accidents related to any of the alternativ cleanup which might be performed would be localized in a small area extending only beyond the boundaries of the federally owned site and would not be expected to appr threatened or endangered species in the area. Based on these considerations, evalu accidents on ecological resources does not help to distinguish among alternatives.

5.1.2.14.4 Effects of Accidents on Environmental Justice Due to Naval Spent Nuclear

Fuel Storage and Handling.

As discussed in the preceding paragraphs, the impacts on human health or the environment resulting from facility or transportation accidents assoc management of naval spent nuclear fuel at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard would be small the alternatives considered. For example, it is unlikely that a single additional occur as a result of naval spent nuclear fuel management activities under any alter potential impacts due to an accident for any of the alternatives considered would p risk and do not constitute a credible adverse impact on the surrounding population, from accidents associated with the management of naval spent nuclear fuel would be particular segment of the population, minorities and low-income groups included.

The conclusion that there would be no disproportionately high and adverse imp health or the environment is not affected by the prevailing winds or direction of s water flow. This is because the consequences of any accident would depend on the r conditions in effect at the time an accident occurred, and the wind directions at t Shipyard are highly variable with no strongly dominant direction.

To place the impacts on environmental justice in perspective, the risk associ accidents caused by naval spent nuclear fuel management under any of the alternativ would amount to less than one additional fatality per year for the entire populatio in 1990 there were approximately 40,000 traffic fatalities in the United States pop were about 7,400 deaths caused by traffic accidents among people of color in the U. the additional cancer deaths associated with an accident involving any of the alter for naval spent nuclear fuel management were assumed to occur only among people of group would experience less than one additional fatal cancer per year. The same co drawn for low-income groups.

5.1.2.15 Waste Management

The alternative in which naval spent nuclear fuel is stored at Norfolk Naval produce limited amounts of solid municipal waste, solid low-level radioactive waste wastes.

In addition, no transuranic or high-level radioactive wastes would be generated by nuclear fuel activities at the site under any alternative. The quantity of industr would be small and most likely consist of industrial cleaning agents of the type no at the site. Small quantities of sanitary wastes would result from the additional volume would be small. The wastes produced from the storage of naval spent nuclear controlled and minimized in accordance with the existing waste management programs shipyard. The amount of additional wastes generated would be minimal compared to t baseline and would not cause any adverse impacts to public health and safety and th the vicinity of the shipyard.

5.1.2.16 Cumulative Impacts

5.1.2.16.1 Radiological Cumulative Impacts. Spent nuclear fuel storage at the site would not

result in discharges of radioactivity in liquid effluents during routine operations alternative selected. Therefore, there would be no incremental addition of radioactive ground water as a result of normal operations for any alternative. For alternative storage of spent nuclear fuel in dry storage and shipping containers, no airborne emissions are expected, so there would be no cumulative air quality impacts associated with storage methods. Consequently, the only radiological cumulative impacts that would be due to direct radiation exposure from the stored spent nuclear fuel.

For alternatives involving the storage of naval spent nuclear fuel in water, there would be no discernible direct radiation exposure to the public from the fuel elements due to the water in the pool. Therefore, any cumulative impacts which would result from pool storage would be primarily due to airborne emissions, and the addition of these emissions would cause an indistinguishable change in the emissions in the area (see Section 5.1.2.7). The site is in compliance with Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 61, "National Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants." Cumulative air emissions would not threaten any applicable air quality requirement or regulation, either federal, state, or local in non-radiological categories.

A summary of the cumulative radiological impacts is provided in the following table.

An overview of the historical radiological impacts from naval nuclear operations at Norfolk Naval Shipyard and from transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel is provided in Attachment A.

4.1.2.12 and detailed analyses are provided in Attachments F and A.

Prior to this time, naval spent nuclear fuel inspections and storage operations have been conducted only at INEL. Cumulative impacts have resulted from previous naval spent nuclear fuel inspection operations at any alternate site except for INEL.

The radiological impacts associated with the alternatives where naval spent nuclear fuel would be stored at Norfolk Naval Shipyard are very small and are described in Section 5.1. Detailed results of analyses provided in Attachment F. In order to calculate cumulative impacts over the period between 1995 and 2035, the annual radiological impacts associated with each alternative were summed over 40 years. The results of this summation are tabulated in Table 3-6 of Section 3.

The cumulative transportation impacts for the population groups from naval spent nuclear fuel transportation activities since the beginning of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program are calculated and are very small. In addition, the cumulative impacts from transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel over the 40-year period between 1995 and 2035 for each alternative have been calculated. The detailed results of these calculations are presented in Attachment A and summarized in Table 3-7.4.

The total exposure to the population in the vicinity of the Norfolk Naval Shipyard for the alternatives considered would be approximately 11.2 person-rem. This means that the total exposure to a theoretical maximally exposed off-site individual living at the site for the entire 40-year period would be 0.12 rem due to the alternative resulting in the least exposure. This maximally exposed off-site individual would have a 6.0×10^{-5} risk of fatal cancer during his or her lifetime due to storage of spent nuclear fuel. When radiological impacts due to naval nuclear operations are added to the impacts of the spent nuclear fuel alternative, the exposure to the population would be 13.6 person-rem. This still results in a maximally exposed off-site individual would remain at 0.12 rem. This still results in one fatal cancer in the population and the risk of the maximally exposed off-site individual to a fatal cancer during his or her lifetime is essentially unchanged.

The total exposure related to naval spent nuclear fuel activities to a worker working continually 100 meters from the spent nuclear fuel under the alternative resulting in the largest exposure is 0.23 rem accumulated over 40 years. That corresponds to a fatal cancer risk of 9.2×10^{-5} during the worker's lifetime. The exposure to the same worker when existing radiological impacts due to naval nuclear operations are added to the spent nuclear fuel alternative is 0.232 rem over 40 years which corresponds to a fatal cancer risk of 9.3×10^{-5} during the worker's lifetime. The impacts associated with transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel for the alternatives considered would be similarly low.

No contribution to cumulative impacts from accidents involving naval spent nuclear fuel is expected.

been included in the analyses presented in this Environmental Impact Statement because never been a nuclear reactor accident, criticality accident, transportation accident, or radioactivity which had a significant effect on the environment.

Sections 4.1.2.14 and 5.1.2.15 describe the management of low-level radioactive mixed waste at the site. The volume of low-level radioactive wastes which would be the alternatives has not been calculated. However, considering the nature of radioactivity would be associated with spent nuclear fuel storage activities, the amount of low-level waste produced during spent nuclear fuel activities would be much less than 20 percent of site generation rate (1019 m³ per year). This additional radioactive waste would not change to the site's waste management practices. The small amount of additional waste would not impose any discernible additional stress on the capacity of the radioactive ground. Therefore, any cumulative impacts associated with the generation and disposal of low-level wastes would be very small.

Since no mixed, transuranic, or high-level radioactive wastes would be generated by nuclear fuel activities at this site under any alternative, there would be no cumulative impacts associated with these materials.

5.1.2.16.2 Non-radiological Cumulative Impacts.

An overview of the historical non-radiological cumulative impacts from naval nuclear operations at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard and from transport of naval spent nuclear fuel is provided in Section 4.1.2.12 and detailed analyses are in Attachments F and A. Prior to this time, naval spent nuclear fuel inspections and have been conducted only at INEL. Therefore, no non-radiological cumulative impact from previous naval spent nuclear fuel inspection and storage operations at any alternative for INEL.

The non-radiological impacts associated with the alternative where naval spent nuclear fuel would be inspected or stored at Norfolk Naval Shipyard are described in Section 5.1.2.16.2.1 and detailed results of analyses provided in Attachment F. As summarized in Section 5.1.2.16.2.2, there would be no additional chemicals required at the shipyard for naval spent nuclear fuel activities; therefore no non-radiological impacts from normal operations. Consequently, no cumulative impacts to air quality or water resources would result since the incremental addition of a shipyard that might result from naval spent nuclear fuel activities would be very small. The environmental problems associated with these materials.

The non-radiological cumulative transportation impacts for the population from transport of nuclear fuel transportation activities since the beginning of the Naval Nuclear Program have also been calculated. In addition, the cumulative impacts from transportation of nuclear fuel over the 40-year period between 1995 and 2035 for each alternative have been calculated. The detailed results of these calculations are presented in Attachment A. The non-radiological impacts associated with the transportation and storage of naval spent nuclear fuel alternatives considered would be low.

No cumulative land use impacts would be expected to occur as a result of spent nuclear fuel storage. The land that would be dedicated for this purpose is on existing federal land in an industrial setting which has already been disturbed from its natural state (or developed land). The conversion of this space for storage of spent nuclear fuel would not require the need to disturb undeveloped land or for additional land to be added to the federal property in the foreseeable future.

From a socioeconomic perspective, the introduction of naval spent nuclear fuel at the site would create a small number of additional jobs and could have a very small socioeconomic impact. The site currently employs approximately 8500 civilian personnel. Shipyard employment has been associated with spent nuclear fuel activities in the past. Nuclear fuel activities have not been conducted at the site. An average of approximately 100 additional jobs might be added as a result of possible spent nuclear fuel activities. The peak number of additional jobs created at the site in any given year would be approximately 200 which is associated with construction and operation of a water pool facility for spent nuclear fuel. Considering that the regional labor force consists of approximately 100,000 people, the additional number of added jobs under any alternative would have little or no discernible socioeconomic impact. These jobs would be filled either from within the existing workforce or from the available regional labor force without discernible effect. There are no other projects planned at the site and no known projects planned in the region that would require a large number of workers involved in naval spent nuclear fuel activities to become an impediment to the region.

The cumulative impacts associated with non-radiological waste management are expected to be small. As stated previously, any industrial wastes generated from nuclear fuel storage would be small and limited to industrial cleaning agents of the type normally used in the shipyard.

at the site. The volume of municipal solid wastes and sanitary wastes which would be expected to be proportional to the number of additional workers added, and this small increase would not be discernible. The amount of additional non-radiological waste would not introduce any changes to the site's waste management practices and would not impose additional stress on the capacity of on-site or off-site waste disposal or treatment. Any cumulative impacts associated with the generation and disposal of additional waste are small. There are no current environmental problems associated with these types of

5.1.2.17 Unavoidable Adverse Effects

There are no discernible unavoidable adverse effects associated with the implementation of any of the alternatives and none which would help to choose among the alternatives. The alternative in which naval spent nuclear fuel is stored at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard would cause exposure to small amounts of radiation, described in Section 5.1.2.12, and would result in one health effect in the entire population surrounding the shipyard. Similarly, construction of the storage facility would produce limited amounts of solid municipal waste and solid radioactive waste. These amounts of waste would not produce any major impacts in the shipyard. There will be no changes to the ecological, cultural, geological, or ambient noise levels due to the implementation of any of the alternatives. There would also be no expected ambient noise levels.

5.1.2.18 Irreversible and Irrecoverable Commitments of Resources

The only irreversible and irrecoverable commitment of resources that results from the alternative in which naval spent nuclear fuel would be stored at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard is the money which would be spent by the federal government to construct the necessary storage facility. The total cost of storing spent naval nuclear fuel at the shipyards and prototype range is \$1.5 billion to \$5.7 billion. This cost represents the total cumulative cost over the life of all of the shipyards and prototype. This cost includes construction costs of the storage facility and, depending on the alternative selected, the operation of a limited examination facility at the Sound Naval Shipyard combined with the costs associated with shutting down ECF, or the costs of the INEL-ECF. The major expense in the highest cost alternatives is the purchase of shipping containers. Refer to Section 3.7 for a comparison of the total cumulative costs of the alternatives.

5.1.3 PORTSMOUTH NAVAL SHIPYARD: KITTERY, MAINE

5.1.3.1 Overview of Environmental Impacts

The following sections discuss the major differences in potential environmental impacts associated with the choice of alternatives that include storage of naval spent nuclear fuel at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. The environmental consequences associated with storage of naval spent nuclear fuel at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard are based on the estimates of naval spent nuclear fuel to be stored at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard through the year 2035 and current knowledge of design features associated with spent fuel shipping containers, immobile storage casks, and storage systems. The review of the environmental consequences associated with each alternative has shown that the associated impact on the environment is very small. There is no impact to the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard regional environment associated with any alternative that does not involve the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

5.1.3.2 Land Use

Construction of a storage area at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard would require a modification of the current land use by the shipyard. A description of the alternative storage area and approximate storage locations is provided in Attachment D. Attachment C provides a comparison of naval spent nuclear fuel storage in new water pools versus dry container storage.

The alternative of storing naval spent nuclear fuel in water pools would require a new pool facility be constructed in the vicinity of the area that is designated for dry storage. The water pool would have sufficient capacity to accommodate storage of all naval spent nuclear fuel.

expected to be stored at the shipyard.

No additional land outside the shipyard would be required.

Native American rights and interests would not be modified by construction or associated with any of the alternatives considered.

5.1.3.3 Socioeconomics

The calculated number of direct construction and operating jobs that would be 10-year period between 1995 and 2004 for each storage alternative at the shipyard is **Table 5.1.3-1**. Since there would be no naval spent nuclear fuel storage or inspect shipyard under the 1992/1993 Planning Basis and Centralization alternatives, no add be required at the shipyard under these alternatives.

Table 5.1.3-1. Number of construction and operating jobs created at Portsmouth Nav for each alternative.

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Railcar(1)	1	1	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Immobile Containers on Pads(2)	1	1	1	1	2	6(3)	4	4	4	4
Shipping Containers on Pads (2)	1	1	1	1	2	6(3)	1	1	1	1
Water Pools(2)	16	16	47	72	89	63	77	35	35	35

(1) Storage mode under the No Action and Decentralization alternatives.

(2) Storage mode under the Decentralization alternative.

(3) The construction jobs would last less than one year.

The only discernible socioeconomic consequence of storing naval spent nuclear Portsmouth Naval Shipyard is that a relatively small number of construction workers few to a maximum of several hundred would be required for construction of the area) force would consist of skilled craftsmen and unskilled laborers. This work force w during the storage facility construction and would be available from within the are

The operation of the spent fuel storage area using dry storage containers wou additional workers to secure the fuel in the storage area and to support surveillan activities. For the alternative involving storing fuel in immobile dry storage con workers would be required to handle the spent nuclear fuel when it is placed into t containers. This work force would normally only be needed when fuel is being inser containers. For the alternative involving shipping containers, fewer workers would handle and secure the containers in the storage area. The operation of a water poo alternative involving storing naval spent nuclear fuel in a water pool would requir additional workers. The number required for any of the shipyard and prototype site alternatives would be small and is expected to be supplied from either within the e work force or from the local work force. Considering that the shipyard employs app naval and civilian personnel, the addition of workers to support the alternatives w discernible impact on the local socioeconomic conditions of the Portsmouth Naval Sh

For the alternatives where dry storage containers would be manufactured, some jobs would be created in the locations where the containers are made. The process container manufacturer is subject to federal procurement requirements and would be Record of Decision. Consequently, the specific socioeconomic impacts from containe cannot be specified. The net effect of container fabrication would be to create ad bolster the local economy of the area(s) where containers are made. It is consider selection of the contractor would depend on the alternative storage site selected, with construction of casks provide no basis for selection of a storage site.

5.1.3.4 Cultural Resources

All construction contracts for the shipyard contain a clause such that if art ered, appropriate measures must be taken to ensure the safe recovery of such items. these items are then placed in the shipyard museum.

The shipyard's historic district is considered a valued cultural resource and are listed on the historic register. The implementation of storage alternatives wi that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NPS 1991), any known ar or any other cultural resources. Therefore, there would be no impacts to cultural

with the alternative of storing naval spent nuclear fuel at the shipyard.

None of the alternatives considered would impact known archaeological or Native sites. Procedures which comply with all applicable laws and regulations would be in place to protect previously undetected archaeological and cultural sites.

5.1.3.5 Aesthetic and Scenic Resources

The naval spent nuclear fuel storage area would be located within the Portsmouth Shipyard which is an existing industrial setting and would not affect the visual quality since it is compatible with the landscape character of the site. Physical changes from the construction of a naval spent nuclear fuel storage facility will not alter the landscape. There are no particulate air emissions associated with storage of naval spent nuclear fuel. No visibility impacts are expected. No aesthetic or scenic resources in the vicinity would be affected by the construction and operation of the storage facility.

5.1.3.6 Geology

If an alternative were to be selected which required naval spent nuclear fuel storage at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, the construction and operation of the naval spent nuclear fuel facility would not be expected to affect the geologic character or resources of the storage facility construction phase, the ground would need to be excavated as necessary to provide a suitable surface. This would not affect the geological characteristics of the underlying land. In the alternative of storing naval spent nuclear fuel in a storage pool facility, the ground would need to be excavated to a depth of approximately 40 feet. This excavation would not affect the geological characteristics of the area.

5.1.3.7 Air Resources

5.1.3.7.1 Radiological Consequences.

No airborne radionuclide releases from normal operations are expected to occur as a result of the alternatives involving naval spent nuclear fuel stored in dry storage containers. The fuel would be contained such that at least two barriers would prevent fission products from becoming airborne. These barriers would retain the fuel in an air-tight containment until moved to a permanent storage site and there would be no radioactive material released from routine operations for this method of storage. Exposure would be direct radiation from the array of filled storage containers. The containers would be fenced off and shielded if necessary such that there would be no effect on the current radiation readings at the site perimeter.

For the alternative where naval spent nuclear fuel would be stored in a water pool, radionuclide releases are expected to be less than the emissions from the Idaho National Laboratory (INEL) Expanded Core Facility (ECF) because the water pool size and number of inspections performed would be smaller at the shipyard and the shipyard would not conduct shielded cell operations that are performed at ECF. To conservatively estimate the consequences, airborne releases based on ECF releases from 1991 are used. The radiation term used and the detailed calculations performed to determine expected normal releases are in Attachment F.

The radiation exposures to human beings due to estimated radionuclide release to the atmosphere plus direct radiation from the stored spent nuclear fuel at the shipyard alternative involving water pool storage and the alternative involving dry storage are described in Attachment F.

A person on the shipyard boundary at the location where the largest exposures are received was used as the hypothetical maximally exposed off-site individual (MOI) for releases of radioactive material from the stored fuel. The population data used to estimate exposures were taken from 1990 census data provided by the U.S. Census Bureau. Metrics were obtained as described in Attachment F. Estimated exposures to workers were also calculated.

The hypothetical exposures calculated are based on an exposure to the estimated effluents and the direct radiation exposure for one year from the fuel stored at the shipyard. The calculations include the external effective equivalent exposure from the ground deposited to surface water, and air immersion pathways and the 50-year committed effective equivalent exposure from internal exposure through the ingestion and inhalation pathways. All pathways are considered for persons potentially exposed, except that the ingestion pathway was not considered for the water pool alternative.

workers because they do not grow their food on-site. Solubilities which would produce calculated exposures were chosen for internal exposure factors. Values for human distribution patterns were taken from "Age Dependent Values of Dietary Intake for Assessing Exposures to Environmental Pollutants" (Rupp 1980). The hypothetical exposures calculated converted into a risk of fatal cancer or a risk of non-fatal health detriments (e.g. hereditary defects) based on the "1990 Recommendations of the International Commission on Radiological Protection" (ICRP 1991).

Attachment F summarizes the calculated exposures and fatal cancers to the worker exposed off-site individual (MOI), nearest public access (NPA), and the population radioactivity and direct radiation exposure in one year for each location and storage. 3.7 provides a comparison of the annual number of fatal cancers calculated for the worker for each location and alternative.

The number of fatal cancers calculated is so small that there would be essential cancers resulting from the storage of naval spent nuclear fuel during the time it is expected to continue to be stored. Putting this into perspective, it could be stated that the population might experience a fatal cancer due to incident-free storage of naval fuel at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard if operations continued for 43,500 years.

If a water pool facility would be constructed at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard storage of naval spent nuclear fuel, the airborne emissions from the facility would be identified for the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard because no naval spent nuclear fuel is stored there. Operations beyond visual examination would be conducted in the water pool facility.

5.1.3.7.2 Non-radiological Consequences.

As noted in Attachment F, no increase in non-radioactive airborne emissions would be expected to result from spent nuclear fuel operations. Storage facility operations would not involve use of carcinogenic toxic pollutants, or other hazardous or toxic chemicals except that small quantities of insecticides and paint thinner may be used for housekeeping and cleanliness control and the same as those already used at the shipyard. Consequently, there would be no impact on quality as a result of implementing any of the alternatives at the shipyard.

If an alternative were to be selected that required a storage facility to be renovated, fugitive dust emissions would be expected to result from excavation operations. The quantity of dust generated would be small, consistent with typical excavation activities within local requirements for dust control.

5.1.3.8 Water Resources

5.1.3.8.1 Radiological Consequences.

Spent nuclear fuel storage at the shipyard would not result in discharges of radioactivity to liquid effluents during routine operation of the alternative selected for storage of spent nuclear fuel. The health effect due to fuel released to the air onto the surface water is included in the analysis results discussed in 5.1.3.7. The air fallout impact is so small that there would be no distinguishable impact on the water.

Portsmouth Naval Shipyard does not reside in the 100 or 500 year floodplain. The floodplain would not be impacted by spent naval nuclear fuel storage and examination at the shipyard.

5.1.3.8.2 Non-radiological Consequences.

Other than chemicals used to maintain the storage area, no hazardous wastes would be generated by the storage of naval spent nuclear fuel at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. Any hazardous liquid effluents that may be generated at the shipyard would be disposed of at an Environmental Protection Agency approved disposal site.

The only source for liquid discharges from the naval spent nuclear fuel storage to the environment consists of storm water runoff which would be consistent with the runoff associated with common light industrial facilities and related activities. It can be stated that there would be no impact to the human environment due to runoff water from the proposed naval nuclear fuel storage area.

The increased water usage under any alternative would be negligible compared

shipyard demand.

5.1.3.9 Ecological Resources

Both Maine and New Hampshire officials were consulted and have determined the evidence to suggest that any threatened or endangered species reside on the Portsmouth Shipyard (Appendix V.B. of the Navy's Natural Resources Management Plan (Navy 1993)) major changes to the industrial environment are planned. None of the alternatives areas surrounding the shipyard. Therefore, no major ecological impacts to the region from selection of any of the alternatives.

The conceptual location where naval spent nuclear fuel would be stored is in Attachment D. This location is within an existing industrial complex and is surrounded by paved areas. The industrial nature of the shipyard and the fact that the land has been disturbed from its natural state by earlier activities mean that plant or animal species disturbance by human activities would not be expected to be present. Therefore, the ecological impacts associated with construction or operation of a spent nuclear fuel storage location. The radiological controls that are in effect at the shipyard ensure that the vicinity of the shipyard are maintained at or near natural background. Since the same controls would be applied to spent nuclear fuel activities, no ecological effects due to radiation would be expected to occur.

5.1.3.10 Noise

Portsmouth Naval Shipyard is an existing industrial-type environment characterized by truck and automobile traffic; ship loading cranes and related diesel-powered equipment continuously operating transmission lines for steam, fuel, water, and related pumps for those and other liquids. No ambient noise level increases are expected to occur as a result of the alternatives. Therefore, no noise impacts would be expected to occur.

5.1.3.11 Traffic and Transportation

Shipments of radioactive materials in the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program are made in accordance with applicable regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation, U.S.

Department of Energy, and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The purpose of these regulations is to ensure that shipments of radioactive material are adequately controlled to protect the environment and the health and safety of the general public. These regulations are designed to control radioactive material shipments and provide requirements for the container design, container identification as applicable for the specific quantity, type, and form of radioactive material shipped. Naval shipping container design requirements invoke shielding and integrity and meet all regulatory requirements. They provide for testing of container design, qualification of workers who construct containers, and quality control inspections to ensure that the containers will meet their design requirements. A detailed description of containers used for naval spent nuclear fuel shipments is provided in Attachment A. The impacts associated with normal and accident conditions associated with transport of spent nuclear fuel is provided in Attachment A.

5.1.3.11.1 Regional Infrastructure.

The alternatives under consideration are described in Attachment Section 3. The No Action alternative or the first variation of the Decentralization alternative would store the spent nuclear fuel on-site. This alternative would reduce the number of shipments to the shipyard or prototype site compared to the past practice of transporting all spent nuclear fuel to INEL. The second variation of the Decentralization alternative would ship about 10 spent nuclear fuel to Puget Sound. This would have some transportation impact, but transporting all spent nuclear fuel off-site. The third Decentralization alternative, which would transport nuclear fuel to INEL, examine it, and return it to the original shipyard or prototype site, involves more transportation than the previous practice of transporting spent nuclear fuel to INEL, since the spent nuclear fuel is not returned from INEL to the original site. Planning Basis alternative, the Regionalization at INEL alternative, or the Centralization alternative would involve the same transportation as has been required in the past,

tion to INEL and retention there. The Centralization alternative at the Hanford Site would result in more transportation impact than any of the previous alternatives, due to the distant distribution between Hanford and the shipyards and prototypes. The Centralization Savannah River Site would result in the most transportation impact of spent nuclear alternatives.

5.1.3.11.2 Site Infrastructure.

The alternative associated with naval spent nuclear fuel storage at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard would not noticeably affect site highway traffic because the work force would represent a very small incremental increase in overall traffic at the shipyard. There would be no noticeable change in the internal traffic in the shipyard held temporarily even when it is transported off-site.

5.1.3.12 Occupational and Public Health and Safety

Detailed analyses of incident-free spent nuclear fuel transportation and storage impacts on worker and public health are described in Attachment A (transportation) (storage and inspection). The transportation analysis results, and the storage and handling analysis are summarized separately in the following subsections.

5.1.3.12.1 Incident-free Transportation Occupational and Public Health and Safety.

The radiological and non-radiological health effects associated with the incident-free naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens have been assessed for the general population workers, and hypothetical maximum exposed individual for each alternative. As Section 3.7, it is unlikely that there will be any fatal cancers as a result of naval spent nuclear fuel shipments since the estimates are much less than one fatal cancer alternative. The details of the transportation analysis are provided in Attachment

5.1.3.12.2 Incident-free Occupational and Public Health and Safety During Spent Nuclear

Fuel Storage and Handling.

The public health and safety impacts of radioactivity releases and direct radiation from storage of spent nuclear fuel were analyzed as discussed in Attachment F. Attachment F summarizes the results of the analysis of radioactivity direct radiation from stored spent nuclear fuel. This analysis shows that the maximum exposed off-site individual, and nearest public access from stored naval fuel would result in far less than one fatality per year. For perspective, it could be member of these population groups might experience a fatal cancer due to storage of nuclear fuel at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard if operations continued for 43,500 years.

Projections of the number of occupational accidents that might occur during construction of naval spent nuclear fuel storage and examination facilities have been made for the alternative. These projections are presented in Attachment F. Based on the result projections, it is concluded that the number of occupational fatalities and injuries during construction activities and storage and examination operations would be very small.

No public or occupational radiological health and safety impacts would be expected from naval spent nuclear fuel storage area construction activities since the construction would involve radioactive work.

Attachment F also discusses toxic chemical issues for spent nuclear fuel handling. Attachment F concludes that there would be no additional types or volumes of chemicals at the shipyards or prototype site for spent nuclear fuel storage. Therefore, there is no non-radiological impact resulting from storage of spent nuclear fuel at the shipyard.

5.1.3.12.3 Incident-free Occupational and Public Health and Safety Effects on Environ-

mental Justice Due to Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel Storage and Handling.

As discussed in the preceding paragraphs, the impacts on human health or the environment resulting from operations associated with the management of naval spent nuclear fuel at the Portsmouth Shipyard would be small under any of the alternatives considered. For example, it single fatal cancer would occur as a result of naval spent nuclear fuel management alternative. Since the potential impacts due to normal operations or accident conditions alternatives considered present no significant risk and do not constitute a credible risk to the surrounding population, no adverse effects would be expected for any particular population, minorities and low-income groups included.

The conclusion that there would be no disproportionately high and adverse impact on human health or the environment is not affected by the prevailing winds or direction of surface water flow. This is true for normal operations because the effects of routine operations are random conditions at the time it occurred, and the wind directions at the Portsmouth Shipyard do not display any strongly dominant direction. Similarly, the conclusion is not affected by subsistence consumption of fish or game since environmental monitoring at this relatively small and restricted site has shown no detectable difference in the activity present in the environment from levels in similar parts of the region.

To place the impacts on environmental justice in perspective, the risk associated with naval spent nuclear fuel management operations under any of the alternatives considered is less than one fatality per year for the entire population. For comparison, in 1990 approximately 510,000 cancer deaths in the United States population and there were 15,000 cancer deaths among people of color in the U. S. Even if all of the impacts associated with the alternatives considered for naval spent nuclear fuel management were assumed to be borne by people of color, that group would be unlikely to experience a single additional cancer death in any year. Therefore, the cancer risk for that population from naval spent nuclear fuel management would not constitute a disproportionately high and adverse impact on human health or the environment. The same conclusion can be drawn for low-income groups.

5.1.3.13 Utilities and Energy

If an alternative associated with the storage of naval spent nuclear fuel at the Portsmouth Shipyard were to be selected, construction and operation of the storage area would require a large expenditure of utilities and energy resources.

Construction activities will require quantities of water and electricity typical of any small to medium size construction project. The dry container naval spent nuclear fuel storage facility will likely require electricity for security lighting and to support industrial equipment necessary to move nuclear fuel (cranes, etc). Alternatives associated with water pool storage would require ventilation, water, and electrical systems suitable for a work environment and to prevent the airborne discharges to the atmosphere. The utility and energy demands for the water pool storage facility would be smaller and no spent fuel operations would be conducted in the water pool.

The amount of utilities and energy expected to be consumed would be a small increase in the total amount of utilities and energy used at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard and would not result in any discernible environmental consequence.

5.1.3.14 Facility and Transportation Accidents

5.1.3.14.1 Facility Accidents. There has never been an accident in the history of the Naval

Nuclear Propulsion Program that resulted in a significant release of radioactivity or that resulted in radiation exposure to workers in excess of abnormal occurrence as defined by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. A description of potential accidents considered and a summary of the accident analyses that were conducted with regards to naval spent nuclear fuel are contained in Attachment F.

5.1.3.14.1.1 Radiological Accidents. Section 3.7.3 provides a summary of the impacts

due to the most severe accidents considered for each site. The facility accident with the potential impact at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard involves an airplane crash. An accident

magnitude would result in 9 fatal cancers to the general population over 50 years, Attachment F. The likelihood of an airplane crash is 1×10^{-7} . The facility accident risk involves accidental drainage of the water pool. The drained water pool accident less than one fatality over 50 years, but the likelihood of occurrence is 1×10^{-5} .

5.1.3.14.1.2 Non-radiological Accidents. As discussed in detail in Attachment F, the limiting

hypothetical non-radiological accident for spent nuclear fuel storage in a water pool prototype location would be a diesel fuel spill and fire. A catastrophic failure of a tank that might be used for an emergency diesel generator to provide backup electricity postulated to occur, resulting in the spilling of the entire quantity of diesel fuel and subsequent fire.

The fire would generate the following toxic chemicals:

- Carbon monoxide
- Oxides of nitrogen (90% nitric oxide and 10% nitrogen dioxide)
- Lead
- Sulfur dioxide.

Measures would be taken to reduce the health impacts of potential releases of these materials. These measures would involve controls to protect both workers and the general public. Shipyard and prototype sites have emergency planning, emergency preparedness, and emergency response programs in place to protect both workers and the public and involve establishments such as warning communications, fire departments, and emergency command centers.

The airborne concentrations of the combustion products listed above, resulting from the accident, were calculated at the locations of the on-site individuals, an individual at the site, and the general population within a 50-mile radius of the facility. Detailed results are presented in Attachment F. If the accidental fire that has been hypothesized were to actually occur, that would be in place would ensure no adverse health impacts to the general public and health impacts to the workers.

5.1.3.14.2 Transportation Accidents.

Shipments of radioactive materials associated with naval spent nuclear fuel have never resulted in any measurable release of radioactivity to the environment (NNPP 1994a). There have never been any significant accidents involving the release of radioactive material during shipment since the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program began. The effects of transportation accidents during the various stages of transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel are presented in Attachment A.

The health effects associated with accidents during shipments of naval spent nuclear fuel test specimens have been assessed for the general population and the hypothetical maximum exposed individual for each alternative. As summarized in Section 3.7, it is unlikely that there would be fatal cancers as a result of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimen shipments. The risk is much less than one fatal cancer for each alternative. The details of the transport impacts are provided in Attachment A.

5.1.3.14.3 Other Impacts of Accidents.

In addition to the possible human health effects associated with facility or transportation accidents described in the preceding sections, there are impacts on socioeconomic and land use in the area and the costs of clean up. These are estimated in order to develop a perspective and to evaluate potential differences among alternatives. The analyses described in Attachment F showed that an area ranging from about 8 acres to about 110 acres, approximately a quarter mile (for an inadvertent criticality accident) to about 110 acres (for a large airplane crashing into a dry storage container) would be evacuated or otherwise experience restrictions in their daily activities for a brief period of time. Beyond these areas, exposure would be less than 100 millirem per year, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's limit for protection of the general population from radiation. Persons who live in this area might be prevented from going to their jobs or work at locations within this area might be prevented from going to their jobs. It should be noted that all of the area within about a quarter mile from the spent nuclear fuel facility would be inside the boundedly owned site.

An accident might result in short-term restrictions on access to a relatively

there would be no enduring impacts on cultural or similar resources, partially because small and partly because all remedial actions would be conducted in a careful, consistent full compliance with applicable laws and regulations. The area impacted would vary among the alternatives considered. Overall, the risks are small so these considerations are distinguishing among alternatives.

Facility or transportation accidents associated with any of the alternatives would have an appreciable effect on the ecology of the area, considering the potential for human use of the amount of land which might be affected, as described in earlier parts of this study. There is little consensus among scientists on methods for estimating the effects of radiation on resources such as plant or animal life, but since human health effects for all the small and most plants and animals are not thought to be more sensitive to radiation than other beings, the small impacts on human health provide an indication that the impacts on other species in the area would also be small for all alternatives considered. Similarly, impacts which might be contaminated to measurable levels by chemicals or radioactive materials from hypothetical accidents would be relatively small, any effects on the ecology would be localized. There are no endangered or threatened species unique to the area surrounding the site, so an accident would not be expected to result in destruction of any species or alternatives considered. The effects of accidents related to any of the alternatives would be localized in a small area extending only beyond the boundaries of the federally owned site and thus would not be expected to affect the potential for survival of endangered or threatened species in southeastern Hampshire. Based on these considerations, evaluation of impacts of accidents on ecology does not help to distinguish among alternatives.

5.1.3.14.4 Effects of Accidents on Environmental Justice Due to Naval Spent Nuclear

Fuel Storage and Handling.

As discussed in the preceding paragraphs, the impacts on human health or the environment resulting from facility or transportation accidents associated with management of naval spent nuclear fuel at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard would be small for all of the alternatives considered. For example, it is unlikely that a single accident would occur as a result of naval spent nuclear fuel management activities under any alternative. Potential impacts due to an accident for any of the alternatives considered would be small and do not constitute a credible adverse impact on the surrounding population, from accidents associated with the management of naval spent nuclear fuel would be small for any particular segment of the population, minorities and low-income groups included.

The conclusion that there would be no disproportionately high and adverse impacts on human health or the environment is not affected by the prevailing winds or direction of surface water flow. This is because the consequences of any accident would depend on the resulting conditions in effect at the time an accident occurred, and the wind directions at the Shipyard are highly variable with no strongly dominant direction.

To place the impacts on environmental justice in perspective, the risk associated with accidents caused by naval spent nuclear fuel management under any of the alternatives would amount to less than one additional fatality per year for the entire population. In 1990 there were approximately 40,000 traffic fatalities in the United States population; there were about 7,400 deaths caused by traffic accidents among people of color in the U.S. The additional cancer deaths associated with an accident involving any of the alternatives for naval spent nuclear fuel management were assumed to occur only among people of color; the group would experience less than one additional fatal cancer per year. The same conclusion can be drawn for low-income groups.

5.1.3.15 Waste Management

The alternative in which naval spent nuclear fuel is stored at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard would produce limited amounts of solid municipal waste, solid low-level radioactive waste, and hazardous wastes.

In addition, no transuranic or high-level radioactive wastes would be generated by naval spent nuclear fuel activities at the site under any alternative. The quantity of waste generated would be small and most likely consist of industrial cleaning agents and other wastes encountered at the site. Small quantities of sanitary wastes would result from the presence of the force but this volume would be small. The wastes produced from the storage of naval spent nuclear fuel would be controlled and minimized in accordance with the existing waste management at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. The amount of additional wastes generated would

compared to the existing baseline and would not cause any adverse impacts to public and the environment in the vicinity of the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

5.1.3.16 Cumulative Impacts

5.1.3.16.1 Radiological Cumulative Impacts. Spent nuclear fuel storage at the site would not

result in discharges of radioactivity in liquid effluents during routine operations alternative selected. Therefore, there would be no incremental addition of radioactive ground water as a result of normal operations for any alternative. For alternative storage of spent nuclear fuel in dry storage and shipping containers, no airborne radioactivity emissions are expected, so there would be no cumulative air quality impacts associated with storage methods. Consequently, the only radiological cumulative impacts that would result from storage alternatives would be due to direct radiation exposure from the stored spent nuclear fuel.

For alternatives involving the storage of naval spent nuclear fuel in water pools, there would be no discernible direct radiation exposure to the public from the fuel elements due to the water in the pool. Therefore, any cumulative impacts which would result from pool storage would be primarily due to airborne emissions, and the addition of these emissions would cause an indiscernible change in the emissions in the area (see Section 5.1.3.7). The site is in compliance with Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 61, "National Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants." Cumulative air emissions would not threaten applicable air quality requirements or regulations, either federal, state, or local in non-radiological categories.

A summary of the cumulative radiological impacts is provided in the following table.

An overview of the historical radiological impacts from naval nuclear operations at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard and from transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel is provided in Section 4.1.3.12 and detailed analyses are provided in Attachments F and A. Prior to this analysis, nuclear fuel inspections and storage operations have been conducted only at INEL. Cumulative impacts have resulted from previous naval spent nuclear fuel inspection operations at any alternate site except for INEL.

The radiological impacts associated with the alternatives where naval spent nuclear fuel is stored at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard are very small and are described in Section 3.7.4. The detailed results of analyses provided in Attachment F. In order to calculate cumulative impacts for the period between 1995 and 2035, the annual radiological impacts associated with each alternative were summed over 40 years. The results of this summation are tabulated in Tables 3-5 and 3-6 of Section 3.

The cumulative transportation impacts for the population groups from naval spent nuclear fuel transportation activities since the beginning of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program are calculated and are very small. In addition, the cumulative impacts from transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel over the 40-year period between 1995 and 2035 for each alternative have been calculated. The detailed results of these calculations are presented in Attachment A and summarized in Table 3.7.4.

The total exposure to the population in the vicinity of the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard for the alternatives considered would be approximately 1.8 person-rem. This means that there would be much less than one fatal cancer from these operations over the entire 40-year period. The total exposure to a theoretically maximally exposed off-site individual living at the boundary for the entire 40-year period would be 2.2×10^{-3} rem due to the alternative with the largest exposure. This maximally exposed off-site individual would have a 1.1×10^{-6} probability of contracting a fatal cancer during his or her lifetime due to storage of spent nuclear fuel. Existing site radiological impacts due to naval nuclear operations are added to the limiting spent nuclear fuel alternative, the exposure to the population would be 2.2 person-rem. The maximally exposed off-site individual would be 2.5×10^{-3} rem. This still results in less than one fatal cancer in the population and the risk of the maximally exposed off-site individual contracting a fatal cancer during his or her lifetime is 1.3×10^{-6} .

The total exposure related to naval spent nuclear fuel activities to a worker working continually 100 meters from the spent nuclear fuel under the alternative with the largest exposure is 0.11 rem accumulated over 40 years. That corresponds to a fatal cancer risk of 4.4×10^{-5} during the worker's lifetime. The exposure to the same worker when existing site radiological impacts due to naval nuclear operations are added to the spent nuclear fuel alternative is essentially the same over 40 years. The impacts associated with transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel for all of the alternatives considered would be similarly low.

No contribution to cumulative impacts from accidents involving naval spent nuclear fuel is expected.

been included in the analyses presented in this Environmental Impact Statement because never been a nuclear reactor accident, criticality accident, transportation accident, radioactivity which had a significant effect on the environment.

Sections 4.1.3.14 and 5.1.3.15 describe the management of low-level radioactive mixed waste at the site. The volume of low-level radioactive wastes which would be the alternatives has not been calculated. However, considering the nature of radioactivity would be associated with spent nuclear fuel storage activities, the amount of low-level waste produced during spent nuclear fuel activities would be much less than 20 percent site generation rate (57 m³ per year). This additional radioactive waste would not change to the site's waste management practices. The small amount of additional mixed waste would not impose any discernible additional stress on the capacity of the radioactive ground. Therefore, any cumulative impacts associated with the generation and disposal of low-level wastes would be very small.

Since no mixed, transuranic, or high-level radioactive wastes would be generated by nuclear fuel activities at this site under any alternative, there would be no cumulative impacts associated with these materials.

5.1.3.16.2 Non-radiological Cumulative Impacts.

An overview of the historical non-radiological impacts from naval nuclear operations at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard and from the management of naval spent nuclear fuel is provided in Section 4.1.3.12 and detailed analyses are provided in Attachments F and A. Prior to this time, naval spent nuclear fuel inspections and monitoring have been conducted only at INEL. Therefore, no non-radiological cumulative impact from previous naval spent nuclear fuel inspection and storage operations at any alternative for INEL.

The non-radiological impacts associated with the alternative where naval spent nuclear fuel would be inspected or stored at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard are described in Section 5.1.3.16.2 and the detailed results of analyses provided in Attachment F. As summarized in Section 5.1.3.16.2, there would be no additional chemicals required at the shipyard for naval spent nuclear fuel activities; therefore no non-radiological impacts from normal operations. Consequently, no cumulative impacts to air quality or water resources would result since the incremental addition of chemicals to the shipyard that might result from naval spent nuclear fuel activities would be very small. The environmental problems associated with these materials.

The non-radiological cumulative transportation impacts for the population from naval spent nuclear fuel transportation activities since the beginning of the Naval Nuclear Program have also been calculated. In addition, the cumulative impacts from transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel over the 40-year period between 1995 and 2035 for each alternative have been calculated. The detailed results of these calculations are presented in Attachment A. The non-radiological impacts associated with the transportation and storage of naval spent nuclear fuel alternatives considered would be low.

No cumulative land use impacts would be expected to occur as a result of spent nuclear fuel storage. The land that would be dedicated for this purpose is on existing federal land in an industrial setting which has already been disturbed from its natural state (a large area of developed land). The conversion of this space for storage of spent nuclear fuel would result in the need to disturb undeveloped land or for additional land to be added to the property in the foreseeable future.

From a socioeconomic perspective, the introduction of naval spent nuclear fuel activities at the site would create a small number of additional jobs and could have a very small socioeconomic impact. The site currently employs approximately 4900 civilian personnel. Employment has been associated with spent nuclear fuel activities in the past. Naval spent nuclear fuel activities have not been conducted at the site. An average of approximately 100 additional jobs might be added as a result of possible spent nuclear fuel activities. The peak number of additional jobs created at the site in any given year would be approximately 100, which is associated with construction and operation of a water pool facility for spent nuclear fuel. Considering that the regional labor force consists of approximately 100,000 people, the additional number of added jobs under any alternative would have little or no discernible socioeconomic impact. These jobs would be filled either from within the existing labor force or from the available regional labor force without discernible effect. There are no other projects planned at the site and no known projects planned in the region that would require a large number of workers involved in naval spent nuclear fuel activities to become an important part of the regional economy.

The cumulative impacts associated with non-radiological waste management are expected to be small. As stated previously, any industrial wastes generated from naval spent nuclear fuel storage would be small and limited to industrial cleaning agents of the type normally used in the shipyard.

at the site. The volume of municipal solid wastes and sanitary wastes which would be expected to be proportional to the number of additional workers added, and this small increase would not be discernible. The amount of additional non-radiological waste would not introduce any changes to the site's waste management practices and would not impose additional stress on the capacity of on-site or off-site waste disposal or treatment. Any cumulative impacts associated with the generation and disposal of additional waste would be small. There are no current environmental problems associated with these types of

5.1.3.17 Unavoidable Adverse Effects

There are no discernible unavoidable adverse effects associated with the implementation of any of the alternatives and none which would help to choose among the alternatives. The alternative in which naval spent nuclear fuel is stored at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard would be exposed to small amounts of radiation, described in Section 5.1.3.12, and would have less than one health effect in the entire population surrounding the shipyard. Similar operation of the storage facility would produce limited amounts of solid municipal low-level radioactive waste. These amounts of waste would not produce any major impacts in the vicinity of the shipyard. There will be no changes to the ecological, cultural, geological, or aesthetic resources due to the implementation of any of the alternatives. There will be no change in ambient noise levels.

5.1.3.18 Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitments of Resources

The only irreversible and irretrievable commitment of resources that results from the alternative in which naval spent nuclear fuel would be stored at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard is the money which would be spent by the federal government to construct the necessary new storage facilities. The total cost of storing spent naval nuclear fuel at the shipyards and prototype is approximately \$1.5 billion to \$5.7 billion. This cost represents the total cumulative cost over a 40-year period for all of the shipyards and prototype. This cost includes construction of new storage facilities, and, depending on the alternative selected, the operation and maintenance of an examination facility at Puget Sound Naval Shipyard combined with the costs associated with the ECF, or the operational costs of the INEL-ECF. The major expense in the higher cost alternatives is the procurement of shipping containers. Refer to Section 3.7 for a breakdown of total cumulative costs among alternatives.

5.1.4 PEARL HARBOR NAVAL SHIPYARD: PEARL HARBOR, HAWAII

5.1.4.1 Overview of Environmental Impacts

The following sections discuss the major differences in potential environmental impacts associated with the choice of alternatives that include storage of naval spent nuclear fuel at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard (hereafter referred to as Pearl Harbor). The environmental impacts associated with storage of naval spent nuclear fuel at Pearl Harbor are based on the amount of spent nuclear fuel that will be stored at Pearl Harbor through the year 2035 and the knowledge of the design features associated with spent fuel storage systems. The range of environmental consequences associated with these alternatives has shown that the impacts on the environment at Pearl Harbor associated with all activities is very small. There would be no change in the environment in the vicinity of Pearl Harbor associated with any alternatives that include storage of naval spent nuclear fuel at Pearl Harbor.

5.1.4.2 Land Use

Construction of a storage area at Pearl Harbor for temporary naval spent nuclear fuel would require a modest change in the current land in use by the shipyard. A description of alternate storage containers and water pools and their approximate storage location is provided in Attachment D. Attachment C provides a comparison of naval spent nuclear fuel storage in water pools versus dry container storage. The area is already an industrial site; therefore, the impact on land use is minimal.

The alternative of storing naval spent nuclear fuel in water pools would require a pool facility be constructed in the vicinity of the area that is designated for dry

The water pool would have sufficient capacity to accommodate storage of all naval spent nuclear fuel expected to be stored at the shipyard.

No additional land use outside the shipyard would be required.

Native Hawaiian rights and interests would not be modified by construction or associated with any of the alternatives considered.

5.1.4.3 Socioeconomics

The calculated number of direct construction and operating jobs that would be created during the 10-year period between 1995 and 2004 for each storage alternative at the shipyard is presented in Table 5.1.4-1. Since there would be no naval spent nuclear fuel storage or inspection at the shipyard under the 1992/1993 Planning Basis and Centralization alternatives, no additional jobs would be required at the shipyard under these alternatives.

Table 5.1.4-1. Number of construction and operating jobs created at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard for each alternative.

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Railcar(1)	1	1	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Immobile Containers on Pads(2)	1	1	1	1	2	6(3)	4	4	4	4
Shipping Containers on Pads (2)	1	1	1	1	2	6(3)	1	1	1	1
Water Pools(2)	16	16	46	71	88	62	77	35	35	35

(1) Storage mode under the No Action and Decentralization alternatives.

(2) Storage mode under the Decentralization alternative.

(3) The construction jobs would last less than one year.

The only discernible socioeconomic consequence from the alternative of storing naval spent nuclear fuel at Pearl Harbor is that a relatively small number of construction workers would be required for construction of the storage facility. This work force would consist of skilled craftsmen and unskilled laborers. This work force would be provided from within the local area.

The operation of the naval spent nuclear fuel storage area using dry storage containers would require additional workers to secure the fuel in the storage area and to support site monitoring activities. For the alternative involving storing fuel in immobile dry storage containers, about 20 workers would be required to handle the naval spent nuclear fuel when it is being moved into the containers. This work force would normally only be needed when fuel is being moved into the containers. For the alternative involving shipping containers, fewer workers would be needed to handle and secure the containers in the storage area. The operation of a water pool alternative involving storing naval spent nuclear fuel in a water pool would require additional workers. The number required for any of the shipyard and prototype site alternatives would be small and would be expected to be supplied from either within the shipyard work force or the local work force. Considering that the Department of Defense has approximately 10,900 civilians at the Pearl Harbor naval base, the addition of work alternatives would have no discernible impact on the local socioeconomic conditions at the Harbor site.

For the alternatives where dry storage containers would be manufactured, some jobs would be created in the locations where the containers are made. The process of container manufacture is subject to federal procurement requirements and would be subject to the Record of Decision. Consequently, the specific socioeconomic impacts from container manufacture cannot be specified. The net effect of container fabrication would be to create and bolster the local economy of the area(s) where containers are made. It is considered that the selection of the contractor would depend on the alternative storage site selected, and construction of casks would provide no basis for selection of a storage site.

5.1.4.4 Cultural Resources

The action considered will not affect any site that is listed on the National Historic Register (NPS 1991), any known archaeological areas, or any other cultural resources. There would be no impacts to cultural resources associated with the alternative of storing naval spent nuclear fuel at this location.

None of the alternatives considered would impact known archaeological or Native Hawaiian resources.

sites. Procedures which comply with all applicable laws and regulations would be in place to protect previously undetected archaeological and cultural sites.

5.1.4.5 Aesthetic and Scenic Resources

The naval spent nuclear fuel storage area would be located within the Pearl Harbor area, which is an existing industrial setting and would not affect the visual quality of the area. Physical changes to the Pearl Harbor storage area construction will not alter this setting. There are no particulate air emissions associated with storage of naval spent nuclear fuel and thus no visibility impacts are expected. Scenic resources in the vicinity of the shipyard would be affected by the construction and operation of the storage facility.

5.1.4.6 Geology

The construction and operation of the naval spent nuclear fuel storage facility is not expected to affect the geologic character or resources of the region. If an alternative was selected which required a storage area to be constructed, the ground surface would need to be prepared. This would not affect the geological characteristics of the Koolou and Wainae aquifers or vadose zone. An alternative of storing fuel in a water pool facility, the ground surface would need to be excavated to a depth of approximately 40 feet. This excavation would not affect the geological character of the area.

5.1.4.7 Air Resources

5.1.4.7.1 Radiological Consequences.

No airborne radionuclide releases from normal operations are expected to occur as a result of naval spent nuclear fuel being stored in containers. The fuel would be contained such that at least two barriers exist to prevent radionuclide products from becoming airborne. These barriers would retain the naval spent nuclear fuel in air-tight containment until it is moved to a permanent storage site and there would be no radioactive material released from routine operations for this method of storage. Exposure would be direct radiation from the array of filled storage containers. The containers would be fenced off and shielded if necessary such that there would be no effect on normal background radiation levels at the site perimeter.

For the alternative where naval spent nuclear fuel would be stored in a water pool, radionuclide releases are expected to be less than the emissions from the Idaho National Laboratory (INEL) Expanded Core Facility (ECF) because the water pool size would be smaller. Naval spent nuclear fuel inspection operations beyond visual examinations would be conducted at Pearl Harbor. To conservatively estimate radiological consequences, airborne releases based on ECF releases from 1991 are used as the radiological source term and the detailed calculations performed to determine expected normal releases are provided in Attachment F.

The radiation exposures to human beings due to estimated radionuclide release from the atmosphere plus direct radiation from the stored naval spent nuclear fuel at the shipyard alternative involving water pool storage and the alternative involving dry storage are described in Attachment F.

A person on the shipyard boundary at the location where the largest exposures are expected was used as the hypothetical maximally exposed off-site individual (MOI) for the calculation of releases of radioactive material from the stored naval spent nuclear fuel. The population for calculating population exposures were taken from 1990 census data provided by the U.S. Census Bureau. Meteorology data were obtained as described in Attachment F. Estimated exposures for workers were also calculated.

The hypothetical exposures calculated are based on an exposure to the estimated effluents and the direct radiation exposure for one year from the naval spent nuclear fuel at the shipyard. The calculations include the external effective equivalent exposure from deposition, deposition to surface water, and air immersion pathways and the 50-year effective equivalent exposure from internal exposure through the ingestion and inha-

All pathways were considered for persons potentially exposed, except that the ingestion was omitted for the workers because they do not grow their food on-site. Solubilities produce the highest calculated exposures were chosen for internal exposure factors. Human dietary consumption patterns were taken from "Age Dependent Values of Dietary Assessing Human Exposures to Environmental Pollutants" (Rupp 1980). The hypothetical calculated can be converted into a risk of fatal cancer or a risk of non-fatal health effects (non-fatal cancers, hereditary defects) based on recommendations of the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP 1991).

Attachment F summarizes the calculated exposures and fatal cancers to the worst maximally exposed off-site individual (MOI), nearest public access (NPA), and the potential releases of radioactivity and direct radiation exposure in one year for each location. Section 3.7 provides a comparison of the annual number of fatal cancers calculated for the population for each location and alternative.

The number of fatal cancers calculated is so small that there would be essential cancers resulting from the storage of naval spent nuclear fuel during the time it is expected to continue to be stored. Putting this into perspective, it could be stated that the population might experience a fatal cancer due to incident-free storage of naval fuel at Pearl Harbor if operations continued for 14,300 years.

5.1.4.7.2 Non-radiological Consequences.

As noted in Attachment F, no increase in non-radioactive airborne emissions would be expected to result from naval spent nuclear fuel facility operations. Storage facility operations would not involve use of carcinogenic pollutants, or other hazardous or toxic chemicals except that small quantities of insecticides and paint thinner may be used for housekeeping and cleanliness control and the same as those already used at the shipyard. Consequently, there would be no impact on air quality as a result of implementing any of the alternatives at the shipyard.

If an alternative were to be selected that required a storage facility to be renovated, fugitive dust emissions would be expected to result from excavation operations. The quantity of dust generated would be small, consistent with typical excavation activities within local requirements for dust control.

5.1.4.8 Water Resources

5.1.4.8.1 Radiological Consequences.

Naval spent nuclear fuel storage operations at Pearl Harbor would not result in discharges of radioactivity in liquid effluents during or after storage of naval spent nuclear fuel. The fallout of nuclides released to the air onto the surface water is included in the analysis discussed in Section 5.1.4.7. The air fallout impact is so small that there would be no increase in radiation levels in the water.

Based on FIRM and topographical maps of areas approximately three miles away, the location considered for the interim storage of naval spent nuclear fuel is in the 100-year flood zone. The location considered for naval spent nuclear fuel is not in a high-hazard area (10, Part 1022 of The Code of Federal Regulations for floodplains) which is an area where flooding occurs. Since the majority of the shipyard is already developed and covered by material, construction and operation of a naval spent nuclear fuel storage facility would produce no discernible impacts on the floodplain.

Flooding in the area where shipping and immobile dry storage containers are stored would result in any adverse environmental consequences. These containers are completely sealed and no radioactivity would be released from the interior even if they were completely submerged. In addition, the massive nature of these containers prevents them from floating or moving in a flood.

Since the shipyard resides in close proximity to a floodplain, the design of the facility and equipment would minimize the potential for flooding and damage to the facility. However, in the event a water pool facility would be flooded, the exchange of pool water with the floodwater would occur. As discussed in Attachment F, Section F.1.4.2.1.6.2, the radioactivity concentration in the ECF water pool is below the Nuclear Regulatory Commission limits specified in Title 10, Part 1022 of The Code of Federal Regulations for liquid effluent except for Co-60 which is slightly above the limit. Pools used for storage or examination of naval spent nuclear fuel would be maintained at a level below the limit.

concentrations). Any release of radioactivity would have to result from the exchange with the pool water. This exchange would reduce the level of radioactivity even further. Consequently, no adverse environmental impacts would result from flooding of water spent nuclear fuel storage sites.

5.1.4.8.2 Non-radiological Consequences.

Other than chemicals used to maintain the storage area, no hazardous wastes would be generated by the storage of naval spent nuclear fuel at Pearl Harbor. Any hazardous liquid effluents that may be generated at the storage area would be sent to an Environmental Protection Agency approved disposal site.

The only source for liquid discharges from the naval spent nuclear fuel storage area is the environment consists of storm water runoff which would be consistent with the type of activities associated with common light industrial facilities and related activities. It can be expected that there would be no impact to the human environment due to runoff water from the naval spent nuclear fuel storage area.

The increased water usage under any of the alternatives would be negligible compared to the existing shipyard demand.

5.1.4.9 Ecological Resources

There are no threatened or endangered species known to exist within the Pearl Harbor shipyard and no major changes to the industrial environment are planned. Therefore, no significant ecological impacts to the region would result from selection of any of the alternatives.

The conceptual location where naval spent nuclear fuel would be stored is shown in Attachment D. This location is within an existing industrial complex and is surrounded by paved areas. The industrial nature of the shipyard and the fact that the land has been disturbed from its natural state by earlier activities mean that plant or animal species disturbance by human activities would not be expected to be present. Therefore, no significant ecological impacts associated with construction or operation of a spent nuclear fuel storage facility are expected at the shipyard location. The radiological controls that are in effect at the shipyard ensure that the vicinity of the shipyard are maintained at or near natural background. Since the same controls would be applied to spent nuclear fuel activities, no ecological effects due to radiation would be expected to occur.

5.1.4.10 Noise

Pearl Harbor is an existing industrial-type environment characterized by noise from automobile traffic; ship loading cranes and related diesel-powered equipment; and operating transmission lines for steam, fuel, water, and related pumping systems for liquids. No ambient noise level increases are expected to occur as a result of any of the alternatives. Therefore, no noise impacts would be expected to occur.

5.1.4.11 Traffic and Transportation

Shipments of radioactive materials in the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program are made in accordance with applicable regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation, U.S. Department of Energy, and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The purpose of these regulations is to ensure that shipments of radioactive material are adequately controlled to protect the environment and the health and safety of the general public. These regulations apply to radioactive material shipments and provide requirements for the container design, container identification as applicable for the specific quantity, type, and form of radioactive material shipped. Naval shipping container design requirements invoke shielding and integrity and meet all regulatory requirements. They provide for testing of container design, qualification of workers who construct containers, and quality control inspections to ensure that the containers will meet their design requirements. A detailed description of the containers used for naval spent nuclear fuel shipments is provided in Attachment A. The impacts from normal and accident conditions associated with transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel is provided in Attachment A.

5.1.4.11.1 Regional Infrastructure.

The alternatives under consideration are described in Section 3. The No Action alternative or the first variation of the Decentralization alternative would ship naval spent nuclear fuel on-site. This alternative would reduce the number of rail shipyard or prototype site compared to the past practice of transporting all naval spent nuclear fuel to INEL. The second variation of the Decentralization alternative would ship about 10 naval spent nuclear fuel to Puget Sound. This would have some transportation impact much as transporting all naval spent nuclear fuel off-site. The third Decentralization alternative would ship all naval spent nuclear fuel to INEL, examine it, and return it to the original site. This alternative involves more transportation than the previous practice of shipping naval spent nuclear fuel to INEL, since the naval spent nuclear fuel is not returned from the original site. The 1992/1993 Planning Basis alternative, the Regionalization alternative, the Centralization at INEL alternative would involve the same transportation as has the past, namely transportation to INEL and retention there. The Centralization at Hanford Site would result in more transportation impact than any of the previous alternatives. The distances and population distribution between Hanford and the shipyards and the Centralization alternative at the Savannah River Site would result in the most transportation impact of any of the alternatives.

5.1.4.11.2 Site Infrastructure.

The alternative associated with naval spent nuclear fuel storage at Pearl Harbor would not affect local highway traffic because any increase in the work would represent a very small incremental increase in overall traffic to and from the shipyard. There would be no change in the internal traffic in the shipyard because naval spent nuclear fuel would be transported temporarily even when it is transported off-site.

5.1.4.12 Occupational and Public Health and Safety

Detailed analyses of incident-free naval spent nuclear fuel transportation and handling impacts on worker and public health are described in Attachment A (transportation), Attachment F (storage and inspection).

The transportation analysis results, and the storage and handling analysis are summarized separately in the following subsections.

5.1.4.12.1 Incident-free Transportation Occupational and Public Health and Safety.

The radiological and non-radiological health effects associated with the incident-free transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens have been assessed for the general population, workers, and hypothetical maximum exposed individual for each alternative. As stated in Section 3.7, it is unlikely that there will be any fatal cancers as a result of naval spent nuclear fuel shipments since the estimates are much less than one fatal cancer per year. The details of the transportation analysis are provided in Attachment F.

5.1.4.12.2 Incident-free Occupational and Public Health and Safety During Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel Storage and Handling.

The public health and safety impacts of radioactivity releases and direct radiation from storage of naval spent nuclear fuel were analyzed as discussed in Section 5.1.4.7 and Attachment F. Attachment F summarizes the results of the analysis of releases and direct radiation from stored naval spent nuclear fuel. This analysis estimates the exposure to the worker, maximally exposed off-site individual, and nearest public as a result of naval spent nuclear fuel storage. The analysis estimates that the annual exposure of a naval spent nuclear fuel worker would result in far less than one fatality per year. For the general population, it is estimated that one member of these population groups might experience a fatal cancer as a result of naval spent nuclear fuel at Pearl Harbor if operations continued for 14,300 years. Projections of the number of occupational accidents that might occur during the operation of naval spent nuclear fuel storage and examination facilities have been

alternative. These projections are presented in Attachment F. Based on the result projections, it is concluded that the number of occupational fatalities and injuries construction activities and storage and examination operations would be very small.

No public or occupational radiological health and safety impacts would be expected from naval spent nuclear fuel storage area construction activities since the construction involve radioactive work.

Attachment F also discusses toxic chemical issues for naval spent nuclear fuel storage. Attachment F concludes that there would be no additional types or volumes required at the shipyards or prototype site for naval spent nuclear fuel storage. incident-free non-radiological impact resulting from storage of naval spent nuclear shipyards or prototype site.

5.1.4.12.3 Incident-free Occupational and Public Health and Safety Effects on Environmental Justice Due to Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel Storage and Handling.

As discussed in the preceding paragraphs, the impacts on human health or the environment resulting from operations associated with the management of naval spent nuclear fuel at the Pearl Shipyard would be small under any of the alternatives considered. For example, it single fatal cancer would occur as a result of naval spent nuclear fuel management alternative. Since the potential impacts due to normal operations or accident conditions alternatives considered present no significant risk and do not constitute a credible the surrounding population, no adverse effects would be expected for any particular population, minorities and low-income groups included.

The conclusion that there would be no disproportionately high and adverse impact health or the environment is not affected by the prevailing winds or direction of surface water flow. This is true for normal operations because the effects of routine operations. It is also true for accident conditions because the consequences of any accident would random conditions at the time it occurred. The wind directions at Pearl Harbor are wind direction which occurs most frequently is toward the southwest, away from land areas. Similarly, the conclusion is not affected by concerns related to subsistence or game since environmental monitoring in the vicinity of this relatively small and shown no detectable difference in the amounts of radioactivity present in the environment in similar parts of the region.

To place the impacts on environmental justice in perspective, the risk associated naval spent nuclear fuel management operations under any of the alternatives considered less than one fatality per year for the entire population. For comparison, in 1990 approximately 510,000 cancer deaths in the United States population and there were cancer deaths among people of color in the U. S. Even if all of the impacts associated the alternatives considered for naval spent nuclear fuel management were assumed to among people of color, that group would be unlikely to experience a single addition in any year. Therefore, the cancer risk for that population from naval spent nuclear would not constitute a disproportionately high and adverse impact on human health or environment. The same conclusion can be drawn for low-income groups.

5.1.4.13 Utilities and Energy

If an alternative associated with the storage of naval spent nuclear fuel at to be selected, construction and operation of the storage area would not be expected expenditure of utilities and energy resources.

Construction activities would require quantities of water and electricity typical of any small to medium size construction project. Operation facility would likely require only small amounts of electricity for lighting and to equipment necessary to move spent nuclear fuel (e.g., cranes). Alternatives associated pool storage would require heating, ventilation, water, and electrical systems suitable environment and to properly filter and exhaust the airborne discharges to the atmosphere and energy demands would be less than those required to operate ECF (10,000 MWh per (Section 5.2.13) since the water pool used for spent fuel storage would be smaller operations beyond visual examinations would be conducted in the water pool.

The amount of utilities and energy expected to be consumed would be a small increase in the total amount of utilities and energy used at the shipyard and would discernible environmental consequence.

5.1.4.14 Facility and Transportation Accidents

5.1.4.14.1 Facility Accidents. There has never been an accident in the history of the Naval

Nuclear Propulsion Program that resulted in a significant release of radioactivity or that resulted in radiation exposure to workers in excess of abnormal occurrence as defined by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. A description of potential accidents considered and a summary of the accident analyses that were conducted with regards to naval spent nuclear fuel is contained in Attachment F.

5.1.4.14.1.1 Radiological Accidents. Section 3.7.3 provides a summary of the impacts

due to the most severe accidents considered for each site. The facility accident with potential impact at Pearl Harbor involves an airplane crash. An accident of this magnitude would result in a calculated 26 fatal cancers to the general population over 50 years, as shown in Attachment F. The likelihood of such an accident occurring is 1×10^{-5} , which is very low. In perspective, an accident such as this would not be expected to occur unless the facility operated for about 100,000 years.

5.1.4.14.1.2 Non-radiological Accidents. As discussed in detail in Attachment F, the

limiting hypothetical non-radiological accident for naval spent nuclear fuel storage at the shipyard or prototype location would be a diesel fuel spill and fire. A catastrophic failure of a fuel storage tank that might be used for an emergency diesel generator to provide backup power was postulated to occur, resulting in the spilling of the entire quantity of fuel and subsequent fire. The fire would generate the following toxic chemicals:

- Carbon monoxide
- Oxides of nitrogen (90% nitric oxide and 10% nitrogen dioxide)
- Lead
- Sulfur dioxide.

Measures would be taken to reduce the health impacts of potential releases of these chemicals. These measures would involve controls to protect both workers and the general public. The shipyard and prototype sites have emergency planning, emergency preparedness, and emergency response programs in place to protect both workers and the public, and involve entities such as warning communications, fire departments, and emergency command centers.

The airborne concentrations of the combustion products listed above, resulting from a fire, were calculated at the locations of the on-site individuals, an individual at the shipyard, and the general population within a 50-mile radius of the facility. Detailed results are provided in Attachment F. If the accidental fire that has been hypothesized were to actually occur, the measures that would be in place would ensure no adverse health impacts to the general public and minimal health impacts to the workers.

5.1.4.14.2 Transportation Accidents.

Shipments of radioactive materials associated with naval spent nuclear fuel have never resulted in any measurable release of radioactivity to the public (NNPP 1994a). There have never been any significant accidents involving release of material during shipment since the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program began. The effects of transportation accidents during the various stages of transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel are presented in Attachment A.

The health effects associated with accidents during shipments of naval spent nuclear fuel test specimens have been assessed for the general population and the hypothetical maximum exposed individual for each alternative. As summarized in Section 3.7, it is unlikely that there would be fatal cancers as a result of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimen shipments. The risk is much less than one fatal cancer for each alternative. The details of the transport impacts are provided in Attachment A.

5.1.4.14.3 Other Impacts of Accidents.

In addition to the possible human health effects associated with facility or transportation accidents described in the preceding section, such as the impacts on socioeconomics and land use in the area and the costs of clean-up, the analyses described in Attachment F showed that an area ranging from about 8 acres approximately a quarter mile (for an inadvertent criticality accident) to about 110 acres approximately 0.9 mile (for a large airplane crashing into a dry storage container) would be exposed to radiation levels in excess of 100 millirem per year. Beyond these areas, exposure would be less than 100 millirem per year, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's limit for protection of the general population from radiation. Persons who live in this area, who work at locations within this area might be prevented from going to their jobs, or who are evacuated or otherwise experience restrictions in their daily activities for a brief period of time. It should be noted that all of the area within about three-quarters of a mile from the spent nuclear fuel facility would be within the federally owned site.

An accident might result in short-term restrictions on access to a relatively there would be no enduring impacts on cultural or similar resources or concerns such Hawaiian rights or interests, partially because the area involved would be small and remedial actions would be conducted in a careful, controlled manner in full compliance with applicable laws and regulations. The area impacted would vary only slightly among alternatives. Overall, the risks are small so these considerations do not assist in

Facility or transportation accidents associated with any of the alternatives appreciable effect on the ecology of the area, considering the potential for human the amount of land which might be affected, as described in earlier parts of this s little consensus among scientists on methods for estimating the effects of radiatio resources such as plant or animal life, but since human health effects for all the small and most plants and animals are not thought to be more sensitive to radiation beings, the small impacts on human health provide an indication that the impacts on species in the area would also be small for all alternatives considered. Similarly which might be contaminated to measurable levels by chemicals or radioactive materi hypothetical accidents would be relatively small, any effects on the ecology would areas. There are no endangered or threatened species unique to the area surroundin owned site, so an accident would not be expected to result in destruction of any sp alternatives considered. The effects of accidents related to any of the alternativ cleanup which might be performed would be localized in a small area extending only beyond the boundaries of the federally owned site and thus would not be expected to affect the potential for survival of any endangered or threatened species which mig or other habitat in the area. Based on these considerations, evaluation of impacts ecological resources does not help to distinguish among alternatives.

5.1.4.14.4 Effects of Accidents on Environmental Justice Due to Naval Spent Nuclear

Fuel Storage and Handling.

As discussed in the preceding paragraphs, the impacts on human health or the environment resulting from facility or transportation accidents associated with the management of naval spent nuclear fuel at the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard would be of the alternatives considered. For example, it is unlikely that a single addition occur as a result of naval spent nuclear fuel management activities under any alternative. Potential impacts due to an accident for any of the alternatives considered would be low risk and do not constitute a credible adverse impact on the surrounding population, from accidents associated with the management of naval spent nuclear fuel would be minimal. No particular segment of the population, minorities and low-income groups included.

The conclusion that there would be no disproportionately high and adverse impact on health or the environment is not affected by the prevailing winds or direction of surface water flow. This is because the consequences of any accident would depend on the meteorological conditions in effect at the time an accident occurred. The wind directions at Pearl Harbor are variable, but the wind direction which occurs most frequently is toward the southwest, over the land and residential areas.

To place the impacts on environmental justice in perspective, the risk associated with accidents caused by naval spent nuclear fuel management under any of the alternatives would amount to less than one additional fatality per year in the entire population

in 1990 there were approximately 40,000 traffic fatalities in the United States population were about 7,400 deaths caused by traffic accidents among people of color in the U.S. the additional cancer deaths associated with an accident involving any of the alternatives for naval spent nuclear fuel management were assumed to occur only among people of that group would experience less than one additional fatal cancer per year. The same conclusion is drawn for low-income groups.

5.1.4.15 Waste Management

The alternative in which naval spent nuclear fuel is stored at Pearl Harbor would have limited amounts of solid municipal waste, solid low-level radioactive wastes, and hazardous waste. In addition, no transuranic or high-level radioactive wastes would be generated by activities at the site under any alternative. The quantity of industrial wastes generated and most likely consist of industrial cleaning agents of the type normally encountered. Small quantities of sanitary wastes would result from the additional work force but would be small. The wastes produced from the storage of naval spent nuclear fuel would be minimized in accordance with the existing waste management programs at Pearl Harbor. Any additional wastes generated would be minimal compared to the existing baseline and would not cause any adverse impacts to public health and safety and the environment in the vicinity of Pearl Harbor.

5.1.4.16 Cumulative Impacts

5.1.4.16.1 Radiological Cumulative Impacts. Spent nuclear fuel storage at the site would not

result in discharges of radioactivity in liquid effluents during routine operations of the alternative selected. Therefore, there would be no incremental addition of radioactivity to ground water as a result of normal operations for any alternative. For alternative storage of spent nuclear fuel in dry storage and shipping containers, no airborne radioactivity emissions are expected, so there would be no cumulative air quality impacts associated with these storage methods. Consequently, the only radiological cumulative impacts that would result from alternative storage would be due to direct radiation exposure from the stored spent nuclear fuel.

For alternatives involving the storage of naval spent nuclear fuel in water, there would be no discernible direct radiation exposure to the public from the fuel elements due to the shielding provided by the water in the pool. Therefore, any cumulative impacts which would result from pool storage would be primarily due to airborne emissions, and the addition of these impacts would cause an indiscernible change in the emissions in the area (see Section 5.1.4.7). The site is in compliance with Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 61, "National Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants." Cumulative air emissions would not threaten the site's compliance with applicable air quality requirements or regulations, either federal, state, or local in non-radiological categories.

A summary of the cumulative radiological impacts is provided in the following table.

An overview of the historical radiological impacts from naval nuclear operations at Pearl Harbor and from transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel is provided in Section 4. Detailed analyses are provided in Attachments F and A. Prior to this time, naval spent nuclear fuel inspections and storage operations have been conducted only at INEL. Therefore, no cumulative impacts have resulted from previous naval spent nuclear fuel inspection and storage operations at alternate site except for INEL.

The radiological impacts associated with the alternative where naval spent nuclear fuel would be stored at Pearl Harbor are very small and are described in Section 5.1.4.12, with the results of analyses provided in Attachment F. In order to calculate cumulative impacts between 1995 and 2035, the annual radiological impacts associated with each location were summed over 40 years. The results of this summation are tabulated in Tables 3 and 4 of Section 3.

The cumulative transportation impacts for the population groups from naval spent nuclear fuel transportation activities since the beginning of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program have been calculated and are very small. In addition, the cumulative impacts from transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel over the 40-year period between 1995 and 2035 for each alternative have been calculated. The detailed results of these calculations are presented in Attachment A and summarized in Table 3.7.4.

The total exposure to the population in the vicinity of Pearl Harbor from all

considered would be approximately 5.6 person-rem. This means that there would be one fatal cancer from these operations over the entire 40-year period evaluated. The theoretical maximally exposed off-site individual living at the shipyard boundary 40-year period would be 8.0×10^{-4} rem due to the alternative resulting in the largest maximally exposed off-site individual would have a 4.0×10^{-7} risk of contracting a his or her lifetime due to storage of spent nuclear fuel. When existing site radio naval nuclear operations are added to the impacts of the most limiting spent nuclear the exposure to the population would be 6.8 person-rem and to the maximally exposed individual would be 9.2×10^{-4} rem. This still results in much less than one fatal population and the risk of the maximally exposed off-site individual contracting a his or her lifetime is 4.6×10^{-7} .

The total exposure related to naval spent nuclear fuel activities to a worker working continually 100 meters from the spent nuclear fuel under the alternative largest exposure is 8.4×10^{-2} rem accumulated over 40 years. That corresponds to of 3.4×10^{-5} during the worker's lifetime. The exposure to the same worker when radiological impacts due to naval nuclear operations are added to the spent nuclear essentially the same. The impacts associated with transportation of naval spent nuclear the alternatives considered would be similarly low.

No contribution to cumulative impacts from accidents involving naval spent nuclear been included in the analyses presented in this Environmental Impact Statement because never been a nuclear reactor accident, criticality accident, transportation accident radioactivity which had a significant effect on the environment.

Sections 4.1.4.14 and 5.1.4.15 describe the management of low-level radioactive mixed waste at the site. The volume of low-level radioactive wastes which would be the alternatives has not been calculated. However, considering the nature of radioactive would be associated with spent nuclear fuel storage activities, the amount of low-level waste produced during spent nuclear fuel activities would be much less than 20 percent site generation rate (84 m3 per year). This additional radioactive waste would not changes to the site's waste management practices. The small amount of additional mixed would not impose any discernible additional stress on the capacity of the radioactive ground. Therefore, any cumulative impacts associated with the generation and disposal low-level wastes would be very small.

Since no mixed, transuranic, or high-level radioactive wastes would be generated nuclear fuel activities at this site under any alternative, there would be no cumulative associated with these materials.

5.1.4.16.2 Non-radiological Cumulative Impacts.

An overview of the historical non-radiological impacts from naval nuclear operations at Pearl Harbor and from transportation of nuclear fuel is provided in Section 4.1.4.12 and detailed analyses are provided in Attachment A. Prior to this time, naval spent nuclear fuel inspections and storage operations conducted only at INEL. Therefore, no non-radiological cumulative impacts have resulted previous naval spent nuclear fuel inspection and storage operations at any alternative INEL.

The non-radiological impacts associated with the alternative where naval spent nuclear would be inspected or stored at Pearl Harbor are described in Section 5.1.4.12, with results of analyses provided in Attachment F. As summarized in Section 5.1.4.12, the additional chemicals required at the shipyard for naval spent nuclear fuel storage non-radiological impacts from normal operations. Consequently, no cumulative impacts or water resources would result since the incremental addition of chemicals at the result from naval spent nuclear fuel activities would be very small. There are no current problems associated with these materials.

The non-radiological cumulative transportation impacts for the population from nuclear fuel transportation activities since the beginning of the Naval Nuclear Program also have been calculated. In addition, the cumulative impacts from transportation of nuclear fuel over the 40-year period between 1995 and 2035 for each alternative have been calculated. The detailed results of these calculations are presented in Attachment A. The non-radiological impacts associated with the transportation and storage of naval spent nuclear fuel alternatives considered would be low.

No cumulative land use impacts would be expected to occur as a result of spent nuclear fuel storage. The land that would be dedicated for this purpose is on existing federal land in an industrial setting which has already been disturbed from its natural state. The space for storage of spent nuclear fuel would not result in the need to disturb undisturbed

additional land to be added to the federally owned property in the foreseeable future.

From a socioeconomic perspective, the introduction of naval spent nuclear fuel at the site would create a small number of additional jobs and could have a very small socioeconomic impact. The site currently employs approximately 5000 civilian personnel. Shipyard employment has been associated with spent nuclear fuel activities in the past. Nuclear fuel activities have not been conducted at the site. An average of approximately 100 additional jobs might be added as a result of possible spent nuclear fuel activities. The peak number of additional jobs created at the site in any given year would be approximately 100, which is associated with construction and operation of a water pool facility for spent nuclear fuel. Considering that the regional labor force consists of approximately 100,000, the additional number of added jobs under any alternative would have little or no discernible socioeconomic impact. These jobs would be filled either from within the existing workforce or from the available regional labor force without discernible effect. There are no projects planned at the site and no known projects planned in the region that would increase the number of workers involved in naval spent nuclear fuel activities to become an important factor.

The cumulative impacts associated with non-radiological waste management are expected to be small. As stated previously, any industrial wastes generated from nuclear fuel storage would be small and limited to industrial cleaning agents of the type normally found at the site. The volume of municipal solid wastes and sanitary wastes which would be expected to be proportional to the number of additional workers added, and this small increase would not be discernible. The amount of additional non-radiological waste would not introduce any changes to the site's waste management practices and would not impose additional stress on the capacity of on-site or off-site waste disposal or treatment facilities. Any cumulative impacts associated with the generation and disposal of additional waste would be small. There are no current environmental problems associated with these types of waste.

5.1.4.17 Unavoidable Adverse Effects

There are no discernible unavoidable adverse effects associated with the implementation of any of the alternatives and none which would help to choose among the alternatives. The alternative

in which naval spent nuclear fuel is stored at Pearl Harbor would cause the public to receive small amounts of radiation, described in Section 5.1.4.12, and would result in less effect in the entire population surrounding the shipyard. Similarly, continued operation of the facility would produce limited amounts of solid municipal waste and solid low-level waste. These amounts of waste would not produce any major impacts in the vicinity of the site. There will be no changes to the ecological, cultural, geological, and aesthetic resources. Implementation of any of the alternatives. There would also be no expected impact levels.

5.1.4.18 Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitments of Resources

The only irreversible and irretrievable commitment of resources that results from the alternative in which naval spent nuclear fuel would be stored at Pearl Harbor would be the cost which would be spent by the federal government to construct the necessary facilities. The total cost of storing spent naval nuclear fuel at the shipyards and prototype ranges from approximately \$1.5 billion to \$5.7 billion. This cost represents the total cumulative cost over the 40 years of the shipyards and prototype. This cost includes construction costs of the new storage facility depending on the alternative selected, the operation of a limited examination facility at the Naval Shipyard combined with the costs associated with shutting down ECF, or the operation of the INEL-ECF. The major expense in the highest cost alternatives is the procurement of containers. Refer to Section 3.7 for a comparison of the total cumulative costs among the alternatives.

5.1.5 KENNETH A. KESSELRING SITE: WEST MILTON, NEW YORK

5.1.5.1 Overview of Environmental Impacts

The following sections discuss the major differences in potential environmental impacts associated with the choice of the alternatives that include storage of naval spent nuclear fuel at the Kenneth A. Kesselring Site. The environmental consequences associated with the storage of naval spent nuclear fuel at the Kenneth A. Kesselring Site are discussed in Section 5.1.5.2.

spent nuclear fuel at the Kesselring Site are based on the estimates of naval spent fuel would be stored at the Kesselring Site through the year 2035 and current knowledge features associated with spent fuel storage systems. The review of the environment associated with these alternatives has shown that the impact on the environment at associated with these activities is very small. There would be no impact to the environment in the vicinity of the Kesselring Site associated with any alternatives that do not involve

5.1.5.2 Land Use

Construction of a storage area at the Kesselring Site for temporary storage of nuclear fuel would require little rearrangement of existing on-site facilities. The industrial site; therefore, there would be no impact on land use. A description of containers and water pools and their approximate locations is provided in Attachment C provides a comparison of naval spent nuclear fuel storage in water pools versus dry storage.

No additional land within or outside the Kesselring Site would be required for Native American rights and interests would not be modified by construction or associated with any of the alternatives considered.

5.1.5.3 Socioeconomics

The calculated number of direct construction and operating jobs that would be 10-year period between 1995 and 2004 for each storage alternative at the Kesselring in Table 5.1.5-1. Since there would be no naval spent nuclear fuel storage or inspection at the Site under the 1992/1993 Planning Basis and Centralization alternatives, no additional jobs would be required at the Site under these alternatives.

Table 5.1.5-1. Number of construction and operating jobs created at the Kesselring for each alternative.

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Railcar(1)	1	1	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Immobile Containers on Pads(2)	1	1	1	1	2	6(3)	3	3	3	3
Shipping Containers on Pads (2)	1	1	1	1	2	6(3)	1	1	1	1
Water Pools(2)	16	16	43	66	81	58	62	24	24	24

(1) Storage mode under the No Action and Decentralization alternatives.

(2) Storage mode under the Decentralization alternative.

(3) The construction jobs would last less than one year.

The only discernible socioeconomic consequence from the alternative of storing nuclear fuel at the Kesselring Site is that a relatively small number of construction jobs from a few to a maximum of several hundred would be required for construction of the facility. The work force would consist of skilled craftsmen and unskilled laborers. This work force would be needed during the storage facility construction and would be available from within the site.

The operation of the naval spent nuclear fuel storage area using dry storage containers require additional workers. Personnel are required to secure fuel in the storage area, surveillance and monitoring activities associated with naval spent nuclear fuel storage. The alternative involving storing fuel in immobile dry storage containers, about 20 workers would be required to handle the spent nuclear fuel when it is placed into the storage containers. The alternative involving shipping containers, fewer workers would be needed to handle containers in the storage area. If the alternative of storing naval spent nuclear fuel were selected, approximately 20 workers would be required. These workers would be supplied from either within the existing Kesselring Site work force or from the local area. Considering that the Kesselring Site employs approximately 1450 workers, the additional support for the alternatives would have no discernible impact on the local socioeconomic conditions at the Kesselring Site.

For the alternatives where dry storage containers would be manufactured, some jobs would be created in the locations where the containers are made. The process of container manufacturing is subject to federal procurement requirements and would be recorded in the Record of Decision. Consequently, the specific socioeconomic impacts from container manufacturing would be recorded in the Record of Decision.

cannot be specified. The net effect of container fabrication would be to create and bolster the local economy of the area(s) where containers are made. It is considered that the selection of the contractor would depend on the alternative storage site selected, and that construction of casks provides no basis for selection of a storage site.

5.1.5.4 Cultural Resources

No site that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NPS 1991) archaeological areas, or any other cultural resources would be affected by the storage of nuclear fuel at the Kesselring Site. Therefore, there would be no impact to cultural resources from the alternative of storing naval spent nuclear fuel at the Kesselring Site.

None of the alternatives considered would impact known archaeological or Native American sites. Procedures which comply with all applicable laws and regulations would be implemented to protect previously undetected archaeological and cultural sites.

5.1.5.5 Aesthetic and Scenic Resources

The naval spent nuclear fuel storage area would be located in an existing security perimeter of the Kesselring Site which is an existing light industrial setting. No major changes to the Site resulting from the storage of spent fuel. No aesthetic or scenic resources in the vicinity of the Site or on the Site would be affected by the operation of the storage area. Existing industrial use areas would be used to store the spent fuel. The visual quality would not be affected since the storage area would be compatible with the landscape of the Kesselring Site. There are no particulate air emissions associated with storage of fuel and thus no visibility impacts are expected.

5.1.5.6 Geology

The operation of the naval spent nuclear fuel storage area at the Kesselring Site is expected to affect the geologic character or resources of the region. If an alternative that required a dry container storage area to be constructed, the ground would only need to be prepared to support the containers. This would not affect the geological characteristics of the area nor the characteristics of an aquifer or vadose zone. For the alternative of a water pool facility, the ground surface would need to be excavated to a depth of approximately 10 feet. This excavation would not affect the geological characteristics of the area.

5.1.5.7 Air Resources

5.1.5.7.1 Radiological Consequences.

If the alternative where naval spent nuclear fuel would be stored in dry storage containers were to be selected, no airborne radioactivity releases are expected to occur as a result of normal storage operations. The naval spent nuclear fuel containers contain such that at least two barriers exist to prevent fission products from being released. These barriers would retain the naval spent nuclear fuel in an air-tight containment vessel to a permanent storage site and there would be no airborne radioactive material releases from operations for this method of storage. The only radiation exposure would be direct gamma radiation from the array of filled storage containers. The filled storage containers would be fenced and guarded to prevent unauthorized access. It is necessary such that there would be no distinguishable effect on the current radiological site perimeter.

For the alternative where naval spent nuclear fuel would be stored in a water pool, no airborne radioactivity emissions are expected to be considerably less than that identified for the Engineering Laboratory (INEL) Expanded Core Facility (ECF) because the water pool is smaller, no naval spent nuclear fuel inspection operations beyond visual examination are conducted, and no shielded cell operations would be conducted at the Kesselring Site. Conservatively estimate the radiological consequences, airborne releases based on E 1991 are used. The radiological source term used and the detailed calculations performed to determine normal releases are provided in Attachment F.

The radiation exposures to human beings due to estimated radionuclide release to the atmosphere and direct radiation from the stored naval spent nuclear fuel at the Kesselring Site for both the alternative involving water pool storage and the alternative involving dry

calculated as described in Attachment F.

A person on the Kesselring Site boundary at the location where the largest exposure would be received was used as the hypothetical maximally exposed off-site individual (MOI). Releases of radioactive material from the stored naval spent nuclear fuel. The population used to calculate population doses were taken from 1990 census data provided by the U.S. Census Bureau. Meteorology data were obtained as described in Attachment F. Estimated exposures to the population were also calculated.

The hypothetical exposures calculated are based on an exposure to the estimated maximum effluents and the direct radiation exposure for one year from the naval spent nuclear fuel at the Kesselring Site. The calculations include the external effective exposure equivalent to deposition, deposition to surface water, and air immersion pathways and the 50-year effective exposure equivalent from internal exposure through the ingestion and inhalation pathways. All pathways were considered for the persons potentially exposed, except that the inhalation pathway was omitted for the workers at Kesselring because they do not grow their food on-site. The pathways which would produce the highest calculated exposures were chosen for internal exposure. Values for human dietary consumption patterns were taken from "Age Dependent Values for Intake for Assessing Human Exposures to Environmental Pollutants" (Rupp 1980). The exposures calculated can be converted into a risk of fatal cancer or a risk of non-fatal health effects (e.g., non-fatal cancers, hereditary defects) based on recommendations of the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP 1991).

Attachment F summarizes the calculated exposures and fatal cancers to the worker, the maximally exposed off-site individual (MOI), and the population from airborne releases. It also shows the direct radiation exposure in one year for each location and storage mode. Section 5.1.5.7 presents a comparison of the annual number of fatal cancers calculated for the general population at each location and alternative.

The number of fatal cancers calculated is so small that there would be essentially no fatal cancers resulting from the storage of naval spent nuclear fuel during the time it is expected to continue to be stored. Putting this into perspective, it could be stated that the population might experience a fatal cancer due to incident-free storage of naval spent nuclear fuel at the Kesselring Site if operations continued for 24,400 years.

5.1.5.7.2 Non-radiological Consequences.

As noted in Attachment F, no increase in non-radioactive airborne emissions would be expected to result from naval spent nuclear fuel storage operations. Storage area operations would not involve use of carcinogenic toxins, or other hazardous toxic chemicals except for small quantities of industrial cleaning solvents that may be used for housekeeping and cleanliness control and these would be similar to those already used at the Kesselring Site. Consequently, there would be no impact on the quality of the environment as a result of implementing any of the alternatives at the Site.

If an alternative were to be selected that required a storage facility to be renovated, fugitive dust emissions would be expected to result from excavation operations. The quantity of dust generated would be small, consistent with typical excavation activities within local requirements for dust control.

5.1.5.8 Water Resources

5.1.5.8.1 Radiological Consequences.

Naval spent nuclear fuel storage operations at the Kesselring Site would not result in discharges of radioactive liquid effluents during the storage of naval spent nuclear fuel. The air fallout of nuclides released to the air onto the surface water is included in the analysis discussed in Section 5.1.5.7. The air fallout impact is so small that there would be no impact on radiation levels in the water.

The Kesselring Site does not reside in the 100 or 500 year floodplain. Consequently, the floodplain would not be impacted by spent naval nuclear fuel storage and excavation operations at the Site.

5.1.5.8.2 Non-radiological Consequences.

Other than chemicals used to maintain the storage

area, no hazardous wastes would be generated by the storage of naval spent nuclear Kesselring Site. Any hazardous liquid effluents that may be generated at the storage area would be disposed of at an Environmental Protection Agency approved disposal site.

The only source for liquid discharges from the naval spent nuclear fuel storage area to the environment consists of storm water runoff which would be consistent with the runoff associated with common light industrial facilities and related activities. It can be expected that there would be no impact to the human environment due to runoff water from the naval spent nuclear fuel storage area.

The increased water usage under any of the alternatives would be negligible compared to existing Site demand.

5.1.5.9 Ecological Resources

There are no known habitats for threatened or endangered species within the Kesselring Site and no major changes to the industrial environment are planned. Therefore, no ecological impacts to the region would result from selection of any of the alternatives.

The conceptual location where naval spent nuclear fuel would be stored is illustrated in Attachment D. This location is within an existing industrial complex and is surrounded by paved areas. The industrial nature of the Kesselring Site and the fact that the site has been disturbed from its natural state by earlier activities mean that plant or animal life disturbance by human activities would not be expected to be present. Therefore, the ecological impacts associated with construction or operation of a spent nuclear fuel storage location. The radiological controls that are in effect at the Kesselring Site ensure that radiation levels in the vicinity of the Site are maintained at or near natural background. Since the same controls would be applied to spent nuclear fuel activities, no ecological effects due to the storage of material would be expected to occur.

5.1.5.10 Noise

The Kesselring Site is an existing light industrial-type environment characterized by truck and automobile traffic; diesel-powered equipment; and continuously operating lines for steam, fuel, water, and related pumping systems for these and other liquid fuels. No increase in ambient noise associated with any of the alternatives. Therefore, no noise impacts would be expected to occur.

5.1.5.11 Traffic and Transportation

Shipments of radioactive materials in the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program are made in accordance with applicable regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation, U.S. Department of Energy, and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

The purpose of these regulations is to ensure that shipments of radioactive material are adequately controlled to protect the environment and the health and safety of the general public. These regulations are designed to control radioactive material shipments and provide requirements for the container design, container identification as applicable for the specific quantity, type, and form of radioactive material shipped. Naval shipping container design requirements invoke shielding and integrity requirements and meet all regulatory requirements. They provide for testing of container design, qualification of workers who construct containers, and quality control inspections to ensure that the containers will meet their design requirements. A detailed description of containers used for naval spent nuclear fuel shipments is provided in Attachment A. The impacts from normal and accident conditions associated with transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel is provided in Attachment A.

5.1.5.11.1 Regional Infrastructure.

The alternatives under consideration are described in Section 3.

The No Action alternative or the first variation of the Decentralization alternative would store naval spent nuclear fuel on-site. This alternative would reduce the number of rail shipments to the shipyard or prototype site compared to the past practice of transporting all naval spent nuclear fuel to INEL. The second variation of the Decentralization alternative would ship about 10 rail shipments of naval spent nuclear fuel to Puget Sound. This would have some transportation impacts.

much as transporting all naval spent nuclear fuel off-site. The third Decentralization alternative, all naval spent nuclear fuel to INEL, examines it, and returns it to the original site. This alternative involves more transportation than the previous practice of spent nuclear fuel to INEL, since the naval spent nuclear fuel is not returned from original site. The 1992/1993 Planning Basis alternative, the Regionalization at INEL, the Centralization at INEL alternative would involve the same transportation as has the past, namely transportation to INEL and retention there. The Centralization at Hanford Site would result in more transportation impact than any of the previous alternatives due to the distances and population distribution between Hanford and the shipyards and processing activities. Centralization alternative at the Savannah River Site would result in the most transportation impact of any of the alternatives.

5.1.5.11.2 Site Infrastructure.

The alternatives associated with storage of naval spent nuclear fuel at the Kesselring Site would have no impact on local highway traffic because a work force would represent a very small incremental increase in overall traffic to the site. There would be no change in the internal traffic at the Kesselring Site because naval spent nuclear fuel is temporarily held on-site even when it is transported off-site.

5.1.5.12 Occupational and Public Health and Safety

Detailed analyses of incident-free naval spent nuclear fuel transportation and handling impacts on worker and public health are described in Attachment A (transportation), Attachment F (storage and inspection). The transportation analysis results, and the storage and handling analysis are summarized separately in the following subsections.

5.1.5.12.1 Incident-free Transportation Occupational and Public Health and Safety.

The radiological and non-radiological effects associated with the incident-free transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens have been assessed for the general population, transportation and the hypothetical maximum exposed individual for each alternative. As summarized in 3.7, it is unlikely that there will be any fatal cancers as a result of naval spent nuclear fuel shipments since the estimates are much less than one fatal cancer for each alternative. Details of the transportation analysis are provided in Attachment A.

5.1.5.12.2 Incident-free Occupational and Public Health and Safety During Naval Spent

Nuclear Fuel Storage and Handling.

The public health and safety impacts of radioactivity releases and direct radiation from storage of naval spent nuclear fuel were analyzed as discussed in 5.1.5.7 and Attachment F. Attachment F summarizes the results of the analysis of releases and direct radiation from stored naval spent nuclear fuel. This analysis shows that exposure to the worker and maximally exposed off-site individual from stored naval spent nuclear fuel would result in far less than one fatality per year. For perspective, it could be expected that a member of these population groups might experience a fatal cancer due to storage of naval spent nuclear fuel at the Kesselring Site if operations continued for 24,400 years.

Attachment F also discusses toxic chemical issues for naval spent nuclear fuel storage. Attachment F concludes that there would be no additional types or volumes required at the shipyards or prototype site for naval spent nuclear fuel storage. The incident-free non-radiological impact resulting from storage of naval spent nuclear fuel at shipyards or prototype site.

Projections of the number of occupational accidents that might occur during construction and operation of naval spent nuclear fuel storage and examination facilities have been made for each alternative. These projections are presented in Attachment F. Based on the results of the projections, it is concluded that the number of occupational fatalities and injuries during construction activities and storage and examination operations would be very small.

No public or occupational radiological health and safety impacts would be expected.

from naval spent nuclear fuel storage area construction activities since the construction involve radioactive work.

5.1.5.12.3 Incident-free Occupational and Public Health and Safety Effects on Environmental Justice Due to Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel Storage and Handling.

As discussed in the preceding paragraphs, the impacts on human health or the environment resulting from operations associated with the management of naval spent nuclear fuel at the Kessel small under any of the alternatives considered. For example, it is unlikely that a would occur as a result of naval spent nuclear fuel management activities under any the potential impacts due to normal operations or accident conditions for any of the considered present no significant risk and do not constitute a credible adverse impact surrounding population, no adverse effects would be expected for any particular segment population, minorities and low-income groups included.

The conclusion that there would be no disproportionately high and adverse impact health or the environment is not affected by the prevailing winds or direction of surface water flow. This is true for normal operations because the effects of routine operation. It is also true for accident conditions because the consequences of any accident would random conditions at the time it occurred, and the wind directions at the Kesselrin display any strongly dominant direction. Similarly, the conclusion is not affected to subsistence consumption of fish or game since environmental monitoring in the vicinity relatively small and restricted site has shown no detectable difference in the amount present in the environment from levels in similar parts of the region.

To place the impacts on environmental justice in perspective, the risk associated with naval spent nuclear fuel management operations under any of the alternatives considered less than one fatality per year for the entire population. For comparison, in 1990 approximately 510,000 cancer deaths in the United States population and there were cancer deaths among people of color in the U. S. Even if all of the impacts associated with the alternatives considered for naval spent nuclear fuel management were assumed to among people of color, that group would be unlikely to experience a single addition in any year. Therefore, the cancer risk for that population from naval spent nuclear fuel would not constitute a disproportionately high and adverse impact on human health or environment. The same conclusion can be drawn for low-income groups.

5.1.5.13 Utilities and Energy

If an alternative associated with storage of naval spent nuclear fuel at the site to be selected, construction and operation of a naval spent nuclear fuel storage facility expected to require a large expenditure of utilities and energy resources.

Operation of the storage facility would likely require only a small amount of electricity for lighting and the equipment necessary to move spent nuclear fuel containers (cranes etc.). Construction would require quantities of water and electricity typical of any small to medium size project. Alternatives associated with water pool storage would require heating, ventilation and electrical systems suitable for a work environment and to properly filter and discharge to the atmosphere. The utility and energy demands would be less than those to operate ECF (10,000 MWh per year) (Section 5.2.13) since the water pool for naval spent nuclear fuel storage would be smaller and no inspections would be performed. The amount of energy expected to be consumed as a result of dry storage would be a small increment to the total amount of utilities and energy used at the Kesselring Site and would not discernible environmental consequences.

5.1.5.14 Facility and Transportation Accidents

5.1.5.14.1 Facility Accidents. There has never been an accident in the history of the Naval

Nuclear Propulsion Program that resulted in a significant release of radioactivity or that resulted in radiation exposure to workers in excess of abnormal occurrence as defined by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. A description of potential accidents considered and a summary of the accident analyses that were conducted with regards to naval spent nuclear fuel are contained in Attachment F.

5.1.5.14.1 Radiological Accidents. Section 3.7.3 provides a summary of the impacts

due to the most severe accidents considered for each site. The facility accident with potential impact at the Kesselring Site involves an airplane crash. An accident of this type would result in 7.5 fatal cancers to the general population over 50 years, as described in Attachment F. The likelihood of an airplane crash is 1×10^{-7} . The facility accident risk involves accidental drainage of the water pool. The drained water pool accident would result in less than one fatality over 50 years, but the likelihood of occurrence is 1×10^{-5} .

5.1.5.14.1.2 Non-radiological Accidents. As discussed in detail in Attachment F, the

limiting hypothetical non-radiological accident for naval spent nuclear fuel storage at the shipyard or prototype location would be a diesel fuel spill and fire. A catastrophic fuel storage tank that might be used for an emergency diesel generator to provide backup power was postulated to occur, resulting in the spilling of the entire quantity of fuel and subsequent fire. The fire would generate the following toxic chemicals:

- Carbon monoxide
- Oxides of nitrogen (90% nitric oxide and 10% nitrogen dioxide)
- Lead
- Sulfur dioxide.

Measures would be taken to reduce the health impacts of potential releases of these chemicals. These measures would involve controls to protect both workers and the general public. The shipyard and prototype sites have emergency planning, emergency preparedness, and emergency response programs in place to protect both workers and the public, and involve entities such as warning communications, fire departments, and emergency command centers.

The airborne concentrations of the combustion products listed above, resulting from the accident, were calculated at the locations of the on-site individuals, an individual at the site, and the general population within a 50-mile radius of the facility. Detailed results are provided in Attachment F. If the accidental fire that has been hypothesized were to actually occur, the measures that would be in place would ensure no adverse health impacts to the general public and minimal health impacts to the workers.

5.1.5.14.2 Transportation Accidents.

Shipments of radioactive materials associated with naval spent nuclear fuel have never resulted in any measurable release of radioactivity to the public (NNPP 1994a). There have never been any significant accidents involving the release of radioactive material during shipment since the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program began. The effects of transportation accidents during the various stages of transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel are presented in Attachment A.

The health effects associated with accidents during shipments of naval spent nuclear fuel test specimens have been assessed for the general population and the hypothetical maximum exposure individual for each alternative. As summarized in Section 3.7, it is unlikely that there would be fatal cancers as a result of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimen shipments as much less than one fatal cancer for each alternative. The details of the transport of test specimens are provided in Attachment A.

5.1.5.14.3 Other Impacts of Accidents.

In addition to the possible human health effects associated with facility or transportation accidents described in the preceding sections, there are other impacts such as the impacts on socioeconomic conditions and land use in the area and the costs of clean-up. These impacts are estimated in order to develop a perspective and to evaluate potential differences among alternatives. The analyses described in Attachment F showed that an area ranging from about 8 acres to about 110 acres (approximately a quarter mile (for an inadvertent criticality accident) to about 110 acres (for a large airplane crashing into a dry storage container)) would be the point where exposure could exceed 100 millirem per year. Beyond these areas, exposure would be less than 100 millirem per year, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's limit for protection of the general population from radiation. Persons who live in this area would be evacuated or otherwise experience restrictions in their daily activities for a brief period of time.

who work at locations within this area might be prevented from going to their jobs been taken to reduce the potential for exposure. It should be noted that all of the about three-quarters of a mile from the spent nuclear fuel facility would be inside the Kesselring Site.

An accident might result in short-term restrictions on access to a relatively there would be no enduring impacts on cultural or similar resources or concerns such as American rights or interests, partially because the area involved would be small and remedial actions would be conducted in a careful, controlled manner in full compliance with applicable laws and regulations. The area would vary only slightly among the alternatives. Overall, the risks are small so these considerations do not assist in distinguishing among alternatives.

Facility or transportation accidents associated with any of the alternatives would have a appreciable effect on the ecology of the area, considering the potential for human impacts, the amount of land which might be affected, as described in earlier parts of this report. There is little consensus among scientists on methods for estimating the effects of radiation on natural resources such as plant or animal life, but since human health effects for all the small and most plants and animals are not thought to be more sensitive to radiation than human beings, the small impacts on human health provide an indication that the impacts on other species in the area would also be small for all alternatives considered. Similarly, impacts which might be contaminated to measurable levels by chemicals or radioactive materials in hypothetical accidents would be relatively small, any effects on the ecology would be small. There are no endangered or threatened species unique to the area surrounding the site, so an accident would not be expected to result in destruction of any species. The effects of any accident related to any of the alternatives considered. The effects of any accident related to any of the alternatives which might be performed would be localized in a small area which extends only a short distance beyond the boundaries of the federally owned site and thus would not be expected to affect the potential for survival of endangered or threatened species which might occur in other habitat in the Saratoga area. Consequently, evaluation of impacts of accidents on natural resources does not help to distinguish among alternatives.

5.1.5.14.4 Effects of Accidents on Environmental Justice Due to Naval Spent Nuclear

Fuel Storage and Handling.

As discussed in the preceding paragraphs, the impacts on human health or the environment resulting from facility or transportation accidents associated with management of naval spent nuclear fuel at the Kesselring Site would be small under the alternatives considered. For example, it is unlikely that a single additional fatality as a result of naval spent nuclear fuel management activities under any alternative would present no impacts due to an accident for any of the alternatives considered would present no impacts do not constitute a credible adverse impact on the surrounding population, no adverse accidents associated with the management of naval spent nuclear fuel would be expected to affect any particular segment of the population, minorities and low-income groups included.

The conclusion that there would be no disproportionately high and adverse impacts on human health or the environment is not affected by the prevailing winds or direction of surface water flow. This is because the consequences of any accident would depend on the local conditions in effect at the time an accident occurred, and the wind directions at the site are highly variable with no strongly dominant direction.

To place the impacts on environmental justice in perspective, the risk associated with accidents caused by naval spent nuclear fuel management under any of the alternatives would amount to less than one additional fatality per year for the entire population. In 1990 there were approximately 40,000 traffic fatalities in the United States population. There were about 7,400 deaths caused by traffic accidents among people of color in the U.S. The additional cancer deaths associated with an accident involving any of the alternatives for naval spent nuclear fuel management were assumed to occur only among people of color. The group would experience less than one additional fatal cancer per year. The same conclusion is drawn for low-income groups.

5.1.5.15 Waste Management

The alternative in which naval spent nuclear fuel is stored at the Kesselring Site would produce limited amounts of solid municipal waste, solid low-level radioactive waste and liquid wastes.

In addition, no transuranic or high-level radioactive wastes would be generated by the alternative.

nuclear fuel activities at the Kesselring Site under any alternative. The quantity generated would be small and most likely consist of industrial cleaning agents of the type encountered at the Site. Small quantities of sanitary wastes would result from the force but this volume would be small. The wastes produced from the storage of naval fuel would be controlled and minimized in accordance with the existing waste management at the Kesselring Site. The amount of additional wastes generated would be minimal existing baseline and would not cause any adverse impacts to public health and safe environment in the vicinity of the Kesselring Site.

5.1.5.16 Cumulative Impacts

5.1.5.16.1 Radiological Cumulative Impacts. Spent nuclear fuel storage at the Kesselring Site

would not result in discharges of radioactivity in liquid effluents during routine of the alternative selected. Therefore, there would be no incremental addition of surface or ground water as a result of normal operations for any alternative. For involving the storage of spent nuclear fuel in dry storage and shipping containers, radioactivity emissions are expected, so there would be no cumulative air quality impacts with these storage methods. Consequently, the only radiological cumulative impacts from dry storage alternatives would be due to direct radiation exposure from the spent nuclear fuel.

For alternatives involving the storage of naval spent nuclear fuel in water pools, there would be no discernible direct radiation exposure to the public from the fuel elements due to the water in the pool. Therefore, any cumulative impacts which would result from pool storage would be primarily due to airborne emissions, and the addition of these would cause an indiscernible change in the emissions in the area (see Section 5.1.5.7). The site is in compliance with Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 61, "National Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants." Cumulative air emissions would not threaten applicable air quality requirement or regulation, either federal, state, or local in non-radiological categories.

A summary of the cumulative radiological impacts is provided in the following table.

An overview of the historical radiological impacts from naval nuclear operations at the Kesselring Site and from transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel is provided in Attachment F. Detailed analyses are provided in Attachments F and A. Prior to this time, naval storage inspections and storage operations have been conducted only at INEL. Therefore, no impacts have resulted from previous naval spent nuclear fuel inspection and storage at alternate site except for INEL.

The radiological impacts associated with the alternatives where naval spent nuclear fuel would be stored at the Kesselring Site are very small and are described in Section 5.1.5.2. The results of analyses provided in Attachment F. In order to calculate cumulative impacts between 1995 and 2035, the annual radiological impacts associated with each location were summed over 40 years. The results of this summation are tabulated in Tables 3 and 4 of Section 3.

The cumulative transportation impacts for the population groups from naval spent nuclear fuel transportation activities since the beginning of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program have been calculated and are very small. In addition, the cumulative impacts from transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel over the 40-year period between 1995 and 2035 for each alternative have been calculated. The detailed results of these calculations are presented in Attachment A and summarized in Table 3.7.4.

The total exposure to the population in the vicinity of the Kesselring Site for the alternatives considered would be approximately 3.28 person-rem. This means that there would be much less than one fatal cancer from these operations over the entire 40-year period. The total exposure to a theoretical maximally exposed off-site individual living at the site for the entire 40-year period would be 2.7×10^{-4} rem due to the alternative result of storage of spent nuclear fuel. This maximally exposed off-site individual would have a 1.4×10^{-7} risk of a fatal cancer during his or her lifetime due to storage of spent nuclear fuel. When radiological impacts due to naval nuclear operations are added to the impacts of the spent nuclear fuel alternative, the exposure to the population would be 5.6 person-rem. The maximally exposed off-site individual would be 4.8×10^{-4} rem. This still results in less than one fatal cancer in the population and the risk of the maximally exposed off-site individual of a fatal cancer during his or her lifetime is 2.4×10^{-7} .

The total exposure related to naval spent nuclear fuel activities to a worker working continually 100 meters from the spent nuclear fuel under the alternative re-

largest exposure is 2.4×10^{-2} rem accumulated over 40 years. That corresponds to of 9.6×10^{-6} during the worker's lifetime. The exposure to the same worker when radiological impacts due to naval nuclear operations are added to the spent nuclear 2.6×10^{-2} rem over 40 years which corresponds to a fatal cancer risk of 1.1×10^{-5} worker's lifetime. The impacts associated with transportation of naval spent nuclear alternatives considered would be similarly low.

No contribution to cumulative impacts from accidents involving naval spent nuclear fuel has been included in the analyses presented in this Environmental Impact Statement because there has never been a nuclear reactor accident, criticality accident, transportation accident, or radioactive release which had a significant effect on the environment.

Sections 4.1.5.14 and 5.1.5.15 describe the management of low-level radioactive mixed waste at the site. The volume of low-level radioactive wastes which would be the alternatives has not been calculated. However, considering the nature of radioactivity which would be associated with spent nuclear fuel storage activities, the amount of low-level waste produced during spent nuclear fuel activities would be much less than 20 percent of the site generation rate (215 m³ per year). This additional radioactive waste would not change the Site's waste management practices. The small amount of additional waste would not impose any discernible additional stress on the capacity of the radioactive waste management ground. Therefore, any cumulative impacts associated with the generation and disposal of low-level wastes would be very small.

Since no mixed, transuranic, or high-level radioactive wastes would be generated by nuclear fuel activities at the Kesselring Site under any alternative, there would be no impacts associated with these materials.

5.1.5.16.2 Non-radiological Cumulative Impacts.

An overview of the historical non-radiological impacts from naval nuclear operations at the Kesselring Site and from transportation of nuclear fuel is provided in Section 4.1.5.12 and detailed analyses are provided in Attachment A. Prior to this time, naval spent nuclear fuel inspections and storage operations have been conducted only at INEL. Therefore, no non-radiological cumulative impacts have resulted from previous naval spent nuclear fuel inspection and storage operations at any alternative at INEL.

The non-radiological impacts associated with the alternative where naval spent nuclear fuel would be inspected or stored at the Kesselring Site are described in Section 5.1.5.16.2. The detailed results of analyses provided in Attachment F. As summarized in Section 5.1.5.16.2, there would be no additional chemicals required at the prototype site for naval spent nuclear fuel and therefore no non-radiological impacts from normal operations. Consequently, no impacts to air quality or water resources would result since the incremental addition of nuclear fuel to the Site that might result from naval spent nuclear fuel activities would be very small. The environmental problems associated with these materials.

The non-radiological cumulative transportation impacts for the population from nuclear fuel transportation activities since the beginning of the Naval Nuclear Program have also been calculated. In addition, the cumulative impacts from transportation of nuclear fuel over the 40-year period between 1995 and 2035 for each alternative have been calculated. The detailed results of these calculations are presented in Attachment A. The non-radiological impacts associated with the transportation and storage of naval spent nuclear fuel alternatives considered would be low.

No cumulative land use impacts would be expected to occur as a result of spent nuclear fuel storage. The land that would be dedicated for this purpose is on existing federal land in an industrial setting which has already been disturbed from its natural state (a developed land). The conversion of this space for storage of spent nuclear fuel would not create the need to disturb undeveloped land or for additional land to be added to the federal property in the foreseeable future.

From a socioeconomic perspective, the introduction of naval spent nuclear fuel at the Kesselring Site would create a small number of additional jobs and could have a cumulative socioeconomic impact. The site currently employs approximately 1450 civilian employees. No site employment has been associated with spent nuclear fuel activities in the past. Since naval nuclear fuel activities have not been conducted at the site, an average of approximately 100 additional jobs might be added as a result of possible spent nuclear fuel activities. The peak number of additional jobs created at the site in any given year would be approximately 100, which is associated with construction and operation of a water pool facility for spent nuclear fuel. Considering that the regional labor force consists of approximately 100,000 people, the additional number of added jobs under any alternative would have little or no effect on the regional labor market.

socioeconomic impact. These jobs would be filled either from within the existing S from the available regional labor force without discernible effect. There are no f projects planned at the Site and no known projects planned in the region that would number of workers involved in naval spent nuclear fuel activities to become an impo

The cumulative impacts associated with non-radiological waste management are expected to be small. As stated previously, any industrial wastes generated from n fuel storage would be small and limited to industrial cleaning agents of the type n at the Kesselring Site. The volume of municipal solid wastes and sanitary wastes w generated is expected to be proportional to the number of additional workers added, incremental increase would not be discernible. The amount of additional non-radiol generated would not introduce any changes to the Site's waste management practices impose any additional stress on the capacity of on-site or off-site waste disposal. Therefore, any cumulative impacts associated with the generation and disposal of ad would be very small. There are no current environmental problems associated with t waste.

5.1.5.17 Unavoidable Adverse Effects

There are no discernible unavoidable adverse effects associated with the impl any of the alternatives and none which would help to choose among the alternatives. The alternative

in which naval spent nuclear fuel is stored at the Kesselring Site would cause the to small amounts of radiation, described in Section 5.1.5.12, and would result in l effect in the entire population surrounding the Kesselring Site. Similarly, contin storage facility would produce limited amounts of solid municipal waste and solid l radioactive waste. These amounts of waste would not produce any major impacts in t the Kesselring Site. There will be no changes to the ecological, cultural, geologi resources due to the implementation of any of the alternatives. There would also b impact on ambient noise levels.

5.1.5.18 Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitments of Resources

The only irreversible and irretrievable commitment of resources that results tive in which naval spent nuclear fuel would be stored at the Kesselring Site would would be spent by the federal government to construct the necessary facilities. The total cost of

storing spent naval nuclear fuel at the shipyards and prototype ranges from approxi to \$5.7 billion. This cost represents the total cumulative cost over the 40-year p shipyards and prototype. This cost includes construction costs of the new storage depending on the alternative selected, the operation of a limited examination facil Naval Shipyard combined with the costs associated with shutting down ECF, or the op of the INEL-ECF. The major expense in the highest cost alternatives is the procure containers. Refer to Section 3.7 for a comparison of the total cumulative costs am

5.2 IDAHO NATIONAL ENGINEERING LABORATORY

5.2.1 Overview of Environmental Impacts

The following sections discuss the potential environmental consequences at th Engineering Laboratory (INEL) associated with the choice of alternatives for naval management at the Expended Core Facility (ECF). The environmental consequences are fact that the ECF is currently in existence and operating within the perimeter of t Facility (NRF) at INEL. Volume 1, Appendix B provides an assessment of the environ impacts at INEL resulting from the full range of spent nuclear fuel activities. Th impacts resulting from "ECF-related" activities, which are discussed below (i.e., t from the transportation, receipt, handling, and examination of naval spent nuclear impacts associated with the spent nuclear fuel operations at the Idaho Chemical Pro the storage of both naval and non-naval spent nuclear fuel and other non-naval spen operations).

Review of the environmental effects of operation of the Expended Core Facilit the receipt and examination of naval spent nuclear fuel has shown that the impact o

associated with this work is very small. The largest effect in the vicinity of INE selection of any alternative for examination of naval fuel is the economic impact of retained or lost at ECF. The differences in all other impacts in the vicinity of I alternatives are very small or non-existent.

5.2.2 Land Use

The plan for all three naval plant prototypes at NRF is that they will all be defueled, and placed in safe storage until they are decommissioned. Operations at continue or cease, depending upon the alternative selected. None of the prototype if operations cease, is planned to be decommissioned during the next 10 years; they will not be available for other uses in the near future. Native American rights can be modified by construction or operations associated with any of the alternatives c

5.2.3 Socioeconomics

Approximately 500 engineers, technicians, clerical, and maintenance personnel in the receipt and examination of naval spent nuclear fuel at ECF or in direct support activities. Table 5.2-1 provides a summary of the direct jobs which would be associated with ECF if an alternative is selected which closes ECF, while Table 5.2-2 provides a summary of direct jobs associated with the continued operation of ECF. As shown in Table 5.2-1, there is an increase in workers in the first three years to handle the shipment of containers to storage at the shipyards and prototype during the preparation of this Environmental Impact Statement. The number of workers then decreases steadily to a final caretaker work force of 10 workers in the first three years shown in Table 5.2-2 includes construction work completion of the Dry Cell Facility in addition to the operations work force increase.

Table 5.2-1. Summary of direct jobs (closure of INEL-ECF).

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Direct Jobs	550	550	550	500	350	100	10	10	10	10

Table 5.2-2. Summary of direct jobs (operation of INEL-ECF).

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Direct Jobs	574	574	550	500	500	500	500	500	500	500

5.2.4 Cultural Resources

None of the alternatives considered would impact known archaeological or Native American sites. Procedures which comply with all applicable laws and regulations would be implemented to protect previously undetected archaeological and cultural sites.

5.2.5 Aesthetic and Scenic Resources

The entire Naval Reactors Facility is difficult to see from any point accessible to the public. Aesthetic and scenic resources in the vicinity of INEL will not be affected by the receipt and handling of naval spent nuclear fuel at ECF. Even if NRF could be the only action which would alter the landscape at NRF is the dry cell extension for spent fuel to ECF envisioned under the 1992/1993 Planning Basis alternative and this addition to the ECF building would be architecturally compatible with the NRF buildings.

5.2.6 Geology

The geology in the vicinity of the INEL will not be affected by the alternative receipt and handling of naval spent nuclear fuel since no changes which could impact the geology would occur under any of the alternatives.

5.2.7 Air Resources

Small quantities of radioactivity are contained in the air released from ECF plant operations at NRF. The annual releases from ECF total approximately 1.1 curies.

primarily of 0.30 curie of krypton-85, 0.70 curie of carbon-14, 0.094 curie of tritium of combined strontium-90 and yttrium-90, and 0.0000048 curie of iodine-131. These would be reduced to near zero if an alternative which ends examination of naval spent nuclear fuel at ECF were selected. This reduction will occur approximately three years after the fuel is received.

The principal sources of non-radioactive industrial gaseous effluents are air water vapor from cooling towers, and fuel combustion products from the three steam boilers used for heating. Since the boilers are used for generating steam for heat necessary to heat and maintain the ECF building whether naval spent nuclear fuel is or not, the airborne effluents at NRF would be little affected by the alternative selected.

Asbestos-containing material is present at NRF, but, as a result of the well-controlled conditions with regard to asbestos at NRF, releases will be unaffected by the alternative selected.

5.2.8 Water Resources

No radioactive liquids are discharged to the environment at NRF. Consequently, the alternative selected would have no effect on releases of radioactive liquids at NRF.

Since the water released to the industrial waste ditch does not include any effluent from ECF, the discharges to the ditch would be unaffected by the choice of alternatives. ECF produces about 25% of the total NRF sewage discharge and the ECF discharge would be approximately zero if the people currently performing spent fuel examinations in the building were no longer employed at NRF.

No hazardous wastes are disposed of at the NRF site and all solid and liquid wastes are transported by vendors to treatment, storage, and disposal facilities approved by the Environmental Protection Agency and operating under approvals or permits granted by federal regulatory agencies. The small amount of hazardous waste produced during ECF operation produces no effect on the environment in the vicinity of INEL, so the alternative selected has no impact on water quality in this area.

Annual ECF water consumption is about 2.5 million gallons. The alternative selected has no discernible effect on water usage, because the ground-water withdrawn for ECF is small in comparison to the total INEL water consumption. ECF operation has virtually no effect on surface waters.

A flood at ECF due to overflow of any surface water within the INEL boundaries is a low probability event. Flooding of the ECF building is possible should the Mackay Dam there be inadequate time following the dam break until the flood water reaches NRF to initiate emergency procedure preparations. For more information refer to Attachment B.

5.2.9 Ecological Resources

Ecological resources (i.e., the terrestrial ecology, wetlands, aquatic ecology and threatened species) in the vicinity of INEL will not be affected by any alternative selected. No additional land at the NRF site will be disturbed under any alternative.

5.2.10 Noise

The small amount of noise generated by work at ECF would cease several years after the alternative which stopped shipment of spent naval nuclear fuel were selected since ECF would cease. However, since this noise cannot be discerned beyond the site boundaries, the alternative selected would have no discernible impact on noise in the vicinity of INEL.

The similarly small amount of noise associated with railcar movement produced during shipment of the naval spent nuclear fuel from shipyards to ECF would cause the alternative selected to have no discernible impact on railcar noise generation. This is the case because railcars involved each year represent a minute fraction of the rail traffic in any area, and noise is indistinguishable from that produced by other rail traffic.

5.2.11 Traffic and Transportation

Traffic and transportation in the vicinity of INEL associated with naval spent nuclear fuel receipt, handling, and examination would essentially cease if an alternative which ends examination of naval spent nuclear fuel at ECF were selected. This would cause approximately 400 truck deliveries per year to cease.

eliminated. The reduction in personnel at ECF associated with cessation of these a cause approximately 22 fewer buses to be needed to transport them to and from the s None of the alternatives considered would increase traffic or the need for transport of INEL.

If the ECF operation continues at the INEL, routine shipments of naval spent would be resumed to the site in certified shipping containers. Low-level waste gen hazardous waste would continue to be moved from ECF to a disposal facility.

5.2.12 Occupational and Public Health and Safety

5.2.12.1 Occupational Health and Safety. Radiological and non-radiological impacts of ECF

operations on occupational health and safety are assessed separately in terms of radiological effects.

Radiation exposures to workers at ECF have averaged approximately 100 millirem compared to the limit of 5000 millirem per year specified by The Code of Federal Regulations Title 10, Part 20. The total radiation exposure to workers at ECF makes up about 3 occupational exposure to radiation experienced by workers at NRF. Since only about ECF work in radiological areas and the health risk per worker is estimated to be approximately 0.00040 occurrences of fatal cancer per rem of exposure, less than one fatal cancer (0.45 fatal cancer estimated) could be expected among all ECF workers throughout the lives due to operation of ECF for an additional 40 years. This means that radiological health of INEL workers would be virtually unchanged by the alternative selected for naval spent nuclear fuel.

Operations at ECF have resulted in fewer than 210 days of work lost to injuries years between 1987 and 1993 out of 736 total lost days of work at NRF during that period. Recordable injuries at ECF represented about 12% of the total number of such injuries the same period. Consequently, selection of an alternative which ended operation of might be expected to reduce injuries to workers at NRF by about 10% to 25% due to the work force. Operation of a replacement for ECF at another Department of Energy (DOE) likely result in roughly the same number of injuries to workers at that facility since at ECF is very good and similar safe working conditions could be established at the

Projections of the number of occupational accidents that might occur during construction of operation of naval spent nuclear fuel storage and examination facilities have been made for the alternative. These projections are presented in Attachment F. Based on the result of these projections, it is concluded that the number of occupational fatalities and injuries during construction activities and storage and examination operations would be very small for the alternative.

Limited quantities of some materials classified as hazardous chemicals are handled but the precautions used during the work prevent exposure of the workers to these materials. Therefore, the alternative selected would not be expected to increase or decrease the number of INEL workers to potentially hazardous chemicals.

5.2.12.2 Public Health and Safety. The impact of NRF operations on public health and safety

can also be assessed separately in terms of radiological and non-radiological effects.

The comprehensive INEL site radiation monitoring program (Hoff et al. 1992) shows that radiation exposure to persons who do not work at INEL resulting from all NRF operations is small to be measured. In order to provide an estimate of the effects of radiation that might be caused by INEL operations, calculations have been performed of the radiological dose to the member of the general public who might receive the highest exposure (called the exposed individual), to nearby (collocated) workers, to a worker at ECF located approximately 100 meters from the release point, and to the population surrounding the Idaho National Laboratory. These calculations include all types of radioactive particles or gases released into the atmosphere from the operation of all existing NRF facilities, including ECF. The calculations and the analysis methods are provided in more detail in Attachment F.

The calculations indicate the risks are so small that there would be essentially no increase in risk resulting from radioactivity released by all operations at NRF, including ECF during the reasonably expected period of operation. Putting the risk into perspective, it could be expected that one member of the population might experience a fatal cancer due to combined effects of radiation from ECF if operations continued as in the past for 260 million years.

The radiological and non-radiological health effects associated with the incident

tation of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens have been assessed for the ge transportation workers, and the hypothetical maximum exposed individual for each al summarized in Section 3.7, it is unlikely that there will be any health effects as nuclear fuel and test specimen shipments since the estimates are much less than one detrimental health effect for each alternative. The details of the transpor- tation analysis are provided in Attachment A.

Results of all effluent monitoring confirm that the operation of NRF has no d on the environment from non-radiological releases (WECNRF 1993). Operations at NRF no effect on the groundwater of the Snake River Plain Aquifer, and monitoring resul detectable toxic chemicals, solvents, or laboratory chemicals in the groundwater in NRF. No constituent measured in groundwater in the vicinity of NRF exceeds applica water standards. The alternative selected for examination of naval spent nuclear f have no effect on non-radiological public health and safety in the vicinity of INEL

5.2.12.3 Incident-free Occupational and Public Health and Safety Effects on Environ-

mental Justice Due to Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel Storage and Handling. As discussed preceding paragraphs, the impacts on human health or the environment resulting from operations associated with the examination of naval spent nuclear fuel at the INEL under any of the alternatives considered. For example, it is unlikely that a singl occur as a result of activities associated with naval spent nuclear fuel examinatio alternative. Since the potential impacts due to normal operations or accident cond alternatives considered present no significant risk and do not constitute a credibl the surrounding population, no adverse effects would be expected for any particular population, minorities and low-income groups included.

The conclusion that there would be no disproportionately high and adverse imp health or the environment is not affected by the prevailing winds or direction of s water flow. This is true for normal operations because the effects of routine oper It is also true for accident conditions because the consequences of any accident wo random conditions at the time it occurred, and the wind directions at the INEL do n strongly dominant direction. Similarly, the conclusion is not affected by concerns subsistence consumption of fish or game because of the very small impacts associate examination of naval spent nuclear fuel.

To place the impacts on environmental justice in perspective, the risk associ operations for naval spent nuclear fuel examination under any of the alternatives c less than one fatality per year for the entire population. For comparison, in 1990 approximately 510,000 cancer deaths in the United States population and there were cancer deaths among people of color in the U. S. Even if all of the impacts associ the alternatives considered for naval spent nuclear fuel management were assumed to among people of color, that group would be unlikely to experience a single addition in any year. Therefore, the cancer risk for that population from naval spent nucle would not constitute a disproportionately high and adverse impact on human health o environment. The same conclusion can be drawn for low-income groups.

5.2.13 Utilities and Energy

Operations at ECF currently consume approximately 10,000 MWh of electricity e However, since the ECF building and associated facilities would have to be maintain period covered by this Environmental Impact Statement whether ECF is used for naval fuel examination or not and the spent fuel examinations do not consume particularly energy, the consumption of electricity and other energy would not be appreciably af alternative selected. None of the alternatives considered would increase the consu INEL.

5.2.14 Facility and Transportation Accidents

5.2.14.1 Facility Accidents. There has never been an accident in the history of the Naval

Nuclear Propulsion Program that resulted in a significant release of radioactivity or that resulted in radiation exposure to workers in excess of normal limits on exp

F provides a description of radiological accidents which could occur during water pool handling of naval spent nuclear fuel as well as accidents involving toxic chemicals. Radiological accidents analyzed for ECF included: (1) an inadvertent criticality caused by an earthquake or similar event, (2) accidental loss of large amounts of water containing material from a water pool into the ground and then into water sources, and (3) spent fuel if it were dropped from a crane during handling or had a heavy object dropped on it. The probability of an accident caused by an airplane crash was calculated for ECF and was less than 10^{-7} . Due to the low probability, no consequences were calculated for Calculations of the cancer fatalities which might occur as a result of all the post provided in Attachment F. A comparison of the accident consequences for all alternatives in Section 3.7.

The most limiting of the postulated accidents at ECF was water pool drainage, resulting in fuel overheating. The exposure to the entire population from this accident caused 0.017 cancer fatalities over 50 years, as described in Attachment F.

The exposures to collocated workers following all accidents are well below the DOE 5-rem standard for occupational exposure. However, exposures to the worker located at the ECF site 100 meters from the radiation release point would exceed this standard for resulting in an inadvertent criticality.

Effects from accidents at ECF involving toxic chemicals were evaluated in Attachment F. Due to the amount and types of chemicals stored at ECF, toxic chemicals do not pose a significant risk to the public or the maximally exposed off-site individual following any of the postulated accidents. However, following the maximum foreseeable accident analyzed (a fire transient), a chemical would exceed Emergency Response Planning Guideline (ERPG) values for workers. For maximum off-site individuals at INEL, ERPG-1 values for the toxic chemicals are under 50% or 95% meteorology conditions. The concentrations of toxic chemicals for the fire transient as well as a summary of the analysis methods are provided in Attachment F.

5.2.14.2 Transportation Accidents. The health effects associated with accidents during

shipments of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens have been assessed for the accident and the hypothetical maximum exposed individual for each alternative. As summarized in Section 3.7, it is unlikely that there will be any health effects as a result of naval spent nuclear fuel shipments since the risk estimates are much less than one fatal cancer or other effect for each alternative. However, the most severe accident, with a likelihood greater than 1×10^{-7} events per year, is estimated to result in a maximum of approximately 0.017 cancer fatalities. The details of the transportation analysis are provided in Attachment F.

5.2.14.3 Other Impacts of Accidents. In addition to the possible human health effects

associated with facility or transportation accidents described in the preceding sections, such as the impacts on socioeconomic conditions and land use in the area and the costs of clean up, are estimated in order to develop a perspective and to evaluate potential differences among alternatives. The analyses described in Attachment F showed that for the most severe hypothetical accident, an area of approximately 8 to 11 acres, extending about 1/4 to 1/3 mile downwind, might be contaminated to the point where exposure could exceed 100 millirem per year. Beyond this area, exposures would be below 100 millirem per year, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's protection of the general population from radiation. Persons who work at the facility in this area might be prevented from going to their jobs until measures had been taken to reduce the potential for exposure.

The area affected by the hypothetical accidents would not extend beyond the boundaries of the INEL and, in fact, would not come close to approaching the boundaries. An accident would result in short-term restrictions on access to a relatively small area of the federally owned land. It is expected to produce enduring impacts on cultural or similar resources or concern about American rights or interests, partially because the area involved would be small and remedial actions would be conducted in a careful, controlled manner and in full compliance with applicable laws and regulations. The area would vary only slightly among the alternatives. Overall, the risks are small so these considerations do not assist in distinguishing among alternatives.

Facility or transportation accidents associated with any of the alternatives would have a negligible effect on the ecology of the area, considering the potential for human health effects. The amount of land which might be affected, as described in earlier parts of this section, is small. There is little consensus among scientists on methods for estimating the effects of radiation on resources such as plant or animal life, but since human health effects for all the alternatives are small and most plants and animals are not thought to be more sensitive to radiation

beings, the small impacts on human health provide an indication that the impacts on species in the area would also be small for all alternatives considered. Similarly which might be contaminated by chemicals or radioactive material to measurable level hypothetical accidents would be relatively small, any effects on the ecology would be areas. As previously stated, there are no endangered or threatened species unique surrounding the Expanded Core Facility at INEL, so an accident would not be expected destruction of any species for any of the alternatives considered. The effects of with any of the alternatives and any cleanup which might be performed would be local small area extending only a short distance from the Expanded Core Facility and thus expected to appreciably affect the potential for survival of any species. Consequently impacts of accidents on ecological resources does not help to distinguish among

5.2.14.4 Effects of Accidents on Environmental Justice Due to Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel

Storage and Handling. As discussed in the preceding paragraphs, the impacts on the environment resulting from facility or transportation accidents associated with naval spent nuclear fuel at the INEL would be small under any of the alternatives. For example, it is unlikely that a single additional fatal cancer would occur as a result of naval spent nuclear fuel management activities under any alternative. Since the potential impact of an accident for any of the alternatives considered would present no significant risk of a credible adverse impact on the surrounding population, no adverse effects from accidents with the management of naval spent nuclear fuel would be expected for any particular population, minorities and low-income groups included.

To place the impacts on environmental justice in perspective, the risk from accidents associated with naval spent nuclear fuel examination under any of the alternatives would amount to less than one additional fatality per year in the entire population. In 1990 there were approximately 40,000 traffic fatalities in the United States population; there were about 7,400 deaths caused by traffic accidents among people of color in the U.S. The additional cancer deaths associated with an accident involving any of the alternatives for naval spent nuclear fuel management were assumed to occur only among people of color. A group would experience less than one additional fatal cancer per year. The same conclusion is drawn for low-income groups.

5.2.15 Waste Management

All non-hazardous solid wastes that cannot be recycled or used by other government are transported to the INEL landfills at the Central Facilities Area. Operation of the facility contributes to these wastes other than the trash associated with the approximately 100,000 man-hours of work at that facility. Therefore, the impact in this area at the INEL is little affected by the alternative selected.

The use of hazardous materials in essential applications at ECF results in the production of some hazardous wastes, including photographic solutions, solutions containing heavy solvents, paint-related wastes, and laboratory wastes. All hazardous wastes are transported by vendors to treatment, storage, and disposal facilities approved by the Environmental Protection Agency and operating under approvals or permits granted by state and federal regulations, and none are disposed of at INEL. When appropriate, wastes are recycled or provided to federal agencies for use. The small amount of hazardous waste produced from ECF operations would be produced and managed in the same manner if the facility were constructed and operated at an alternate site, so the overall effect on the environment, including that in the vicinity of the facility, is essentially unchanged by the alternative selected.

Operations at ECF contribute approximately 425 cubic meters (15,000 cubic feet) of radioactive solid waste each year and this amount of solid radioactive waste would be reduced to approximately 75% after about three years if an alternative which stopped naval spent nuclear fuel examinations at INEL were selected. No high-level waste and almost no transuranic waste (less than 0.0001 cubic meter per year) are generated from current operations at ECF. None of the alternatives considered would increase the amount of radioactive waste at INEL resulting from naval spent nuclear fuel examinations. The radioactive waste from ECF examinations and related operations would be generated and managed in a similar manner if the facility were constructed and operated at an alternate site. Consequently, the overall effect on the environment is essentially unchanged by the alternative selected.

5.2.16 Cumulative Impacts

Up to this point, Section 5.2 has discussed the potential environmental consequences of the ECF Project at INEL in terms of annual impacts (i.e., radiological health effects, accident risks, and quantities of wastes that would be generated due to the maximum annual capacity of the ECF Project. To determine the upper limit of consequences of up to 40 years of future ECF operation (from 1995 to 2035), an evaluation of accumulated environmental consequences and risks of operating ECF was performed.

5.2.16.1 Radiological Cumulative Impacts. Operation of the INEL-ECF does not result in

discharges of radioactive liquids; therefore, there would be no changes to the surface as a result of normal operations for any alternative. There are small quantities of air released from ECF which would contribute to the cumulative air quality impacts. In alternatives where the ECF is shut down, the cumulative impacts would decrease by the ECF radioactivity releases.

The radiation exposure to the general population since the beginning of operation with naval spent nuclear fuel is less than 2 rem, which corresponds to approximately one fatality. An overview of the historical radiological impacts from naval nuclear operations and from transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel is provided in Section 4.2.12 and are provided in Attachments F and A. Prior to this time, naval spent nuclear fuel storage operations have been conducted only at INEL. Therefore, no cumulative impacts resulted from previous naval spent nuclear fuel inspection and storage operations except for INEL.

The annual radiological impacts associated with the alternatives where naval fuel would be inspected or stored at the ECF at INEL are very small and are described in detail with the detailed results of analyses provided in Attachment F. In order to calculate impacts for the period between 1995 and 2035, the annual radiological impacts associated with each alternative were summed over 40 years. The results of this summation are in Tables 3-5 and 3-6 of Section 3.

The cumulative transportation impacts for the population groups from naval spent nuclear fuel transportation activities since the beginning of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program have been calculated and are very small. In addition, the cumulative impacts from transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel over the 40-year period between 1995 and 2035 for each alternative have been calculated. The detailed results of these calculations are presented in Attachment A and summarized in Section 3.7.4.

The total exposure to the general public from transportation and from the alternatives considered involving continued operation of the ECF at INEL would be less than 3.5 mrem. This means that there would be less than 0.0017 fatal cancers from these operations over the 40-year period evaluated. The exposure to the maximally exposed off-site individual would be approximately 0.01 millirem from 40 years of ECF operation. The corresponding risk of fatality to the maximally exposed off-site individual is 5.2×10^{-9} during his or her lifetime at the ECF site located 100 meters from the facility would receive less than 3 millirem of ECF operation, which corresponds to a 1.1×10^{-6} risk of fatal cancer during the 40-year period. Analyses of hypothetical accidents which might occur as a result of these alternatives show that the risk of cancer fatalities is small. The impacts associated with transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel for all of the alternatives considered would be similarly low.

Cumulative impacts due to radioactive waste generation are expected to be minimal. Approximately 425 cubic meters of low-level waste are expected to be generated annually over the next 40 years. This is not expected to affect the INEL waste management program. Little transuranic and mixed wastes and no high-level waste are generated from ECF operation.

No contribution to cumulative impacts from accidents involving naval spent nuclear fuel has been included in the analyses presented in this Environmental Impact Statement because there has never been a nuclear reactor accident, criticality accident, transportation accident, or release of radioactivity which had a significant effect on the environment.

5.2.16.2 Non-radiological Cumulative Impacts. Cumulative socioeconomic impacts associated

with continued operation of the ECF Project at the INEL are expected to be minor. The INEL currently employs approximately 11,000 people. The ECF operations work force of 50 would continue to be employed over the long term at INEL if an alternative is selected to continue naval spent nuclear fuel examination at INEL. If an alternative were selected in which naval fuel is no longer being examined at INEL, the reduction in ECF work force would be minimal.

predicted future reductions in work force at INEL by 500 jobs. Considering that the region of influence consists of almost 105,000 people, the 500 ECF jobs would have only a minor impact in the INEL area.

Continued operation of the ECF Project at INEL is not expected to result in impacts relative to cumulative non-radiological emissions. Current operations at INEL are in compliance with Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 61, "National Emission Hazardous Air Pollutants." Cumulative air emissions would not threaten to exceed a quality requirement or regulation, either federal, state, or local in radiological categories.

As discussed in Section 5.2.8, the withdrawal of groundwater for continued ECF would be a small percentage of existing water withdrawals at INEL and well within the capabilities of the local water resources. ECF discharges of non-radioactive and non-hazardous effluents at INEL would not affect water quality. The volume of ECF routine liquid discharged at INEL would also not discernibly increase the impact to the local ecology.

Operation of the ECF has no effect on cumulative land use impacts. NRF occupies 0.02% of the approximately 571,000-acre INEL site and no additional land would be required for the options in which ECF is shut down, there would be no cumulative land use impacts. If the site would need to be decommissioned and decontaminated before releasing it for other work, the work would extend beyond the time frame of this study.

The cumulative impacts associated with non-radiological waste management are minimal. The volume of hazardous, municipal, and sanitary wastes produced by ECF has not been quantified; however, considering the nature of the work associated with ECF and the number of workers, the amount of hazardous, municipal, and sanitary waste produced has a small effect on the cumulative impacts associated with this waste. For those options in which ECF is shut down, the cumulative impacts are even smaller.

5.2.17 Unavoidable Adverse Effects

Small amounts of radioactivity, described in Section 5.2.12, would be released from spent fuel operations at ECF, resulting in less than one health effect in the entire population surrounding INEL. The effects of these small releases, combined with the other factors discussed in Section 5.2.16, would produce no discernible cumulative effects. Similarly, continued operation of the facility would produce limited amounts of liquid sanitary waste and solid municipal solid low-level radioactive waste. These amounts of waste would not differ from those produced in the past by operation of ECF and would not produce any major impacts in the vicinity of INEL.

The most important adverse effect in the vicinity of INEL would be the loss of jobs. This would occur if an alternative which shut down the Expanded Core Facility were chosen. As discussed in Section 5.2.3 above, approximately 500 people at INEL would lose their jobs if this alternative were selected.

5.2.18 Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitments of Resources

There are few irreversible or irretrievable commitments of resources, other than those associated with the selection of any of the alternatives considered for INEL. The total cost of operating the INEL-ECF is approximately \$2.6 billion. This cost includes the cumulative cost over the 40-year period and includes the operations costs for ECF and the construction costs for completing the Dry Cell Facility. Refer to Section 3.7 for a discussion of total cumulative costs among alternatives.

In the event an alternative which resulted in ceasing operations at the Expanded Core Facility were selected, decommissioning and decontamination of ECF would not occur immediately. The facility would be placed in a safe storage condition while the federal government determines the proper disposition of the facility, plans the disposition, and programs funds for the disposition. Any disposition of the facility would be conducted in accordance with federal and state regulations.

5.3 SAVANNAH RIVER SITE

5.3.1 Overview of Environmental Impacts

The following sections discuss the potential environmental consequences that

replacement for the Expended Core Facility (ECF) were constructed and operated at the Savannah River Site (SRS) or if the Barnwell Nuclear Fuel Plant (hereafter the Barnwell Plant) that is adjacent to and contiguous with the SRS were operated. Both of these subalternatives will be referred to as the Savannah River ECF. They are depicted as Site A and Site B in Figure 4.3-1. Details of receipt, handling, a naval spent nuclear fuel at the SRS and the modifications to the Barnwell Plant are Attachment E.

The environmental consequences of locating the ECF at the SRS are based on the radiological source terms for normal and accidental releases and the estimated ECF emissions, liquid effluents, and solid wastes discussed in Section 5.2. Consistent with the programmatic Environmental Impact Statement, the environmental effects due to normal accidental releases were evaluated primarily for Site A. Some variations in the effects on individuals and workers at other SRS facilities would occur for the Barnwell Plant. The environmental consequences of locating and operating the ECF at SRS would be similar to those at the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory (INEL), and none would be large.

5.3.2 Land Use

Construction of a Savannah River ECF Project at Site A would directly affect the use of land. The Savannah River ECF site and its adjacent environs are relatively flat and contain both pine stands and mixtures of hardwoods. Construction would not disturb sensitive ecological habitats, nor would it impact wetland areas. Compared to the Barnwell Plant, however, the Savannah River ECF site is considered more ecologically diverse.

The alternative location at the Barnwell Plant is approximately 6 miles from the ECF location. Forest removal at this site has already been completed, and any additional removal is not expected to have any effect on land use.

Native American rights and interests would not be modified by construction or operation associated with any of the alternatives considered.

5.3.3 Socioeconomics

The potential socioeconomic impacts associated with construction of the Savannah River ECF are expected to be equal to or less than those associated with the original ECF construction at INEL because (1) a large movement of construction workers from other areas would not be required for the Savannah River ECF construction due to the availability of construction workers within 70 miles of the SRS (Halliburton 1992); and (2) the six counties surrounding the SRS have a population much larger than the INEL area, which would provide a greater capability for temporary relocation of construction personnel.

Table 5.3-1 provides a summary of the direct jobs which would be required for construction and operation of the Savannah River ECF during the 10-year period immediately following the Decision. The greatest number of direct jobs would occur in 1999 during the peak construction phase. Estimates of the indirect jobs created as well as the effect on the regional economy are included in Section 5.5.3 of Volume 1 as part of either the Regionalization or Central Savannah River Site alternatives.

Table 5.3-1. Summary of direct jobs due to the Savannah River ECF.

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Direct Jobs	20	20	476	825	1033	894	850	500	500	500

During the Savannah River ECF construction period, operations personnel would not be required at the end of the construction period, most of the operations workers would be fully staffed, ECF operation at the SRS would require approximately 500 people, the same as the operating and support personnel as at the INEL-ECF. This would represent less than 1 percent of the total SRS work force. The six-county region of influence around the SRS had a 1990 population of 425,607 persons, or about twice that of the INEL. The larger population base associated with the SRS region would also provide a greater capability to absorb any personnel moving in or out of the region during the construction period; however, the larger economic base of the SRS region would also have a greater tendency to diffuse potential economic benefits compared to the INEL Project at the INEL.

Given the small percentage increase in the number of jobs at the SRS attributable to the Savannah River ECF operation, the impacts to local government services and community infrastructure are expected to be small. Volume 1 quantifies these effects. The economic benefits to the region are expected to be similar to or less than those for the INEL region as the existing economic base of the SRS region is much greater and more diverse than the INEL region (DOE 1988).

5.3.4 Cultural Resources

None of the alternatives considered would impact known historical, archaeology American sites. Procedures which comply with all applicable laws and regulations were implemented to protect previously undetected archaeological and cultural sites.

5.3.5 Aesthetic and Scenic Resources

The construction of the Savannah River ECF at Site A would directly affect 30 As a result of its location and industrial characteristics, there is essentially no impact, since the site would not be visible to the public.

No additional land would need to be cleared if the Barnwell Plant were used. The building containing the existing water pool would need to be enlarged as part of discussed in Attachment E; however, the effect on the scenic resources would be minimal.

5.3.6 Geology

5.3.6.1 General Geology. The local geology of the SRS region determines the locations of the

surface waters and groundwaters at the site described in "Reactor Operation Environmental Information Document, Volume I, Geology, Seismology and Subsurface Hydrology" (WSRC). The geology of the SRS region has not been affected by operations conducted at SRS expected to be affected by Savannah River ECF operations.

5.3.6.2 Geologic Resources. The geology of both sites considered has sufficient strength to

support construction of the ECF structures, and operation of the Savannah River ECF to affect any geologic resources.

5.3.7 Air Resources

Toxic chemicals are used in the normal operations of an ECF. The use of these is controlled to limit the exposure of workers and the public. Airborne emissions from operations include the combustion gases from the boiler house, where fuel oil is burned to produce steam from space heating. Emergency diesel generators, which are provided for safe periodically for test purposes and release exhaust fumes to the atmosphere. These releases do not have any detectable environmental consequence.

The airborne releases of radioactivity for the Savannah River ECF would be the same as for the INEL-ECF described in Section 5.2. The airborne release would result in no measurable increase in radiation dose to on-site personnel or the general population. Details are provided in Attachment F.

5.3.8 Water Resources

5.3.8.1 Surface Water. Water required for construction of the facility would be withdrawn from

the Savannah River. The small amount of water withdrawn from the Savannah River would be negligible in comparison to the approximately 4.5 million gallons-per-minute flow in the Savannah River. New water intake structure would be required.

Expected surface water withdrawals of 2.5 million gallons per year from the Savannah River during Savannah River ECF operations represent small incremental increases in the amount of water currently being withdrawn by on-going SRS operations (23.2 billion gallons annually). This withdrawal is negligible in comparison to the average flow of the Savannah River. The discharge of Savannah River ECF liquids to the Savannah River.

5.3.8.2 Groundwater. Sanitary effluents generated during construction would be treated through

either the use of chemical toilets or a wastewater treatment facility. Solid waste construction would be disposed of in the SRS sanitary landfill, which is operated in accordance with State of South Carolina guidelines. Mitigation and control measures for potential and erosion would be undertaken as part of construction activities.

Sanitary effluents generated as a result of Savannah River ECF operations would be discharged to a wastewater treatment plant. There would be no discharge of radioactive liquid effluents to the ground at the Savannah River ECF site. Construction and operation of Savannah River ECF is not expected to have an effect on the groundwater.

5.3.9 Ecological Resources

5.3.9.1 Terrestrial Ecology. During construction, plant and animal habitats associated with pine

and hardwood vegetation communities would be lost or displaced from the construction site. Additionally, construction may have short-term impacts on wildlife beyond the immediate site (i.e., impact on area animals due to construction and traffic noise). However, the affected land area is small compared to the entire SRS, the impacts on wildlife from construction are expected to be minor.

During construction and operation of the Savannah River ECF, all effluents are expected to comply with regulatory standards. Due to the level of the emissions described in the EIS, they are not expected to have an impact on the area wildlife. Operation of the ECF should result in less noise and traffic than the construction phase, and no effluent ecology are expected from Savannah River ECF operation.

5.3.9.2 Wetlands. The only wetlands located on the proposed Savannah River ECF sites are the

Carolina Bays located at Site A. Because the Carolina Bays are located on the edge of the SRS, they can be avoided during construction. Construction and operation of the SRS would have no discernible impacts on other wetland areas and habitats at the SRS.

5.3.9.3 Aquatic Ecology. Experience has shown that SRS operations (e.g., reactor operation) can

have an adverse effect on the receiving aquatic ecosystems (e.g., Lake, Steel Creek, etc.). However, because there would be no discharge of radioactive or hazardous liquids from Savannah River ECF operation, Savannah River ECF operation is expected to have no effect on the aquatic ecology.

5.3.9.4 Endangered and Threatened Species. The endangered and threatened species are

described in Volume 1, Appendix C. The construction and operation of the Savannah River ECF are not expected to have any environmental impact on the endangered and threatened species at the SRS.

5.3.10 Noise

The SRS is a large area of about 800 square kilometers (310 square miles). If the construction of a new facility were selected, the construction of the Savannah River ECF would cause typical construction noises. There would be little or no noise from the operations of the Savannah River ECF.

5.3.11 Traffic and Transportation

Traffic and transportation would increase slightly in the SRS area if an ECF were constructed and operated at the SRS. The additional traffic would mainly be due to increased construction workers and 500 operations workers as well as traffic from materials during the Savannah River ECF construction.

If the ECF Project were located at the SRS, routine shipments of naval spent

would be transported to the site in certified shipping containers. Low-level waste facility and transuranic waste would be moved from the facility to an SRS storage f

5.3.12 Occupational and Public Health and Safety

The health and safety assessment of normal operations at the Savannah River E on managing spent nuclear fuel for examination and storage by either of two approach handling in a water pool or in a dry cell). These are the same methods of spent nu that have been employed or seriously considered for use at the INEL-ECF. The norma impacts associated with the Savannah River ECF would be similar to those for the IN following sections describe the non-radiological and radiological impacts associate River ECF (refer to Section 5.2 for the INEL-ECF impacts).

5.3.12.1 Occupational Health and Safety. Projections of the number of occupational accidents

that might occur during construction and operation of naval spent nuclear fuel stor tion facilities have been made for each alternative. These projections are present Based on the results of these projections, it is concluded that the number of occup injuries or illnesses for construction activities and storage and examination opera small for any alternative.

During Savannah River ECF construction, workers are not expected to experienc background levels of radiation resulting from on-going SRS operations. The gamma r measured near the proposed Savannah River ECF site is similar to the radiation leve site in the SRS area (WSRC 1992). The potential exposure to a construction worker of radionuclides released to the atmosphere from existing SRS operations is estimat 1 millirem per year, which is small compared to the external exposure. The very sm received by a construction worker would be well below the naval and Department of E standard of 5000 millirem per year for occupationally related whole-body and intern

During operation of the Savannah River ECF, SRS personnel would be exposed to atmospheric emissions of radioactivity and might be exposed to potential emissions Site A is located approximately 1 mile from the nearest SRS facility, while the Bar located approximately 5 miles from the nearest facility. As shown in Attachment F, exposure would be received by these collocated workers from normal Savannah River E tions. Exposures received by Savannah River ECF radiation workers from normal oper expected to be similar to the exposures currently received by workers from ECF oper INEL, discussed in Section 5.2.12.

5.3.12.2 Public Health and Safety. The impacts of normal operation of the Savannah River ECF

would be similar to those for the INEL-ECF. Normal radiological releases to the at quantities of radioactive and hazardous wastes that would be generated would not di previously discussed for the INEL. However, the location of the project relative t SRS population and the distances to facilities that would be involved in routine sh would result in differences in potential environmental consequences. Described bel to the public associated with operation of the Savannah River ECF (refer to Section INEL-ECF impacts).

Assessment of the normal operations of the Savannah River ECF involved two op handling in a water pool and dry cell handling of fuel for examination and storage. considered, the potential annual exposures were estimated for five different types at the Savannah River ECF site located 100 meters from the release point, the hypot exposed collocated worker on the SRS site, the hypothetical maximally exposed off-s (MOI), an individual at the nearest public access (NPA), and the population within (50 miles) of the Savannah River ECF site. Three pathways were included in the ana waterborne, and direct radiation, as applicable.

The results indicate that either the water pool or the dry cell option would normal operations since the exposure is so low. The analysis shows that the exposu individuals considered (workers, collocated workers, MOI, and NPA) from Savannah Ri operations would be much less than 1 millirem per year. For perspective, it could member of the entire population might experience a fatal cancer due to Savannah Riv operations if operations continued for over 50,000 years. A description of the ana more detailed results are provided in Attachment F. The impacts from normal operat alternatives are summarized in Section 3.7.

The radiological and non-radiological health effects associated with the incineration and transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens have been assessed for the general population, transportation workers, and hypothetical maximum exposed individual for five. As summarized in Section 3.7, it is unlikely that there will be any fatal cancer from naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimen shipments since the estimates are much less than 1 cancer for each alternative. The details of the transportation analysis are provided in Attachment F.

5.3.12.3 Incident-free Occupational and Public Health and Safety Effects on Environmental Justice Due to Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel Storage and Handling

As discussed in preceding paragraphs, the impacts on human health or the environment resulting from operations associated with the examination of naval spent nuclear fuel at the SRS will be under any of the alternatives considered. For example, it is unlikely that a single fatality will occur as a result of activities associated with naval spent nuclear fuel examination under any alternative. Since the potential impacts due to normal operations or accident conditions for alternatives considered present no significant risk and do not constitute a credible threat to the surrounding population, no adverse effects would be expected for any particular population, minorities and low-income groups included.

The conclusion that there would be no disproportionately high and adverse impact on human health or the environment is not affected by the prevailing winds or direction of surface water flow. This is true for normal operations because the effects of routine operations are small. It is also true for accident conditions because the consequences of any accident would be random conditions at the time it occurred, and the wind directions at the SRS do not have a strongly dominant direction. Similarly, the conclusion is not affected by concerns about subsistence consumption of fish or game because of the very small impacts associated with the examination of naval spent nuclear fuel.

To place the impacts on environmental justice in perspective, the risk associated with operations for naval spent nuclear fuel examination under any of the alternatives is less than one fatality per year for the entire population. For comparison, in 1990 there were approximately 510,000 cancer deaths in the United States population and there were about 6 deaths among people of color in the U. S. Even if all of the impacts associated with alternatives considered for naval spent nuclear fuel management were assumed to occur only among people of color, that group would be unlikely to experience a single additional cancer death per year. Therefore, the cancer risk for that population from naval spent nuclear fuel examination does not constitute a disproportionately high and adverse impact on human health or the environment. The same conclusion can be drawn for low-income groups.

5.3.13 Utilities and Energy

Heating, ventilation, and electrical systems appropriate to the needs of the SRS ECF for suitable working environments and to properly filter and exhaust the airborne contaminants from the atmosphere are estimated to require approximately 10,000 MWh per year for normal operations. Emergency diesel electrical generators would provide 350 kw for life support and other services during power outages. The amount of energy consumed would be a small fraction of the total energy used at SRS, and no discernible environmental consequence is expected.

5.3.14 Facility and Transportation Accidents

The differences in the potential consequences and risks of accidents of a Savannah River ECF compared to the INEL-ECF are related to the meteorological transport of released materials, the population exposure, and the distance of transport. The following sections address the accident consequences and risks associated with locating an ECF at the SRS.

5.3.14.1 Facility Accidents. The accident scenarios for the Savannah River ECF are the same as those considered for the existing ECF at the INEL.

These include radiological accidents that occur during water pool and dry handling of spent nuclear fuel as well as accidents involving chemicals used at ECF. The general types of radiological accidents analyzed include (1) criticality, (2) water pool drainage, (3) severe mechanical damage of spent fuel, (4) shielding, and (5) an airplane crash into the ECF. Calculations of the cancer fatalities that could occur as a result of all the postulated accidents are provided in Attachment F. A

accident consequences for all alternatives is provided in Section 3.7.

The difference in the calculated consequences for accidents at the Savannah River compared to the INEL-ECF is that the exposure received by the entire population within the Savannah River ECF due to the larger population within an 80-kilometer (50-mile) Savannah River ECF project site. Although the exposure received would be greater at the Savannah River ECF, the number of health effects which would result from any of the accident would be small. The most limiting of the postulated accidents for the Savannah River airplane crash into a dry cell facility. If this accident were to occur, the exposure population from this accident is calculated to cause 4.8 cancer fatalities over 50 years. Attachment F. The risk associated with the airplane crash is 0.0000096 fatal cancer.

The exposures to collocated workers following all accidents are below the Navy 5-rem standard for occupational exposure under 50% meteorology conditions. However, the worker located at the Savannah River ECF site 100 meters from the radiation release would exceed this standard following an accident resulting in an inadvertent criticality airplane crash.

Effects from accidents at the Savannah River ECF involving toxic chemicals are those described in Section 5.2.14 for the existing INEL-ECF. Due to the amount and types of chemicals stored at the ECF site, toxic chemicals do not pose a risk to the public from postulated accidents. However, following the maximum foreseeable accident analyzed (transient), a number of toxic chemicals would exceed Emergency Response Planning Guide (ERPG) values for workers on the Savannah River ECF site as well as for collocated facilities. The MOI under either 50% or 95% meteorology conditions, toxic chemical levels do not exceed ERPG-2 values with the ECF at Site A and ERPG-3 values if the ECF is at the Barnwell Site. The concentrations of toxic chemicals as well as a summary of the analysis methods are in Attachment F.

5.3.14.2 Transportation Accidents. The health effects associated with accidents during

shipments of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens have been assessed for the actual and hypothetical maximum exposed individual for each alternative. As summarized in Attachment A, it is unlikely that there will be any health effects as a result of naval spent nuclear fuel shipments since the risk estimates are much less than one fatal cancer or death per year for each alternative. However, the most severe accident, with a likelihood of occurrence of 1×10^{-7} events per year, is estimated to result in a maximum of approximately 2 fatalities. Details of the transportation analysis are provided in Attachment A.

5.3.14.3 Other Impacts of Accidents. In addition to the possible human health effects

associated with facility or transportation accidents described in the preceding section, such as the impacts on socioeconomics and land use in the area and the costs of cleanup, are estimated in order to develop a perspective and to evaluate potential differences among alternatives. The analyses described in Attachment F showed that for the most severe hypothetical accident, an area of between about 8 acres extending about 1/4 mile downwind (for an accidental release from a small facility) to approximately 210 acres extending about 1 1/4 mile downwind (for a large airplane crash at an examination facility) might be contaminated to the point where exposure could approach the NRC's standard for protection of the general population from radiation. Beyond these distances, exposure would be less than 100 millirem per year. Regulatory Commission's standard for protection of the general population from radiation. Affected by the hypothetical facility accidents would not extend beyond the boundaries of the Savannah River Site. However, if the currently inactive Barnwell Nuclear Fuel Plant had such an accident, the affected area could extend beyond the boundaries of the Savannah River Site. Persons who live in this area might be evacuated or otherwise experience restrictions on activities for a brief period, and those who work at locations within this area might have to leave their jobs until measures had been taken to reduce the potential for exposure.

An accident might result in short-term restrictions on access to a relatively small area. There would be no enduring impacts on cultural or similar resources or concerns such as American rights or interests, partially because the area involved would be small and remedial actions would be conducted in a careful, controlled manner in full compliance with applicable laws and regulations. The area impacted would vary only slightly among alternatives. Overall, the risks are small so these considerations do not assist in distinguishing among alternatives.

Facility or transportation accidents associated with an Expanded Core Facility at the Savannah River Site would not have an appreciable effect on the ecology of the area, considering the potential for human health effects and the amount of land which might be affected, as described in this section. There is little consensus among scientists on methods for estimating

radiation on ecological resources such as plant or animal life, but since human health is the primary concern, the accidents analyzed are small and most plants and animals are not thought to be as sensitive to radiation as human beings, the small impacts on human health provide an indication of the potential impacts on animal and plant species in the area would also be small for an alternative which would replace the Expanded Core Facility to the Savannah River Site. Similarly, since the areas contaminated to measurable levels by chemicals or radioactive material during the accidents would be relatively small, any effects on the ecology would be limited to what was previously stated, there are no endangered or threatened species unique to the area location considered for a replacement Expanded Core Facility at the Savannah River Site. An accident would not be expected to result in destruction of any species. The effect associated with these alternatives or any cleanup which might be performed would be a small area extending only a relatively short distance from the Expanded Core Facility. It would not be expected to appreciably affect the potential for survival of any endangered species in the Savannah River area. Consequently, consideration of impacts of accidents will help to distinguish among alternatives.

5.3.14.4 Effects of Accidents on Environmental Justice Due to Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel

Storage and Handling. As discussed in the preceding paragraphs, the impacts on human health and the environment resulting from facility or transportation accidents associated with naval spent nuclear fuel at the SRS would be small under any of the alternatives considered. For example, it is unlikely that a single additional fatal cancer would occur as a result of a nuclear fuel management activity under any alternative. Since the potential impact of an accident for any of the alternatives considered would present no significant risk of a credible adverse impact on the surrounding population, no adverse effects from accidents associated with the management of naval spent nuclear fuel would be expected for any particular population, minorities and low-income groups included.

To place the impacts on environmental justice in perspective, the risk from human health accidents associated with naval spent nuclear fuel examination under any of the alternatives would amount to less than one additional fatality per year in the entire population. In 1990 there were approximately 40,000 traffic fatalities in the United States population. There were about 7,400 deaths caused by traffic accidents among people of color in the U.S. The additional cancer deaths associated with an accident involving any of the alternatives for naval spent nuclear fuel management were assumed to occur only among people of color. A group would experience less than one additional fatal cancer per year. The same conclusion is drawn for low-income groups.

5.3.15 Waste Management

During Savannah River ECF operation, non-radioactive and non-hazardous solid waste would be generated in quantities similar to those for the INEL. Radioactive, non-hazardous wastes would be managed in a manner identical to that for the INEL (i.e., non-hazardous, non-radioactive solid wastes would be disposed of at a sanitary landfill. Hazardous wastes would be contained at their point of generation and stored at the Savannah River ECF. Management practices for these wastes would produce no identifiable impact on public safety of the environment.

Operation of the ECF at the SRS would generate the same quantities of low-level transuranic waste, and mixed wastes as the INEL-ECF. Low-level waste generated by the Savannah River ECF would be stored at the SRS. The 425 cubic meters of low-level waste generated by the ECF Project represents a small quantity when compared to the quantity of low-level waste disposed of at the SRS and would not impact planned disposal operations. No high-level waste would be generated.

Less than 0.0001 cubic meter of transuranic waste per year is generated by current operations at the INEL. Any transuranic waste generated by the Savannah River ECF would be added to approximately 10,000 cubic meters currently held in storage at the SRS. Wastes generated at the Savannah River ECF would be a very small fraction of the SRS waste generated and would not impact planned SRS waste-handling operations.

Mixed wastes generated by Savannah River ECF operation would be stored at the Savannah River ECF. Treatment and disposal facilities are available. The amount of mixed waste generated by the ECF is a small quantity in relation to the quantities requiring storage or disposal from current operations.

5.3.16 Cumulative Impacts

Up to this point, Section 5.3 has discussed the potential environmental consequences of constructing and operating the ECF Project at the SRS in terms of annual impacts (i.e. doses and health effects, accident risks, and quantities of wastes that would be generated during operation) based on the maximum expected annual throughput of the ECF Project. To evaluate potential consequences for 40 years of ECF operation (from 1995 to 2035), an evaluation of accumulated environmental consequences and risks of constructing and operating the ECF was performed.

5.3.16.1 Radiological Cumulative Impacts. The Savannah River Site has not been used for

naval spent nuclear fuel operations in the past. Prior to this time, naval spent nuclear fuel and storage operations have been conducted only at INEL. Therefore, no cumulative impacts have resulted from previous naval spent nuclear fuel inspection and storage operations except for INEL.

Operation of the Savannah River ECF will not result in discharges of radioactive materials; therefore, there would be no changes to the surface or ground water as a result of the ECF for any alternative. There will be small quantities of radioactivity in the air release that would contribute to the cumulative air quality impacts.

The annual radiological impacts associated with the alternatives where naval spent nuclear fuel would be inspected or stored at SRS are very small and are described in Section 5.3. Detailed results of analyses provided in Attachment F. In order to calculate cumulative impacts over the period between 1995 and 2035, the annual radiological impacts associated with each alternative were summed over 40 years. The results of this summation are tabulated in Tables 3-5 and 3-6 of Section 3.

The cumulative transportation impacts for the population groups from naval spent nuclear fuel transportation activities since the beginning of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program have been calculated and are very small. In addition, the cumulative impacts from transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel over the 40-year period between 1995 and 2035 for each alternative have been calculated. The detailed results of these calculations are presented in Attachment A and summarized in Table 3-7.

3.7.4.

The total exposure to the general public from transportation and from Savannah River operations would be less than 14 person-rem. This means that there would be less than 1 in 10,000 chance of cancer from these operations over the entire 40-year period evaluated. The maximum exposure to an off-site individual would be less than 0.2 millirem from 40 years of Savannah River ECF operation at either Site A or the Barnwell Plant. The corresponding risk of cancer fatality to the maximally exposed off-site individual is 9.6×10^{-9} at Site A and 7×10^{-9} at the Barnwell Plant during his or her lifetime. A worker at the Savannah River ECF site 100 meters from the facility would receive less than 4 millirem over 40 years of Savannah River ECF operation, which corresponds to a 1.4×10^{-6} risk of fatal cancer during the worker's lifetime. Exposures and cancer risks are as a result of ECF operations only. The exposures and cancer risks corresponding to site-wide operations (including ECF) are discussed in Volume 1, Chapter 3. Analyses of hypothetical accidents which might occur as a result of these alternatives show that the risk of cancer fatalities is small. The impacts associated with transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel for all of the alternatives considered would be similarly low.

Cumulative impacts due to radioactive waste generation are expected to be minimal. Approximately 425 cubic meters of low-level waste are expected to be generated annually at the Savannah River ECF over the next 40 years. This is not expected to affect the SRS waste management program. Very little transuranic waste or mixed waste and no high-level waste are expected to be generated from Savannah River ECF operations.

No contribution to cumulative impacts from accidents involving naval spent nuclear fuel has been included in the analyses presented in this Environmental Impact Statement because there has never been a nuclear reactor accident, criticality accident, transportation accident, or release of radioactivity which had a significant effect on the environment.

5.3.16.2 Non-radiological Cumulative Impacts. Cumulative socioeconomic impacts associated

with constructing and operating the ECF Project at the SRS are expected to be minor currently employs over 20,000 people. In the past, no employment at the SRS has been with naval spent nuclear fuel operations. Savannah River ECF operations would provide employment for 500 people at the SRS and would help offset predicted future reduction in work force (Halliburton 1992). The peak number of additional jobs created at the SRS would be approximately 1050, which includes both construction and operations at the peak of the Savannah River ECF construction effort. Considering that the labor region of influence consists of 209,000 people, the additional number of jobs added during construction and operation of the Savannah River ECF would be expected to have only a minor socioeconomic impact in the SRS area.

Construction and operation of the ECF Project at the SRS are not expected to have discernible impacts relative to cumulative non-radiological emissions. Construction of the ECF Project at either Site A or Site B is sufficiently remote and removed from the nearshore such that concentrations of fugitive emissions from construction would be well below standards, as discussed in Section F.4 of Attachment F. Current operations at the SRS are in compliance with Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 61, "National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants." Cumulative air emissions would not threaten to exceed a quality requirement or regulation, either federal, state, or local in radiological categories.

As discussed in Section 5.3.8, the withdrawal of surface water for ECF construction operation at the SRS would be a small percentage of existing withdrawals and well within the cumulative capabilities of the respective water resources. ECF discharges of non-radioactive non-hazardous liquid effluents at the SRS would not affect water quality. The volume of liquid effluents discharged at SRS would also have no measurable impact on aquatic wetland habitat.

Minimal cumulative land use impacts would be expected to occur as a result of a new ECF. The land that would be dedicated for this purpose is on existing federal land. The use of this land would not result in the need for additional land to be added to the SRS property in the foreseeable future. The SRS occupies an area of approximately 310 square miles (310 square miles) with only about 5% of the land occupied by construction. Land area at the Savannah River Site has been affected by past operations involving nuclear fuel. Construction of the Savannah River ECF would affect 30 acres of land, which is less than 0.02% of the total Savannah River Site land area.

The cumulative impacts associated with non-radiological waste management are expected to be small. The volume of hazardous waste produced by ECF has not been calculated considering the nature of the work associated with ECF, the amount of hazardous waste would have a small effect on the cumulative impacts associated with this waste. The amount of municipal solid wastes and sanitary wastes which would be generated is expected to be small. The number of additional workers added, and this small incremental increase would not affect the amount of non-radiological wastes generated would not introduce any changes to waste management practices and would not impose any additional stress on the capacity of waste disposal or treatment facilities. Therefore, any cumulative impacts associated with generation and disposal of additional wastes would be very small. There are no current environmental problems associated with these types of wastes.

5.3.17 Unavoidable Adverse Effects

The construction of the ECF Project at the SRS would directly impact about 30 acres. An estimated 30 acres of stands of loblolly pine and mixtures of hardwoods would be affected as part of construction activities for Site A. For the Barnwell Plant, no land would be affected due to the limited amount of construction required for this site. During construction and operation, animal habitats associated with pine and hardwood vegetation communities would be displaced.

Construction of the Savannah River ECF would also generate liquid effluents, emissions, and solid wastes typical of those for construction of a major industrial facility. Effluents and emissions would be below applicable environmental requirements and would be expected to result in any major adverse impacts.

During Savannah River ECF operation, non-radioactive and non-hazardous solid waste would be generated in quantities similar to those discussed for the ECF. Non-radioactive and non-hazardous solid waste would be disposed of in the SRS sanitary landfill off-site in a commercial landfill. Hazardous wastes would be stored at the SRS in tanks or on storage pads. The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act regulates these wastes.

amount of hazardous waste generated by Savannah River ECF operation would be small son to the amount of hazardous waste that is generated and currently in interim sto No discernible differences from normal hazardous waste management at the SRS would this strategy.

During Savannah River ECF operation, unavoidable radiation exposures would in occupational exposures and exposures to the public from normal atmospheric emission materials that would be minimal compared to criteria contained in the Environmental Agency's 40CFR61 and DOE Order 5480.1B. Sanitary waste and service waste liquid di would be below applicable environmental standards. Solid wastes generated during o including transuranic, low-level, hazardous, and mixed wastes, would result in smal potential exposures to radioactive and hazardous materials. Freon emissions would negligible increase in the risk of skin cancer; substitutes will be used when avail

In general, the unavoidable adverse impacts would be few and limited, and non identified that would have a detectable effect on public health and safety. The di impacts between the ECF alternative at SRS and the other DOE sites (INEL, Hanford, Nevada Test Site) is not discernible.

5.3.18 Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitments of Resources

During operation of the Savannah River ECF, additional fuel oil would be burn steam for heat. The fuel is not in short supply. The water to be used for the Sav would be withdrawn from the Savannah River and would be a negligible amount. No ne intake structure would be required, and no observed impacts have resulted from prev als. Total consumption of water attributable to water pool operations and consumpt water by operating personnel represent less than one-thousandth of a percent of the average annual flow.

The total cost of locating a new ECF at Savannah River is approximately \$3.5 cost represents the total cumulative costs over the 40-year period and includes con operations costs of the new ECF as well as the costs associated with shutting down Refer to Section 3.7 for a comparison of the total cumulative costs among alternati would be reduced if the Barnwell Plant were selected.

As is the case with the INEL-ECF, construction and operation of the Savannah would not require the use or consumption of scarce resources.

5.4 HANFORD SITE

5.4.1 Overview of Environmental Impacts

The following sections discuss the potential environmental consequences that facility to replace the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory Expanded Core Facilit were to be constructed and operated at the Department of Energy (DOE) Hanford Site ECF). Two options exist at Hanford: build a new ECF between the 200 West and the 2 Areas, or modify the existing Fuels and Materials Examination Facility (FMEF) in th Figure 4.4-1). Details of the receipt, handling, and examination of naval spent nu Hanford and the modifications to the FMEF are described in Attachment E. A detaile the potential environmental consequences of other actions and alternatives at Hanfo Volume 1, Appendix A.

The environmental consequences of constructing and operating the Hanford ECF the same radiological source terms for normal and accidental releases and the estim emissions, liquid effluents, and solid wastes for the INEL-ECF discussed in Section

The environmental consequences for the Hanford ECF would be similar to those INEL-ECF (see Section 5.2), and none would be large.

5.4.2 Land Use

The Hanford ECF would use essentially the same land area as that which was af construction of the INEL-ECF. The structure itself would occupy approximately 5 ac total affected land area would be approximately 30 acres. The higher elevation of location relative to a Probable Maximum Flood would reduce the amount of grading an atmospheric emissions from construction activities.

The land area that would be affected at the Hanford Site has been dedicated to operations as a nuclear materials handling area. The land area affected by construction would be sagebrush vegetation community typical of the arid Hanford Site region. Land areas under construction but not affected during operation would revert to the natural sagebrush community.

Native American rights and interests may be affected by construction or operation with alternatives that involve construction or modification of facilities at the Hanford Site. The DOE is assisting Native Americans who have expressed an interest in renewing their use of land-use resources, in accordance with the Treaty of 1855. Details are provided in Appendix A.

5.4.3 Socioeconomics

If the Hanford ECF were to be constructed, the potential socioeconomic impacts with construction of the facility are expected to be equal to or less than those with constructing the existing INEL-ECF because: (1) as at the INEL, a large migration of workers into the area would not be expected for constructing the project at the Hanford Site; and (2) the existing population base within 80 kilometers (50 miles) of the Hanford Site is larger than that surrounding the INEL and would provide a larger capability to absorb incoming construction workers. The estimates of the social and economic requirements for the construction work force expected to be employed during the construction period are similar to those estimated for the INEL. Details are available in Volume 1, Appendix A.

Table 5.4-1 provides a summary of the direct jobs which would be required for construction and operation of the Hanford ECF during the 10-year period immediately after the Decision. The greatest number of direct jobs would occur in 1999 during the peak construction phase. Estimates of the indirect jobs created as well as the effect on area population are provided in Section 5.5.1 of Volume 1 as part of either the Regionalization or Centralization alternatives.

Table 5.4-1. Summary of direct jobs due to the Hanford ECF.

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Direct Jobs	20	20	476	825	1033	894	850	500	500	500

During the construction period, operations personnel would be hired so that a construction period, most of the workers required for operation and support would be hired. When fully staffed, operation of the Hanford ECF would require approximately 500 personnel. The total number of operating and support personnel as operation of the INEL-ECF. The total force would represent about 3 percent of the Hanford Site employment. The potential benefits to the area are expected to be similar to those for the INEL area. The benefits from the new jobs that would be created and the associated jobs that would become redundant (DOE 1986a).

With the small percentage increase in the number of jobs at the Hanford Site for Hanford ECF operations, the impacts to local government services and community infrastructure are expected to be small. Volume 1 quantifies these effects. The beneficial economic impacts on the region are expected to be similar to the economic benefits for the INEL region.

5.4.4 Cultural Resources

Construction at this site would neither impact any known archaeological and historic resources nor disturb any known habitats for rare or endangered species. None of the alternative construction or operation would impact known archaeological or Native American sites. Procedures which comply with laws and regulations would be implemented to protect previously undetected archaeological and historic sites.

5.4.5 Aesthetic and Scenic Resources

The Hanford Site is in a semi-arid region of southeastern Washington. Since the site was selected to become the facility for the production of plutonium for the Manhattan Project, the site has been devoted to research, development, and production activities. As a result, its industrial characteristics are not readily visible to the public. The site is compatible with the current industrial setting.

5.4.6 Geology

5.4.6.1 General Geology. The local geology of the Hanford region determines the locations of

the surface waters and groundwaters at the site. The geology of the Hanford region be affected by the Hanford ECF construction or operations.

5.4.6.2 Geologic Resources. Two geological resources are of particular relevance to the Hanford

Site and to its utility as a location for the Hanford ECF. The water table is local feet beneath the site. The region between the surface and the water table is an unconsolidated layer that provides an effective barrier between the large aquifer in the groundwater below and the work conducted above. No radiological or hazardous liquid effluent from the Hanford ECF is discharged to the ground. The operation of the Hanford ECF is not expected to alter the unsaturated zone or the aquifer under the Hanford Site.

5.4.7 Air Resources

The meteorology of the Hanford region is described in Section 4.4.7. There is no expected for the construction and operation of the Hanford ECF to have any impacts on the meteorology of the region.

Consideration of general weather parameters in the Hanford region indicates a low potential for air pollution due to frequent low rates of turbulence or mixing in the atmosphere. Rates of mixing in an atmospheric layer are found in thermally stable layers. These conditions occur at Hanford about 44 percent of the time, on the average. Neutral (moderate mixing) conditions occur about 31 percent of the time. The highest rates of mixing (unstable) occur only about 25 percent of the time.

The stagnation that results from low mixing permits an abnormally high concentration of pollutants to accumulate from sources within the region. This applies to ordinary smoke and other exhaust fumes from regional sources, as well as to airborne emissions from a Hanford ECF. The normal emissions from a Hanford ECF would be low enough that any increase that might be accumulated during an inversion would not have any discernible consequence. Less than 1 percent of the total calculated number of fatal cancers in the (50-mile) population would be due to the normal operations of a Hanford ECF.

Some of the chemicals that are used in the normal operations of an ECF are chlorine and other chemicals. The use of these chemicals is controlled to limit the exposure of workers. Airborne emissions from normal operations include the combustion gases from the boiler where fuel is burned to make steam for space heating. Emergency diesel generators, for safety, are operated periodically for test purposes, and release exhaust fumes to the atmosphere.

The airborne release of radioactivity for the Hanford ECF would be the same as for the ECF described in Section 5.2. The airborne releases would result in no measurable increase in exposure to site personnel or the general public. Details are provided in Attachment F.

Experience with construction activities at Hanford indicates that fugitive dust from the nearest point of public access and at the site boundaries would be less than threshold limits. Standard control techniques such as applying water to the disturbed ground would limit the dust emissions at the construction site.

5.4.8 Water Resources

5.4.8.1 Surface Water. Water required for construction would be withdrawn from the Columbia

River. The amount of water withdrawn from the Columbia River would be negligible in comparison with the 3400 cubic meters per second (120,000 cubic feet per second) annual average flow of the river at the Hanford Site. No new water withdrawal intake structure would be required.

Expected surface water withdrawals from the Columbia River during Hanford ECF construction represent small incremental increases in the amount of water currently being withdrawn for Hanford operations and represent a negligible withdrawal in comparison to the average flow of the Columbia River. There would be no discharge of liquids from the Hanford ECF to either the Columbia or Yakima River.

5.4.8.2 Groundwater. The groundwater at the potential Hanford ECF site is several hundred feet

beneath the surface. This distance provides an ample buffer between the surface of the aquifer.

There would be no discharge of radioactive or hazardous liquid effluents from ECF to the ground. The existence of contamination in the groundwater due to previous operations at the Hanford Site is discussed in Section 4.4.8.

Sanitary effluents generated during construction would be treated through the tank and drain field. Solid non-radioactive and non-hazardous waste resulting from construction would be disposed of on-site at a sanitary landfill. Mitigative and control measures to reduce fugitive dust emissions would be undertaken as required.

Sanitary effluents generated as a result of Hanford ECF operations would be discharged to a septic tank located outside of the protected-area fence. Effluent from the septic tank would be discharged to a sanitary tile field. Other liquid effluents, such as process steam condensate, would be within the limits of DOE and federal standards (DOE 1986b; CFR 1991; CFR 1992a), monitored and discharged to a tile field. Liquid effluents meeting these standards would not result in contamination of groundwater resources.

5.4.9 Ecological Resources

The largest impacts would result from the Centralization alternative. Impacts from construction and operation of the Hanford ECF. It is expected that these impacts would be similar to those already experienced at Hanford from the construction and operation of other facilities of similar size and scope of operations. The expected impacts are discussed in the following sections.

5.4.9.1 Terrestrial Ecology. Construction of the Hanford ECF would disturb approximately 30

acres of land, and would permanently occupy 5 acres of land. The remaining land would be revegetated with native grasses. There would be some adverse effect on animal populations, especially the less-mobile animals that might be destroyed during land clearing, but they would move to another location. The small quantities of radioactivity that would be expected to have no effect on man, and are expected to have no effect on the terrestrial environment. Further discussion is provided in Volume 1, Appendix A.

5.4.9.2 Wetlands. Due to the semi-arid nature of the Hanford environment, there are few affected

wetland areas. They are found along the Columbia River and in local areas at the edge of the site where the growth of various plants is enhanced. Hanford ECF operations would not have an adverse impact on these areas. Additional information is provided in Volume 1, Appendix A.

5.4.9.3 Aquatic Ecology. There are no aquatic habitats at the potential site for the Hanford ECF.

Hence, there would be no impact on aquatic resources due to construction or operation of the ECF. Aquatic resources are discussed further in Volume 1, Appendix A. Experience from Hanford operations have not adversely affected its aquatic ecology. The Hanford ECF operations are expected to have no adverse impact.

5.4.9.4 Endangered and Threatened Species. Construction and operation of the Hanford ECF

would remove approximately 30 acres of sagebrush habitat until it was revegetated after construction. This would impact some members of the species that nest and breed there. Similarly, there would be some impact on vegetation and less-mobile animals, but in general, impacts would be local and the affected animals would be expected to relocate to another habitat on the site. Further discussion and mitigation measures are provided in Volume 1, Appendix A.

5.4.10 Noise

The Hanford Site is a very large area, about 1450 square kilometers (560 square miles).

only about 6 percent of the area is occupied by constructed facilities. Other than associated with sparsely spaced industrial facilities and air, rail and road traffic detectable noise on the site. Construction of the Hanford ECF would cause typical noises during the construction period. There would be little or no noise accompany operations of the Hanford ECF.

5.4.11 Traffic and Transportation

Traffic and transportation would increase slightly in the Hanford area if an and operated at Hanford. The increased traffic would be mainly due to material shipped to Hanford ECF construction and additional commuter traffic from the construction work operations workers.

The Hanford ECF site would be served by railway and roads. Naval spent nuclear any irradiated test specimens would be shipped by railway in shielded shipping containers, prototype, or test reactor to the Hanford ECF. There they would be examined prepared for storage at a DOE facility. Stored fuel and scrap specimens would be shipped to a designated site for disposition. Solid, low-level waste from handling would be transported by roadway to a Hanford shallow land burial site.

5.4.12 Occupational and Public Health and Safety

The health and safety assessment of normal operations at the Hanford ECF is based on handling spent nuclear fuel for examination and storage by either of two approaches: water pool or handling in a shielded dry cell. These are the same methods of spent fuel handling that have been used or were seriously considered for use at the INEL-ECF.

The normal operational impacts associated with the Hanford ECF would be similar for the INEL-ECF. The following sections describe the non-radiological and radiological impacts associated with the Hanford ECF (refer to Section 5.2 for the INEL-ECF impacts).

5.4.12.1 Occupational Health and Safety. Projections of the number of occupational accidents

that might occur during construction and operation of naval spent nuclear fuel storage facilities have been made for each alternative. These projections are presented. Based on the results of these projections, it is concluded that the number of occupational injuries or illnesses for construction activities and storage and examination operations are small for any alternative.

During construction of the Hanford ECF at the Hanford Site, construction personnel exposed to a slightly elevated background level of radioactivity resulting from ongoing operations. The maximum additional annual exposure from ongoing operations at the site for a construction worker in the vicinity of the 200-East Area would be approximately 2 to 3 millirem if he or she spent 2000 hours per year (40 hours per week for 50 weeks per year) at the site. This is well below the DOE standard of 5000 millirem per year for occupational exposure.

During operation of the Hanford ECF, other Hanford personnel would be exposed to atmospheric emissions of radioactivity and to potential emissions from accidents. The exposure received by on-site personnel would be below the DOE standard for occupational external and internal exposure. Approximately 3000 workers are employed in the 200 Area within a 1.6-kilometer (1-mile) radius of the Hanford ECF site. Fewer workers are employed in the 400 Area (alternative FMEF site for the Hanford ECF). As shown in Attachment F, the effects due to exposures received by the collocated worker from normal Hanford ECF operations would be small. Exposures received by Hanford ECF workers are expected to be similar to exposures that have been received by workers from recent ECF operations at the INEL. Section 5.2.12.

5.4.12.2 Public Health and Safety. Radiological releases to the atmosphere during normal

operations and the quantities of radioactive and mixed wastes normally generated would be approximately the same as those previously discussed for the INEL. However, the location of the Hanford ECF relative to the surrounding Hanford Site population and the distances that would be involved in routine shipments of material would result in small different environmental consequences.

Assessment of the normal operations of the Hanford ECF involved two options: in a water pool or dry cell for examination and storage. For both options consider annual exposures were estimated for five different types of people: a worker at the located 100 meters from the release point, the hypothetical maximally exposed collo the Hanford Site, the hypothetical maximally exposed off-site individual (MOI), an nearest public access (NPA), and the population within 80 kilometers (50 miles) of site. Three pathways were included in the analysis: airborne, waterborne, and direct applicable.

The results indicate that either the water pool or the dry cell option would normal operations since the exposure is so low. The analysis shows that the exposures individuals considered (workers, collocated workers, MOI, and NPA) from Hanford ECF would be much less than 1 millirem per year. For perspective, it could be stated that the entire population might experience a fatal cancer due to Hanford ECF operations continued for over 200,000 years. A description of the analysis methods and more details are provided in Attachment F. The impacts from normal operations for all alternatives summarized in Section 3.7.

The radiological and non-radiological health effects associated with the incineration of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens have been assessed for the general transportation workers, and hypothetical maximum exposed individual for each alternative summarized in Section 3.7, it is unlikely that there will be any fatal cancers as a nuclear fuel and test specimen shipments since the estimates are much less than one each alternative. The details of the transportation analysis are provided in Attachment

5.4.12.3 Incident-free Occupational and Public Health and Safety Effects on Environmental

Justice Due to Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel Storage and Handling. As discussed in preceding paragraphs, the impacts on human health or the environment resulting from operations associated with the examination of naval spent nuclear fuel at the Hanford Site are small under any of the alternatives considered. For example, it is unlikely that a fatality would occur as a result of activities associated with naval spent nuclear fuel examination alternative. Since the potential impacts due to normal operations or accident conditions alternatives considered present no significant risk and do not constitute a credible threat to the surrounding population, no adverse effects would be expected for any particular population, minorities and low-income groups included.

The conclusion that there would be no disproportionately high and adverse impacts on human health or the environment is not affected by the prevailing winds or direction of surface water flow. This is true for normal operations because the effects of routine operations are small. It is also true for accident conditions because the consequences of any accident would be random conditions at the time it occurred, and the wind directions at the Hanford Site are not strongly dominant in any direction. Similarly, the conclusion is not affected by the subsistence consumption of fish or game because of the very small impacts associated with the incineration of naval spent nuclear fuel.

To place the impacts on environmental justice in perspective, the risk associated with operations for naval spent nuclear fuel examination under any of the alternatives is less than one fatality per year for the entire population. For comparison, in 1990 there were approximately 510,000 cancer deaths in the United States population and there were about 6 deaths among people of color in the U. S. Even if all of the impacts associated with alternatives considered for naval spent nuclear fuel management were assumed to occur among people of color, that group would be unlikely to experience a single additional cancer death per year. Therefore, the cancer risk for that population from naval spent nuclear fuel examination would not constitute a disproportionately high and adverse impact on human health or the environment. The same conclusion can be drawn for low-income groups.

5.4.13 Utilities and Energy

Heating, ventilation, and electrical systems appropriate to the needs of the suitable working environments and to properly filter and exhaust the airborne discharge atmosphere are estimated to require approximately 10,000 MWh per year for normal operations. Emergency diesel electrical generators would provide 350 kw for life support and other services during power outages. The increase in electrical power needs might create additional capacity. The amount of energy consumed would be a small fraction of that used at the Hanford Site, and no discernible environmental consequence is expected.

5.4.14 Facility and Transportation Accidents

The potential consequences and risks of accidents for the Hanford ECF compared INEL-ECF are related to the meteorological transport of released material, the population and (for the transport of naval spent nuclear fuel and any test specimens) the distance. The following sections address the major potential accident consequences and risks Hanford ECF compared to the INEL-ECF.

5.4.14.1 Facility Accidents. The accident scenarios for the Hanford ECF are the same as those

considered for the existing ECF at the INEL. These include radiological accidents during water pool and dry handling of spent nuclear fuel as well as accidents involving chemicals used at ECF. The radiological accidents analyzed included: (1) an inadvertent release caused by an earthquake or similar catastrophic event, (2) accidental loss of large containers containing radioactive material from a water pool into the ground and then into water, and (3) severe damage of spent fuel if it were dropped from a crane during handling or had a container dropped on it. The probability of an accident caused by an airplane crash was calculated for Hanford ECF and was determined to be less than 10^{-7} . Due to the low probability, no calculations were calculated for this accident. Calculations of the cancer fatalities which might result from all the postulated accidents are provided in Attachment F. A comparison of the accidents for all alternatives is provided in Section 3.7.

The difference in the calculated consequences for accidents at the Hanford ECF compared to the INEL-ECF is that the exposure received by the entire population tended to be greater at Hanford ECF due to the larger population within an 80-kilometer (50-mile) radius of the ECF project site. Although the exposure received was greater at the Hanford ECF, no significant health effects would result from any of the accidents considered. As was the case with the INEL-ECF, the most limiting of the postulated accidents for the Hanford ECF was water pool drainage, ultimately resulting in fuel overheating. The exposure to the entire population from an accident is calculated to cause 0.047 cancer fatalities over 50 years, as described in Attachment F. This amounts to an approximately 5-percent chance of one cancer fatality in 50 years from a potential accident.

The exposures to collocated workers following any accident are well below the DOE 5-rem standard for occupational exposure. However, exposures to the worker located at the Hanford ECF site 100 meters from the radiation release point would exceed this standard in an accident resulting in an inadvertent criticality.

The effects from accidents involving the use of toxic chemicals at the Hanford ECF are similar to those described in Section 5.2.14 for the INEL-ECF. The same amount and types of chemicals stored and used at the INEL-ECF would be used at the Hanford ECF, so toxic chemicals would not pose a risk to the public following any of the postulated accidents. However, the maximum foreseeable accident analyzed (a fire transient), a number of toxic chemicals at the Hanford ECF exceed the Emergency Response Planning Guideline (ERPG) values for workers on the Hanford ECF as well as collocated workers. For the maximum off-site individual (MOI), ERPG-1 values for toxic chemicals are not exceeded under 50-percent or 95-percent meteorology conditions. Concentrations of toxic chemicals following the fire transient and a summary of the results are provided in Attachment F.

5.4.14.2 Transportation Accidents. The health effects associated with accidents during

transport of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens have been assessed for the existing and hypothetical maximum exposed individual for each alternative. As summarized in Attachment A, it is unlikely that there will be any fatal cancer as a result of naval spent nuclear fuel shipments since the estimates are much less than one fatal cancer for each alternative. The most severe accident with a likelihood of occurrence greater than 1×10^{-7} events per year would result in a maximum of approximately 2 cancer fatalities. The details of the transport accidents are provided in Attachment A.

5.4.14.3 Other Impacts of Accidents. In addition to the possible human health effects

associated with facility or transportation accidents described in the preceding sections, there are other impacts such as the impacts on socioeconomics and land use in the area and the costs of clean up.

estimated in order to develop a perspective and to evaluate potential differences a. The analyses described in Attachment F showed that for the most severe hypothetical area of between about 8 acres extending about 1/4 mile downwind (for an accidental approximately 210 acres extending about 1 1/4 mile downwind (for a large airplane c examination facility) might be contaminated to the point where exposure could excee per year. Beyond these distances, the exposure would be less than 100 millirem per Nuclear Regulatory Commission's standard for protection of the general population f Persons who work at locations within this area might be prevented from going to the federally owned facilities until measures had been taken to reduce the potential fo

The area affected by the hypothetical accidents would not extend beyond the b federally owned Hanford Site. An accident might result in short-term restrictions relatively small area, but it would not be expected to produce any enduring impacts similar resources or concerns such as Native American rights or interests, partiall involved would be small and partly because all remedial actions would be conducted controlled manner in full compliance with applicable laws and regulations. The are slightly among alternatives. Overall, the risks are small so these consider- ations do not assist in distinguishing among alternatives.

Facility or transportation accidents associated with an Expanded Core Facilit Site would not have an appreciable effect on the ecology of the area, considering t human health effects and the amount of land which might be affected, as described i this section. There is little consensus among scientists on methods for estimating radiation on ecological resources such as plant or animal life, but since human hea the accidents analyzed are small and most plants and animals are not thought to be radiation than human beings, the small impacts on human health provide an indicatio on animal and plant species in the area would also be small for an alternative whic the Expanded Core Facility to the Hanford Site. Similarly, since the areas which m nated to measurable levels by chemicals or radioactive material during the hypothet would be relatively small, any effects on the ecology would be limited to small are stated, there are no endangered or threatened species unique to the area surroundin considered for a replacement Expanded Core Facility at the Hanford Site, so an acci expected to result in destruction of any species. The effects of accidents related alternatives and any cleanup which might be performed would be localized in a small would not extend beyond a relatively short distance from the Expanded Core Facility not be expected to appreciably affect the potential for survival of endangered or t the Hanford area. Based on these considerations, evaluation of impacts of accidents resources does not help to distinguish among alternatives.

5.4.14.4 Effects of Accidents on Environmental Justice Due to Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel

Storage and Handling. As discussed in the preceding paragraphs, the impacts on hum the environment resulting from facility or transportation accidents associated with naval spent nuclear fuel at the Hanford Site would be small under any of the altern For example, it is unlikely that a single additional fatal cancer would occur as a nuclear fuel management activities under any alternative. Since the potential impa accident for any of the alternatives considered would present no significant risk a a credible adverse impact on the surrounding population, no adverse effects from ac with the management of naval spent nuclear fuel would be expected for any particula population, minorities and low-income groups included.

To place the impacts on environmental justice in perspective, the risk from h accidents associated with naval spent nuclear fuel examination under any of the alt would amount to less than one additional fatality per year in the entire population in 1990 there were approximately 40,000 traffic fatalities in the United States pop were about 7,400 deaths caused by traffic accidents among people of color in the U. the additional cancer deaths associated with an accident involving any of the alter for naval spent nuclear fuel management were assumed to occur only among people of group would experience less than one additional fatal cancer per year. The same co drawn for low-income groups.

5.4.15 Waste Management

During Hanford ECF operations, non-radioactive and non-hazardous solid waste hazardous solid waste would be generated in quantities similar to those for the INE

wastes would be managed in a manner identical to that for the INEL-ECF (that is, no non-radioactive solid wastes would be disposed of at a sanitary landfill, and hazardous materials would be contained at their point of generation and transported off-site to an approved treatment and disposal facility). During normal waste management practices for these wastes, impact on public health and safety or the environment would occur.

Operation of the Hanford ECF would generate essentially the same quantities of waste, transuranic waste, and mixed wastes as discussed for the INEL. Additional information on materials and waste management at Hanford is provided in Volume 1, Appendix A.

5.4.16 Cumulative Impacts

The potential environmental consequences of constructing and operating the Hanford ECF discussed above in terms of annual impacts (that is, radiological exposures and health risks, and quantities of wastes that would be generated during operation) based on operating experiences at the INEL-ECF. This section provides a discussion of the consequences of up to 40 years of operation of the Hanford ECF (from 1995 to 2035).

5.4.16.1 Radiological Cumulative Impacts. Operation of the Hanford ECF would not result in

discharges of radioactive liquids; therefore, there would be no changes to the surface as a result of normal operations for any alternative. There would be small quantities in the air released from the Hanford ECF which would contribute to the cumulative impacts. The Hanford Site has not been used for naval spent nuclear fuel operations. Prior to this time, naval spent nuclear fuel inspections and storage operations have only been at INEL. Therefore, no cumulative impacts have resulted from previous naval spent nuclear fuel inspection and storage operations at any alternate site except for INEL.

The annual radiological impacts associated with the alternatives where naval spent nuclear fuel would be inspected or stored at Hanford Site are very small and are described in Section 3.7.4. The detailed results of analyses provided in Attachment F. In order to calculate cumulative impacts for the period between 1995 and 2035, the annual radiological impacts associated with each alternative were summed over 40 years. The results of this summation are tabulated in Tables 3-5 and 3-6 of Section 3.

The cumulative transportation impacts for the population groups from naval spent nuclear fuel transportation activities since the beginning of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program have been calculated and are very small. In addition, the cumulative impacts from transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel over the 40-year period between 1995 and 2035 for each alternative have been calculated. The detailed results of these calculations are presented in Attachment A and summarized in Section 3.7.4.

The total exposure to the general public from transportation and from Hanford operations would be about 5 person-rem. This means that there would be about 0.002 person-rem from these operations over the entire 40-year period evaluated. The exposure to the most exposed off-site individual would be less than 0.02 millirem from 40 years of Hanford operations at either the 200 Area or the FMEF. The corresponding risk of a cancer fatality to the most exposed off-site individual is 4.8×10^{-9} at the 200 Area and 8.8×10^{-9} at the FMEF over a lifetime. A worker at the Hanford ECF site located 100 meters from the facility would receive less than 4 millirem over 40 years of Hanford ECF operation, which corresponds to a 1.4 in 100,000 chance of a fatal cancer during the worker's lifetime. These exposures and cancer risks are for occupational exposures only. The exposures and risks corresponding to site-wide operations (as discussed in Volume 1, Chapter 5. Analyses of hypothetical accidents which might occur under one of these alternatives show that the risk of cancer fatalities is small. The impact of transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel for all of the alternatives considered would be similarly low.

No contribution to cumulative impacts from accidents involving naval spent nuclear fuel has been included in the analyses presented in this Environmental Impact Statement because there has never been a nuclear reactor accident, criticality accident, transportation accident, or radioactive release which had a significant effect on the environment.

Cumulative impacts due to radioactive waste generation are expected to be minimal. Approximately 425 cubic meters of low-level waste are expected to be generated annually at the Hanford ECF over the next 40 years. This is not expected to affect the Hanford waste management program. Very little transuranic waste or mixed waste and no high-level waste will be generated from Hanford ECF operations.

5.4.16.2 Non-radiological Cumulative Impacts. The cumulative socioeconomic impacts

associated with constructing and operating the Hanford ECF are expected to be small. The Hanford Site currently employs over 18,000 people. In the past, no employment at the Hanford Site was associated with naval spent nuclear fuel operations. Hanford ECF operations would provide long-term employment for 500 people at the Hanford Site. The peak number of additional jobs created at the Hanford Site in any given year would be approximately 1050, which is less than the number of construction and operations workers during the peak of the Hanford ECF construction. Considering that the labor force in the region of influence consists of approximately 100,000 people, the additional number of jobs added from the construction and operation of the Hanford ECF is expected to have only a minor socioeconomic impact in the Hanford area.

Construction and operation of the Hanford ECF are not expected to result in a significant increase in cumulative hazardous or toxic emissions. Construction would be sufficiently remote from site boundaries such that concentrations of any fugitive construction emissions would be below applicable standards, as discussed in Section F.4 of Attachment F. Current operations at the Hanford Site are in compliance with Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 61, "Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants." Cumulative air emissions would not exceed any applicable air quality requirement or regulation, either federal, state, or local and non-radiological categories.

As discussed in Section 5.4.8, the withdrawal of surface water for construction of the Hanford ECF would be a small percentage of existing withdrawals and well within the cumulative capabilities of the respective water resources. Discharges of ECF non-hazardous liquid effluents to tile fields at the Hanford Site are not expected to affect water quality (that is, either of itself or on a cumulative basis).

Minimal cumulative land use impacts would be expected to occur as a result of construction of a new ECF at Hanford. The land that would be dedicated for this purpose is federal property. The use of this land would not result in the need for additional federal land in the foreseeable future. The Hanford Site occupies approximately 1450 square kilometers (560 square miles) with only about 6% of the land used for constructed facilities. No land area at the Hanford Site has been affected by past naval spent nuclear fuel. Construction of the Hanford ECF would affect 30 acres of less than 0.01% of the total Hanford Site land area.

The cumulative impacts associated with non-radiological waste management are small. The volume of hazardous waste produced by ECF has not been calculated; however, considering the nature of the work associated with ECF, the amount of hazardous waste would have a small effect on the cumulative impacts associated with this waste. The amount of municipal solid wastes and sanitary wastes which would be generated is expected to be small relative to the number of additional workers added, and this small incremental increase would not significantly increase the amount of non-radiological wastes generated. The introduction of any changes to waste management practices would not impose any additional stress on the capacity of waste disposal or treatment facilities. Therefore, any cumulative impacts associated with the generation and disposal of additional wastes would be very small. There are no current environmental problems associated with these types of wastes.

5.4.17 Unavoidable Adverse Effects

Construction of the Hanford ECF would directly impact a total of about 120,000 square meters (30 acres) of land area previously dedicated to the handling of nuclear material. Approximately 400,000 square meters (100 acres) outside the protected site area for a transmission line and tile field. During construction, plant and animal habitat and sagebrush vegetation community would be lost or displaced from areas not previously protected. None of the land area outside the protected site area associated with the construction line and less than half of the land area within the protected site area would be lost; the rest would revert to a sagebrush vegetation community through natural succession. Modification of the FMEF would have lesser impacts because the construction would be less extensive. Refer to Attachment E for details.

Construction of the Hanford ECF would also generate liquid effluents, atmospheric and solid wastes typical of those for construction of a major industrial facility. Emissions would be below applicable environmental requirements and would not be expected to result in any adverse impact.

During operation of the Hanford ECF, unavoidable radiation exposures would include occupational exposures and exposures to the public from normal atmospheric emissions.

materials that would be minimal compared to the criteria imposed by the "Environmental Health Program for Department of Energy Operations" (DOE 1986b) and the "National E Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants" (CFR 1992b). Sanitary and service waste liquids that would eventually be discharged to the soil column through tile fields would all applicable environmental standards, including radioactivity standards for drinking generated during operation, including transuranic, low-level, hazardous, and mixed result in small increases in potential exposures to radioactive and hazardous material emissions would be controlled, but might result in a negligible increase in the risk substitutes would be used when available.

In general, the unavoidable adverse impacts would be few and limited, and non identified that would affect public health and safety.

5.4.18 Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitments of Resources

During operation of the Hanford ECF, additional fuel would be burned to supply similar to the levels experienced at the INEL-ECF. The water to be used for the H would be withdrawn from the Columbia River. The amount of water that would be with the Columbia River would be negligible. No new water withdrawal intake structure was required and no observed impacts have resulted from previous withdrawals. Total consumption of

water attributable to water pool operations and consumption of potable water by operations represent less than one-thousandth of a percent of the Columbia River average flow.

The total cost of locating a new ECF at Hanford would be approximately \$3.4 billion. This cost represents the total cumulative cost over the 40-year period and includes construction operations costs of the new ECF as well as the cost associated with shutting down the FMEF were to be modified for use as the Hanford ECF, the cost would be less. Ratio 3.7 for a comparison of the total cumulative costs among alternatives.

Construction and operation of the Hanford ECF would not require the use of scarce resources. Expected withdrawals of surface water and groundwater during construction operation would represent small incremental increases in the amounts of water being ongoing Hanford operations.

5.5 OAK RIDGE RESERVATION

5.5.1 Overview of Environmental Impacts

The following sections discuss the potential environmental consequences that replacement for the Expanded Core Facility (ECF) at the Idaho National Engineering (INEL) were constructed and operated at the Department of Energy's Oak Ridge Reservation. This replacement will be referred to as Oak Ridge ECF. The new ECF would be sited at Site which is located on the western portion of the ORR (see Figure 4.5-1 of Section 4.5).

The environmental consequences of locating and operating the ECF at ORR are based on the same radiological source terms for normal and accidental releases and the estimated emissions, liquid effluents, and solid wastes discussed in Section 5.2 for the ECF at INEL. The environmental consequences of locating and operating the ECF at ORR would be similar to the ECF at INEL, and none would be large.

5.5.2 Land Use

Construction of an ECF at ORR would directly affect about 30 acres of land near the highly developed K-25 Site area. Site preparation for construction would disturb a vegetation cover which primarily includes oak/hickory forest land. The direct loss would be minimized to the extent practical. Following completion of construction, around the ECF would be landscaped with trees and shrubbery in a manner consistent with facilities in the K-25 Site area. The affected land area is very small compared to the total land area of the ORR. Native American rights and interests would not be modified by construction or operation of the Oak Ridge ECF.

5.5.3 Socioeconomics

The potential socioeconomic impacts associated with construction of the ECF are expected to be equal to or less than those associated with the original ECF construction because (1) a large movement of construction workers from other areas would not be Oak Ridge ECF construction due to the availability of construction craft workers in and (2) the existing population base within 80 kilometers (50 miles) of the ORR is surrounding the INEL area and would provide a greater capability to absorb the construction personnel.

Table 5.5-1 provides a summary of the direct jobs which would be associated with construction and operation of the Oak Ridge ECF during the 10-year period immediately following the Decision. The greatest number of direct jobs would occur in 1999 during the peak construction phase. Estimates of the indirect jobs created as well as the effect on the economy are included in Chapter 5 of Volume 1 for Regionalization at the ORR and for Centralization at the ORR.

Table 5.5-1. Summary of direct jobs due to Oak Ridge ECF construction and operation

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Direct Jobs	20	20	476	825	1033	894	850	500	500	500

During the Oak Ridge ECF construction period, operations workers would be hired at the end of the construction period, most of the 500 operations personnel would be a percentage of operations workers expected to move into the area from other areas via skill requirements. Overall, approximately 20 percent are estimated to move into the four-county region of influence around the ORR had a 1990 population of 489,230 per capita, more than twice that of the INEL.

ECF operations at the ORR would require essentially the same number of operations personnel as at the INEL. This would represent less than 3 percent of the total ORR population. Given an average family size of 2.6 persons per household for operations personnel in the area, the expected population increase attributable to operations personnel would represent less than 1 percent of the average annual growth rate from 1980 to 1990 in the ORR's four-county region of influence. This percentage of population increase attributable to Oak Ridge ECF operations is small in relation to normal population increases in the ORR region might have a short-term, local government services and community infrastructures. The economic benefits to be expected to be similar to or less than those for the INEL region since the existence of the ORR region is greater and more diverse than that of the INEL region.

5.5.4 Cultural Resources

Construction or operation of the Oak Ridge ECF would not impact known archaeological or Native American sites. Procedures which comply with all applicable laws and regulations will be implemented to protect previously undetected archaeological and cultural sites.

5.5.5 Aesthetic and Scenic Resources

Construction of the Oak Ridge ECF would directly affect 30 acres of land. The facility would be seen from Bear Creek Road as being completely surrounded by undeveloped land. The forested ridges to the northwest and southeast of this area reduce its visibility from the road. The impacts to aesthetic and scenic resources would be minor.

5.5.6 Geology

5.5.6.1 General Geology. Although some ripping or blasting of limestone, dolomite, or quartz

layers could be necessary to construct the ECF, no unique geological features would be impacted. There are no mining activities in this vicinity that could be impacted by ECF construction or operation. Previously disturbed areas would be regraded to accommodate the new ECF. Runoff from such land disturbances would be minimized by implementation of soil erosion and sediment control measures.

5.5.6.2 Geologic Resources. Since no extensive or unique geologic or mineral resources are

known to occur near the K-25 Site, impacts to such resources from ECF construction would not be expected.

5.5.7 Air Resources

Minor short-term emissions of fugitive dust and exhaust from heavy equipment possible during Oak Ridge ECF construction. The use of toxic chemicals during ECF operations is controlled to limit the exposure of workers and the public. Airborne normal operations would include the combustion gases from the boiler house, where fuel is burned to make steam for space heating. Emergency diesel generators, which would be used for safety, would be operated periodically for test purposes and release exhaust fumes. The environmental impacts of these emissions would be negligible.

The airborne releases of radioactivity for the ECF at ORR would be the same as at INEL described in Section 5.2. The airborne release would result in no measurable dose to on-site personnel or the general population. Details are provided in Attachment F.

5.5.8 Water Resources

5.5.8.1 Surface Water. Water required for construction of the Oak Ridge ECF would be

withdrawn from the Clinch River. The small amount of water withdrawn would be negligible in comparison to the approximately 1.29×10^{10} liters (3.40×10^9 gallons) per day flowing over Hill Dam. No new water intake structure would be required.

The 2.5 million gallons per year additional surface water withdrawal from the Clinch River during Oak Ridge ECF operations would represent a very small increase in the 6.93×10^7 gallons per day currently being withdrawn by ongoing ORR operations and is negligible in comparison to the average flow of the Clinch River.

Liquid discharges from the Oak Ridge ECF would be treated by a wastewater treatment system which would be built to service the new DOE spent nuclear fuel facilities. Discharge of wastewater to area receiving waters would be in accordance with applicable National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System effluent limits. These discharges would have a negligible impact on the receiving water system. Design controls would render spills and leaks that could contaminate surface or groundwater unlikely.

The Oak Ridge ECF would not be located within the 500-year floodplain.

5.5.8.2 Groundwater. No groundwater would be used for construction and operation of the Oak

Ridge ECF, given the plentiful surface water supplies. Therefore, no impact on groundwater quantity is expected. Because there would be no direct discharge of process water and because wastewater would be treated prior to a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System-permitted discharge to surface waters, no impacts on groundwater are expected.

5.5.9 Ecological Resources

5.5.9.1 Terrestrial Ecology. Areas of natural vegetation cover which primarily include

oak/hickory forest land would be disturbed for the Oak Ridge ECF. The loss of terrestrial habitat would be minimized to the extent practical. Construction and traffic noise might have a minor impact on wildlife beyond the immediate construction site.

During construction and operation of the Oak Ridge ECF, all effluents and emissions would comply with regulatory standards and are not expected to have an impact on the area. Operation of the Oak Ridge ECF should result in less noise and traffic than the construction and no effects on terrestrial ecology are expected from Oak Ridge ECF operations.

5.5.9.2 Wetlands. Construction of the Oak Ridge ECF may displace forested wetlands adjacent to

tributaries of Grassy Creek flowing near the proposed site. This displacement of wetlands would be accomplished in accordance with Corps of Engineers and Tennessee Water Quality Control Act requirements.

5.5.9.3 Aquatic Ecology. Aquatic habitat would be affected by the rechanneling of tributaries to

Grassy Creek during construction of the Oak Ridge ECF. Minor increases in water in the Clinch River and water discharged to its tributaries would not greatly affect these water bodies. All wastewater would be discharged in compliance with National Discharge Elimination System permit limitations.

5.5.9.4 Endangered and Threatened Species. No known terrestrial or aquatic areas potentially

providing habitat to federally listed or state listed threatened or endangered species in the construction area; consequently, impacts to threatened and endangered species are not a concern.

5.5.10 Noise

Noises generated on the ORR do not propagate off-site at levels that impact the population. Noise increases outside the ORR due to the Oak Ridge ECF would be limited by truck, car, and train traffic on roads and railroads approaching the ORR. Noise increases would not be large enough to be objectionable to the communities bordering railroads.

5.5.11 Traffic and Transportation

Traffic and transportation would increase slightly in the ORR area if an ECF were constructed and operated at ORR. The additional traffic would mainly be due to increased construction workers and 500 operations workers as well as traffic from material shipments to the Oak Ridge ECF construction and operation.

If the Oak Ridge ECF were established, naval spent nuclear fuel would be routinely transported to the ORR in certified shipping containers. Various types of wastes generated by the ECF would be dispositioned on-site and off-site. Following examination, most of the spent fuel would be transferred to the spent fuel storage location at ORR until the time geologic storage becomes available.

5.5.12 Occupational and Public Health and Safety

The health and safety assessment of normal operations at the Oak Ridge ECF was based on the handling and examination of naval spent nuclear fuel either in a water pool or in a dry cask. These are the same methods of spent nuclear fuel handling that have been employed or series of tests for use at the ECF at INEL. The normal operational impacts associated with the ECF at ORR would be similar to those for the ECF at INEL. The following sections describe the non-radiological impacts associated with the ECF at ORR (refer to Section 5.2 for the radiological impacts).

5.5.12.1 Occupational Health and Safety. Projections of the number of occupational accidents

that might occur during construction and operation of naval spent nuclear fuel storage and examination facilities have been made for each alternative. These projections are presented in Attachment F. Based on the results of these projections, it is concluded that the potential fatalities and injuries or illnesses for construction activities and storage operations would be very small for any alternative.

During Oak Ridge ECF construction, workers are not expected to experience elevated background levels of radiation resulting from ongoing ORR operations. The potential exposure of a construction worker from inhalation of radionuclides released to the atmosphere from operations is expected to be small compared to the external exposure. The exposure of a construction worker would be well below the naval and Department of Energy (DOE) standard of 5000 millirem per year for occupationally related whole-body and internal exposures.

During operation of the Oak Ridge ECF, ORR personnel would be exposed to routine atmospheric emissions of radioactivity and might be exposed to potential emissions from the Oak Ridge ECF site. The Oak Ridge ECF site is located approximately 1 mile from the nearest ORR facility. Based on Attachment F, no measurable exposure would be received by these collocated workers.

Oak Ridge ECF operations. Exposures received by radiation workers from normal operation of the ECF at ORR are expected to be similar to the exposures currently received by worker operation of the ECF at INEL, discussed in Section 5.2.12.

Exposures, injuries, and potential fatalities to workers at the Oak Ridge ECF as a result of accidents during ECF operations. However, the safety record of the very good, and similar safe working conditions could be established at the new faci

5.5.12.2 Public Health and Safety. The impacts of normal operation of the ECF at ORR would

be similar to those for the ECF at INEL. Normal radiological releases to the atmosphere of radioactive and hazardous wastes that would be generated would not differ from those previously discussed for the INEL. However, location of the ECF relative to the surrounding population and the distances to facilities that would be involved in routine shipment would result in differences in potential environmental consequences. Described below are the public impacts associated with operation of the ECF at ORR (refer to Section 5.2.12 for INEL impacts).

Assessment of normal operation of the Oak Ridge ECF involved handling and examination of spent fuel either in a water pool or in a dry cell. For both cases, the potential impacts were estimated for five different types of people: a worker at the Oak Ridge ECF site located close to the release point, the hypothetical maximally exposed collocated worker on the site, a hypothetical maximally exposed off-site individual, an individual at the nearest populated area within 80 kilometers (50 miles) of the Oak Ridge ECF site. Three pathways were included in the analysis: airborne, waterborne, and direct radiation, as applicable.

The results indicate that handling and examination of spent fuel either in a dry cell would be satisfactory for normal operations since the exposure is so low. That the exposure to all the individuals considered (workers, collocated workers, and off-site individuals) from Oak Ridge ECF operations would be much less than 1 millirem per year. In perspective, it could be stated that one member of the entire population might expect to develop cancer due to Oak Ridge ECF operations if operations continued for 20,000 years. A summary of the analysis methods and more detailed results are provided in Attachment F. The impacts of normal operations for all alternatives are summarized in Section 3.7.

The radiological and non-radiological health effects associated with the incineration, transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens have been assessed for the surrounding population, transportation workers, and hypothetical maximum exposed individual for each alternative. As summarized in Section 3.7, it is unlikely that there will be any fatal cancer from naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimen shipments since the estimates are much less than 1 cancer for each alternative. The details of the transportation analysis are provided in Attachment F.

5.5.12.3 Incident-free Occupational and Public Health and Safety Effects on Environmental

Justice Due to Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel Storage and Handling. As discussed in the preceding paragraphs, the impacts on human health or the environment resulting from operations associated with the examination of naval spent nuclear fuel at the ORR would be under any of the alternatives considered. For example, it is unlikely that a single fatality would occur as a result of activities associated with naval spent nuclear fuel examination under any of the alternatives. Since the potential impacts due to normal operations or accident conditions for all alternatives considered present no significant risk and do not constitute a credible threat to the surrounding population, no adverse effects would be expected for any particular population, minorities and low-income groups included.

The conclusion that there would be no disproportionately high and adverse impacts on human health or the environment is not affected by the prevailing winds or direction of surface water flow. This is true for normal operations because the effects of routine operations are not significant. It is also true for accident conditions because the consequences of any accident would be limited by random conditions at the time it occurred, and the wind directions at the ORR do not have a strongly dominant direction. Similarly, the conclusion is not affected by concerns about subsistence consumption of fish or game because of the very small impacts associated with the examination of naval spent nuclear fuel.

To place the impacts on environmental justice in perspective, the risk associated with operations for naval spent nuclear fuel examination under any of the alternatives is less than one fatality per year for the entire population. For comparison, in 1990 there were approximately 510,000 cancer deaths in the United States population and there were about 6 deaths among people of color in the U. S. Even if all of the impacts associated with the alternatives considered for naval spent nuclear fuel management were assumed to occur, the risk would be very small.

people of color, that group would be unlikely to experience a single additional cancer year. Therefore, the cancer risk for that population from naval spent nuclear fuel not constitute a disproportionately high and adverse impact on human health or the same conclusion can be drawn for low-income groups.

5.5.13 Utilities and Energy

Heating, ventilation, and electrical systems appropriate to the needs of the ORR suitable working environments and to properly filter and exhaust the airborne discharge atmosphere are estimated to require approximately 10,000 MWh per year for normal operations. Emergency diesel electrical generators would provide 350 kw for life support and other services during power outages. The amount of energy consumed would be a small fraction of the total energy used at ORR and no discernible environmental consequence is expected.

5.5.14 Facility and Transportation Accidents

The differences in the potential consequences and risks of accidents at the ORR compared to the ECF at INEL are related to the meteorological transport of released population exposure, and the distance of transport. The following sections address accident consequences and risks associated with locating an ECF at the ORR.

5.5.14.1 Facility Accidents. A number of hypothetical accidents were evaluated for the Oak

Ridge ECF. These included radiological accidents involving naval spent nuclear fuel pool storage, dry storage, and dry cell operations as well as accidents involving tanks at ECF. Calculations of the cancer fatalities which might occur as a result of all accidents are provided in Attachment F. A comparison of the accident consequences alternatives is provided in Section 3.7.

The difference in the calculated consequences for accidents at the ECF at ORR and the ECF at INEL is that the exposure received by the entire population would be greater at the ORR ECF due to the larger population within an 80-kilometer (50-mile) radius of the ECF site. Although the exposure received was greater at the Oak Ridge ECF, the number of effects which would result from any of the accidents considered would be small. The most severe of the postulated accidents for the ECF at Oak Ridge would be an airplane crash into the facility. The exposure to the entire population from this accident is calculated to be 1 fatality over 50 years, as described in Attachment F. The risk associated with this accident would be approximately 0.000008 fatal cancers per year.

Effects from two accidents at the ECF at Oak Ridge involving toxic chemicals are provided in Attachment F. The first accident was a chemical spill and fire; the second was a diesel fuel tank accident. Both accidents could expose the public to various toxic chemicals at concentrations which exceed Emergency Response Planning Guidelines (ERPG) level 3 limits. Both accidents could expose workers at the Oak Ridge ECF to various toxic chemicals at concentrations which exceed ERPG-3 limits. In both cases, however, it is expected that actual toxic chemical exposures would be much less due to the mitigative measures that would be implemented. A summary of the methods, the toxic chemical concentrations, and a discussion of the mitigative measures are provided in Attachment F.

5.5.14.2 Transportation Accidents. The health effects associated with accidents during

shipments of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens have been assessed for the ORR and hypothetical maximum exposed individual for each alternative. As summarized in Attachment A, it is unlikely that there will be any health effects as a result of naval spent nuclear fuel specimen shipments since the risk estimates are much less than one fatal cancer or fatality for each alternative. However, the most severe accident, with a likelihood of occurrence of 1×10^{-7} events per year, is estimated to result in a maximum of 2.1 fatalities. The transportation analysis are provided in Attachment A.

5.5.14.3 Other Impacts of Accidents. In addition to the possible human health effects

associated with facility or transportation accidents described in the preceding sections.

such as the impacts on socioeconomics and land use in the area and the costs of cleanup estimated in order to develop a perspective and to evaluate potential differences among alternatives. The analyses described in Attachment F showed that for the most severe hypothetical area of between about 8 acres extending about 1/4 mile downwind (for an accidental release of approximately 210 acres extending about 1 1/4 mile downwind (for a large airplane crash examination facility) might be contaminated to the point where exposure could exceed 100 millirem per year. Beyond these distances, the exposure would be less than 100 millirem per year. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's standard for protection of the general population is 100 millirem per year. The area which might be affected by one of these hypothetical accidents could extend beyond the boundaries of the Oak Ridge Reservation, so some people who live in the affected area might be evacuated or otherwise experience restrictions in their daily activities, and those locations within the affected area might be prevented from going to their jobs until cleanup is completed to reduce the potential for exposure.

An accident might result in short-term restrictions on access to a relatively small area which would not be expected to produce any enduring impacts on cultural or similar resources such as Native American rights or interests, partially because the area involved would be small and partly because all remedial actions would be conducted in a careful, controlled manner to ensure compliance with applicable laws and regulations. The area would vary only slightly among alternatives. Overall, the risks are small so these considerations do not assist in selecting among alternatives.

Facility or transportation accidents associated with an Expanded Core Facility at the Oak Ridge Reservation would not have an appreciable effect on the ecology of the area, potential for human health effects and the amount of land which might be affected, as discussed in earlier parts of this section. There is little consensus among scientists on the potential effects of radiation on ecological resources such as plant or animal life, but since for all the accidents analyzed are small and most plants and animals are not though sensitive to radiation than human beings, the small impacts on human health provide the impacts on animal and plant species in the area would also be small for an alternative which would relocate the Expanded Core Facility to the Oak Ridge Reservation. Similarly, for hypothetical accidents which might be contaminated to measurable levels by chemicals or radioactive materials, the effects of hypothetical accidents would be relatively small, effects on the ecology should be small. As previously stated, there are no endangered or threatened species unique to the area surrounding the location considered for an Expanded Core Facility at the Oak Ridge Reservation. An accident would not be expected to result in destruction of any species. The effort related to any of the alternatives and any cleanup which might be performed would be within a small area which would extend only a relatively short distance from the Expanded Core Facility and thus would not be expected to appreciably affect the potential for survival of endangered or threatened species in the vicinity. Based on these considerations, evaluation of potential impacts of accidents on ecological resources does not help to distinguish among alternatives.

5.5.14.4 Effects of Accidents on Environmental Justice Due to Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel

Storage and Handling. As discussed in the preceding paragraphs, the impacts on human health and the environment resulting from facility or transportation accidents associated with naval spent nuclear fuel at the ORR would be small under any of the alternatives considered. For example, it is unlikely that a single additional fatal cancer would occur as a result of a naval spent nuclear fuel management activities under any alternative. Since the potential impact of an accident for any of the alternatives considered would present no significant risk of a credible adverse impact on the surrounding population, no adverse effects from accidents associated with the management of naval spent nuclear fuel would be expected for any particular population, minorities and low-income groups included.

To place the impacts on environmental justice in perspective, the risk from human health accidents associated with naval spent nuclear fuel examination under any of the alternatives would amount to less than one additional fatality per year in the entire population. In 1990 there were approximately 40,000 traffic fatalities in the United States population. There were about 7,400 deaths caused by traffic accidents among people of color in the U.S. The additional cancer deaths associated with an accident involving any of the alternatives for naval spent nuclear fuel management were assumed to occur only among people of color. The same color group would experience less than one additional fatal cancer per year. The same conclusion can be drawn for low-income groups.

5.5.15 Waste Management

During Oak Ridge ECF operations, non-radioactive and non-hazardous waste and waste would be generated in quantities similar to those for the ECF at INEL. Solid industrial wastes would be disposed of at an on-site landfill. Hazardous solid was contained at their point of generation and transported off-site to an approved disposal management practices for these wastes would produce no identifiable impact on public of the environment.

Operation of the ECF at ORR would generate the same quantities of radioactive waste, transuranic waste, and mixed wastes as the ECF at INEL. Low-level waste generated at Oak Ridge ECF would be stored on-site pending a future disposal action. The 425 cubic yards of low-level waste generated annually by the ECF at INEL represents a the low-level waste managed at ORR. No high-level waste would be generated.

Less than 0.0001 cubic meter of transuranic waste per year is generated by operations at the INEL. Any transuranic waste generated by the Oak Ridge ECF would be a small fraction of the transuranic waste at ORR and would not impact planned waste management. Much of the newly generated and retrievably stored transuranic waste at ORR will be treated and certified for eventual disposal at the DOE Waste Isolation Pilot Project.

Any mixed waste generated by Oak Ridge ECF operations would be stored on-site pending a future disposal action. This would represent a very small fraction of the mixed waste generated by past and ongoing operations requiring disposition.

5.5.16 Cumulative Impacts

Up to this point, Section 5.5 has discussed the potential environmental consequences of constructing and operating the ECF at the ORR in terms of annual impacts (i.e., radiological health effects, accident risks, and quantities of wastes that would be generated during operation based on the maximum expected annual workload of the ECF. To determine the potential consequences for 40 years of ECF operation (from 1995 to 2035), an evaluation of the cumulative environmental consequences and risks of constructing and operating the Oak Ridge ECF was performed.

5.5.16.1 Radiological Cumulative Impacts. Operation of the Oak Ridge ECF would not result

in discharges of radioactive liquids; therefore, there would be no changes to the surface water as a result of normal ECF operations. There would be small quantities of radionuclides in air released from ECF which would contribute to the cumulative air quality impacts.

The Oak Ridge Reservation has not been used for naval spent nuclear fuel operations in the past. Prior to this time, naval spent nuclear fuel inspections and storage operations were conducted only at INEL. Therefore, no cumulative impacts have resulted from previous naval spent nuclear fuel inspection and storage operations at any alternate site except for INEL.

The annual radiological impacts associated with the alternatives where naval spent nuclear fuel would be inspected or stored at ORR are very small and are described in Section 5.5. Detailed results of analyses provided in Attachment F. In order to calculate cumulative impacts over the period between 1995 and 2035, the annual radiological impacts associated with each alternative were summed over 40 years. The results of this summation are tabulated in Tables 3-5 and 3-6 of Section 3.

The cumulative transportation impacts for the population groups from naval spent nuclear fuel transportation activities since the beginning of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program have been calculated and are very small. In addition, the cumulative impacts from transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel over the 40-year period between 1995 and 2035 for each alternative have been calculated. The detailed results of these calculations are presented in Attachment A and summarized in Table 3.7.4.

The total exposure to the general public from transportation and from Oak Ridge ECF operations would be approximately 15 person-rem. This means that there might be 0.0015 cancers from these operations over the entire 40-year period evaluated. The exposure to the maximally exposed off-site individual would be 4 millirem from 40 years of Oak Ridge ECF operation. The corresponding risk of a cancer fatality to the maximally exposed individual is 2.0×10^{-6} during his or her lifetime. A worker at the Oak Ridge ECF site located at the facility would receive less than 5 millirem over 40 years of Oak Ridge ECF operation. This corresponds to a 1.9×10^{-6} risk of fatal cancer during the worker's lifetime. The cancer risks are as a result of ECF operations only. The exposures and risks from other DOE operations (including ECF) are discussed in Volume 1, Chapter 5. Analyses of

accidents which might occur as a result of these alternatives show that the risk of small. The impacts associated with transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel for tives considered would be similarly low.

Cumulative impacts due to radioactive waste generation are expected to be min Approximately 425 cubic meters (556 cubic yards) of low-level waste are expected to annually by the Oak Ridge ECF over the next 40 years. This is not expected to affe management program. Very little transuranic waste or mixed waste and no high-level generated from Oak Ridge ECF operations.

No contribution to cumulative impacts from accidents involving naval spent nu been included in the analyses presented in this Environmental Impact Statement beca never been a nuclear reactor accident, criticality accident, transportation acciden radioactivity which had a significant effect on the environment.

5.5.16.2 Non-radiological Cumulative Impacts. The cumulative socioeconomic impacts

associated with constructing and operating the Oak Ridge ECF are expected to be min Ridge Reservation employs over 17,000 people. In the past, no employment at the OR associated with naval spent nuclear fuel operations. Oak Ridge ECF operations would term employment for 500 people at the ORR. The peak number of additional jobs crea in any given year would be approximately 1050, which includes both construction and workers during the peak of the Oak Ridge ECF construction effort. Considering that in the region of influence consists of over 292,000 people, the additional number o the construction and operation of the Oak Ridge ECF would be expected to have only socioeconomic impact in the Oak Ridge area.

Construction and operation of the Oak Ridge ECF are not expected to result in ible impacts relative to cumulative non-radiological emissions. Construction of th remote and removed from the nearest ORR boundaries such that concentrations of fugi from construction would be well below applicable standards, as discussed in Section ment F. Current operations at the Oak Ridge Reservation are in compliance with Tit Federal Regulations, Part 61, "National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollut Cumulative air emissions would not threaten to exceed any applicable air quality re regulation, either federal, state, or local in radiological and non-radiological ca

The withdrawal of surface water for ECF construction and operation at the ORR small percentage of existing withdrawals and well within the cumulative capabilitie water resources. Discharges of ECF non-radioactive and non-hazardous liquid efflu would have no measurable impact on water quality or aquatic ecology.

Minimal cumulative land use impacts would be expected to occur as a result of tion of a new ECF. The land that would be dedicated for this purpose is on existin The use of this land would not result in the need for additional land to be added t owned property in the foreseeable future. The Oak Ridge Reservation occupies an ar approximately 140 square kilometers (54 square miles) with only about 8% of the lan the Y-12 Plant, K-25 Site, and Oak Ridge National Laboratory. No land area at the Reservation has been affected by past operations involving naval spent nuclear fuel the Oak Ridge ECF would affect 30 acres of land. This is less than 0.09% of the to Reservation land area.

The cumulative impacts associated with non-radiological waste management are to be small. The volume of hazardous waste produced by ECF has not been calculated considering the nature of the work associated with ECF, the amount of hazardous was would have a small effect on the cumulative impacts associated with this waste. Th municipal solid wastes and sanitary wastes which would be generated is expected to the number of additional workers added, and this small incremental increase would n The amount of non-radiological wastes generated would not introduce any changes to management practices and would not impose any additional stress on the capacity of waste disposal or treatment facilities. Therefore, any cumulative impacts associat generation and disposal of additional wastes would be very small. There are no cur mental problems associated with these types of wastes.

5.5.17 Unavoidable Adverse Effects

Construction of an ECF at ORR would directly affect about 30 acres of land ar preparation for construction would disturb areas of natural vegetation cover which oak/hickory forest land. The direct loss of terrestrial habitat would be minimized practical.

Construction of the Oak Ridge ECF would also generate liquid effluents, atmospheric emissions, and solid wastes typical of those for construction of a major industrial facility and emissions would be below applicable environmental requirements and would be expected to result in any major adverse impacts.

During Oak Ridge ECF operations, non-radioactive and non-hazardous waste and waste would be generated in quantities similar to those discussed for the INEL. So industrial wastes would be disposed of in an ORR landfill. Hazardous wastes would be transported off-site to an approved disposal facility. Hazardous waste generated by Oak Ridge ECF operations would be small in comparison to the amount of hazardous waste that is generated at the ORR. No discernible differences in hazardous waste management at the ORR would result from this strategy.

During Oak Ridge ECF operations, unavoidable radiation exposures would include occupational exposures and exposures to the public from normal atmospheric emissions of radionuclides that would be small compared to criteria contained in 40CFR Part 61.92 and 5480.1B. Sanitary waste and service waste liquid discharges would be below applicable standards. Solid wastes generated during operations, including transuranic, low-level and mixed wastes, would result in small increases in potential exposures to radionuclides.

Construction and operation of the Oak Ridge ECF would not require the use of scarce resources. Expected surface water withdrawals during construction and operation would represent small incremental increases in the amount of water being withdrawn by ongoing operations. In general, the unavoidable adverse impacts would be few and limited, and none have been identified that would have a detectable effect on public health and safety. The impacts between the ECF alternative at ORR and the other DOE sites (INEL, Savannah River, Hanford, Nevada Test Site) is not discernible.

5.5.18 Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitments of Resources

During operation of the Oak Ridge ECF, additional fuel would be burned to supplement heat. The fuel is not in short supply. The water to be used for the Oak Ridge ECF would be drawn from the Clinch River and would be a small amount. No new water intake structure is required, and no observed impacts have resulted from previous withdrawals. Total consumption of water attributable to water pool operations and consumption of potable water by operation would represent less than one-thousandth of a percent of the Clinch River average annual flow.

The total cost of locating a new ECF at Oak Ridge is approximately \$3.5 billion and represents the total cumulative cost over the 40-year period and includes construction costs of the new ECF as well as the cost associated with shutting down the ECF at INEL. Section 3.7 for a comparison of the total cumulative costs among alternatives.

As is the case with the ECF at INEL, construction and operation of the ECF at ORR would not require the use or consumption of scarce resources.

5.6 NEVADA TEST SITE

5.6.1 Overview of Environmental Impacts

The following sections discuss the potential environmental consequences that would result from the replacement for the Expended Core Facility (ECF) at the Idaho National Engineering and Experimentation (INEL) were constructed and operated at the Department of Energy's Nevada Test Site. The facility will be referred to as the Nevada ECF. The affected environment for the project is depicted on Figure 4.6-1, is discussed briefly in Section 4.6 and in greater detail in Appendix F.

The environmental consequences of locating and operating the ECF at NTS are based on the same radiological source terms for normal and accidental releases and the estimated emissions, liquid effluent, and solid wastes discussed in Section 5.2 for the ECF at INEL. The environmental consequences of locating and operating the Nevada ECF would be similar to those at INEL, and none would be large.

5.6.2 Land Use

Over 40.5 square kilometers (10,000 acres) of land exists in the area being considered for the proposed Nevada ECF. This is in the same general area being considered for the proposed Nevada ECF.

proposed spent nuclear fuel storage facility discussed in Volume 1, Appendix F. Co ECF at NTS would directly affect about 30 acres of land. This would result in only reduction in the available land base of the NTS. Located next to Mercury Highway, area would support construction and maintenance of an ECF, railcar holding facilities support facilities. The ECF facilities would be compatible with all existing and p NTS facilities. The affected land area is small compared to the entire NTS. Nativ and interests would not be modified by construction or operations associated with a alternatives considered.

5.6.3 Socioeconomics

The potential socioeconomic impacts associated with construction of the Nevada expected to be equal to or less than those associated with the original ECF constru because (1) a large movement of construction workers from other areas would not be Nevada ECF construction due to the availability of construction craft workers in th and (2) the counties surrounding the NTS have a population adequate to absorb any t relocation of construction personnel.

Table 5.6-1 provides a summary of the direct jobs which would be required for tion and operation of the Nevada ECF during the 10-year period immediately after th Decision. The greatest number of direct jobs would occur in 1999 during the peak o phase. Estimates of the indirect jobs created as well as the effect on area popula Section 5.5.6 of Volume 1 as part of either the Regionalization or Centralization a Site alternatives.

Table 5.6-1. Summary of direct jobs due to the Nevada ECF.

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Direct Jobs	20	20	476	825	1033	894	850	500	500	500

During the Nevada ECF construction period, operations personnel would be hire the end of the construction period, most of the operations workers would be employe percentage of operations workers expected to move into the area from other areas va skill requirements. Overall, approximately 20 percent are estimated to move into t Las Vegas Metropolitan Service Area, which constitutes the major portion of the pop region of influence, had a 1990 population of 735,000 and an estimated population o August 1993.

The Nevada ECF operation would require essentially the same number of operati personnel (500) as at the INEL. This would represent a relatively small percentage work force. Given the 20-percent estimate for immigration and an average family si per household for operations personnel moving into the area, the expected populatio attributable to the operating personnel would be 260 persons.

Given the small percentage of population increase attributable to Nevada ECF relation to normal population increases in the NTS region, no major adverse impacts government services and community infrastructures are expected. The economic benef region are expected to be similar to those for the INEL region.

5.6.4 Cultural Resources

Construction at the site considered for the Nevada ECF would not impact any k archaeological or Native American sites. Procedures which comply with all applicab regulations would be implemented to protect previously undetected archaeological an

5.6.5 Aesthetic and Scenic Resources

The construction of the Nevada ECF would directly affect approximately 30 acr As a result of its location and industrial characteristics, there is essentially no impact since the site would not be visible to the public.

5.6.6 Geology

5.6.6.1 General Geology. The local geology of the NTS region has been impacted as a result of

past nuclear testing. This impact has been in the form of surface faulting. Becau

operation of the Nevada ECF would not produce forces near the magnitude of those past nuclear tests, it is highly unlikely that this activity would cause additional

5.6.6.2 Geologic Resources. Precious metals may exist in certain carbonate rocks and volcanic

or sedimentary rocks at the NTS. The Nevada ECF would not be located within a mile of the site will likely remain closed to mining operations so the impact to any precious metals that may exist at the NTS will not change if the proposed facility is sited there.

5.6.7 Air Resources

Minor short-term emissions of fugitive dust and exhaust from heavy equipment would be possible during Nevada ECF construction. The use of toxic chemicals during ECF construction would be controlled such that the exposure levels of workers and the public would be limited. Airborne emissions from normal operations would include the combustion gases from the engine house, where fuel would be burned to make steam for space heating. Emergency diesel generators, which would be provided for safety, would be operated periodically for test purposes to exhaust fumes to the atmosphere. These emissions would not have any detectable environmental consequence.

The airborne releases of radioactivity for the ECF at NTS would be the same as at INEL described in Section 5.2. The airborne release would result in no measurable dose to on-site personnel or the general population. Details of the analyses supporting this are provided in Attachment F.

5.6.8 Water Resources

5.6.8.1 Surface Water. As stated in Section 4.6.8, with the exception of short periods of runoff

from spring discharges, there is no perennial surface water at the NTS. As such, the water supply required to operate the Nevada ECF could not be obtained from local surface water. The NTS currently derives its complete water supply from the groundwater aquifers. Construction and operation of the Nevada ECF would have no impact on the quantity or quality of surface water in the area.

There are no National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits for the ECF. There are no wastewater discharges to on-site and off-site surface waters. NTS wastewater is treated in sewage lagoons. Therefore, all wastewaters associated with the construction and operation of the Nevada ECF would likely be discharged into the on-site lagoon system along with the wastewaters generated at the NTS. Thus, surface water quantity and quality in the area would not be expected to be impacted.

5.6.8.2 Groundwater. The NTS currently extracts groundwater from aquifers within two

hydrographic subbasins: Alkali Flat-Furnace Creek Ranch and Ash Meadows. These subbasins, with their specific hydrographic areas and NTS well locations, are described in Section 1, Appendix F. The 2.5 million gallons per year additional withdrawal of water required for operation of an ECF represents less than a 3-percent increase over the amount of water which is withdrawn for use in Area 6 and less than 0.5 percent of the total NTS groundwater withdrawal.

5.6.9 Ecological Resources

5.6.9.1 Terrestrial Ecology. During construction and operation of the Nevada ECF, all effluent

and emissions would comply with regulatory standards and are not expected to have a significant impact on area wildlife. Operation of the Nevada ECF should result in less noise and traffic during the construction phase, and no effects on terrestrial ecology are expected from Nevada ECF operation.

5.6.9.2 Wetlands. National Wetland Inventory maps of the NTS have not been prepared, nor

have wetlands been delineated on the site. However, available information indicates the NTS are limited in distribution and extent. Small areas of wetlands could be present along the margins of the surface drainages, playas, and reservoirs on the NTS. It is expected that construction and operation of the Nevada ECF would have negligible impact on any wetlands.

5.6.9.3 Aquatic Ecology. Because there would be no discharge of radioactive or hazardous liquid

effluent from Nevada ECF operation, these operations are expected to have no effect on aquatic ecology.

5.6.9.4 Endangered and Threatened Species. The endangered and threatened species are

described in Section 4.6.9. The desert tortoise is the only federally listed species affected by the construction of an ECF facility. Forty-five percent of the total known habitat is located in the Yucca Mountains. The area that could be affected directly by ECF are Frenchman Flat and the southern bajada of Control Point Hills.

Construction and maintenance of roads, utility and communication lines, build pipelines, sewage lagoons, and other facilities could result in harm or harassment and loss of habitat. Tortoises could become injured by falling into open trenches during construction excavations and might not be able to escape. They could become submerged in storage ponds, wastewater lagoons, and other impoundments not fenced to exclude the

5.6.10 Noise

Noises generated on the NTS do not propagate off-site at levels that impact the population. Noise increases outside the NTS due to the Nevada ECF would be limited to that produced by truck, car, and train traffic on roads and railroads approaching the NTS. Noise increases would not be large enough to be objectionable to the areas bordering the railroads.

5.6.11 Traffic and Transportation

Traffic and transportation would increase in the area if an ECF is constructed on the NTS. The additional traffic would mainly be due to increased commuter traffic for ECF workers and 500 operations workers as well as traffic from material shipments during ECF construction.

If the Nevada ECF were established, naval spent nuclear fuel would be routinely handled at the site in certified shipping containers. Various types of wastes generated at the site would be disposed on-site and off-site. Following examination, most of the naval spent nuclear fuel would be transferred to the spent fuel storage location on the NTS until the time that permanent storage becomes available.

5.6.12 Occupational and Public Health and Safety

The health and safety assessment of normal operations at the Nevada ECF was based on the handling and examination of spent nuclear fuel either in a water pool or in a dry cask. The same methods of spent nuclear fuel handling that have been employed or seriously considered at the ECF at INEL. The normal operational impacts associated with the Nevada ECF are similar to those for the ECF at INEL. The following sections describe the non-radiological impacts associated with the ECF at NTS (refer to Section 5.2 for the radiological impacts).

5.6.12.1 Occupational Health and Safety. Projections of the number of occupational accidents

that might occur during construction and operation of naval spent nuclear fuel storage facilities have been made for each alternative. These projections are presented in Table 5.6-1. Based on the results of these projections, it is concluded that the number of occupational injuries or illnesses for construction activities and storage and examination operations

small for any alternative.

During Nevada ECF construction, workers are not expected to experience elevated ground levels of radiation resulting from on-going NTS operations. The gamma radiation near the proposed Nevada ECF site is similar to the radiation levels measured off-site area. The potential exposure to a construction worker from inhalation of radionuclide atmosphere from previous and current NTS operations is expected to be small compared to external exposure. The exposure received by a construction worker would be well below the Department of Energy (DOE) standard of 5000 millirem per year for occupational whole-body and internal exposures.

During operation of the Nevada ECF, NTS personnel would be exposed to routine atmospheric emissions of radioactivity and might be exposed to potential emissions from the Nevada ECF site. The Nevada ECF site is located approximately 3 miles from the Radioactive Waste Management Facility, which is the nearest existing NTS facility. As shown in Attachment F, no exposure would be received by these collocated workers from normal Nevada ECF operations. Exposures received by radiation workers from normal operation of the ECF at NTS are expected to be similar to the exposures currently received by workers from normal operation of INEL, discussed in Section 5.2.12.

Exposures, injuries, and potential fatalities to workers at the Nevada ECF could be a result of accidents during ECF operations. However, the safety record of the ECF is good, and similar safe working conditions could be established at the new facility.

5.6.12.2 Public Health and Safety. The impacts of normal operation of the Nevada ECF would

be similar to those for the ECF at INEL. Normal radiological releases to the atmosphere of quantities of radioactive and hazardous wastes that would be generated would not differ from those previously discussed for the INEL. However, the location of the project relative to the NTS population and the distances to facilities that would be involved in routine shipments would result in differences in potential environmental consequences. Described below are the impacts to the public associated with operation of the ECF at NTS (refer to Section 5.2.12 for INEL impacts).

Assessment of the normal operations of the Nevada ECF involved handling and exposure of spent fuel either in a water pool or in a dry cell. For both cases, the potential exposures were estimated for five different types of people: a worker at the Nevada ECF site from the release point, the hypothetical maximally exposed collocated worker on the site, the hypothetical maximally exposed off-site individual, an individual at the nearest population within 80 kilometers (50 miles) of the Nevada ECF site. Three pathways were analyzed: airborne, waterborne, and direct radiation, as applicable.

The results indicate that handling and examination of spent fuel either in a water pool or in a dry cell would be satisfactory for normal operations since the exposure is so low. From the exposure to all the individuals considered (workers, collocated workers, and off-site individuals) from Nevada ECF operations would be much less than one millirem per year. From this perspective, it could be stated that one member of the entire population might expect to develop cancer due to Nevada ECF operations if operations continued for over 11 million years. The results of the analysis methods and more detailed results are provided in Attachment F. The results from normal operations for all alternatives are summarized in Section 3.7.

The radiological and non-radiological health effects associated with the incineration, transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens have been assessed for the population, transportation workers, and hypothetical maximum exposed individual for each alternative. As summarized in Section 3.7, it is unlikely that there will be any fatal cancer from naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimen shipments since the estimates are much less than one cancer for each alternative. The details of the transportation analysis are provided in Attachment F.

5.6.12.3 Incident-free Occupational and Public Health and Safety Effects on Environment

Environmental Justice Due to Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel Storage and Handling. As discussed in the preceding paragraphs, the impacts on human health or the environment resulting from operations associated with the examination of naval spent nuclear fuel at the NTS would be small under any of the alternatives considered. For example, it is unlikely that a single fatality would occur as a result of activities associated with naval spent nuclear fuel examination at the NTS alternative. Since the potential impacts due to normal operations or accident conditions at the NTS alternatives considered present no significant risk and do not constitute a credible threat to the surrounding population, no adverse effects would be expected for any particular population, minorities and low-income groups included.

The conclusion that there would be no disproportionately high and adverse impact on health or the environment is not affected by the prevailing winds or direction of surface water flow. This is true for normal operations because the effects of routine operations are random conditions at the time it occurred, and the wind directions at the NTS do not have a strongly dominant direction. Similarly, the conclusion is not affected by concerns about subsistence consumption of fish or game because of the very small impacts associated with the operation of naval spent nuclear fuel.

To place the impacts on environmental justice in perspective, the risk associated with operations for naval spent nuclear fuel examination under any of the alternatives is less than one fatality per year for the entire population. For comparison, in 1990 there were approximately 510,000 cancer deaths in the United States population and there were approximately 15,000 cancer deaths among people of color in the U. S. Even if all of the impacts associated with the alternatives considered for naval spent nuclear fuel management were assumed to be borne by people of color, that group would be unlikely to experience a single additional cancer death in any year. Therefore, the cancer risk for that population from naval spent nuclear fuel management would not constitute a disproportionately high and adverse impact on human health or the environment. The same conclusion can be drawn for low-income groups.

5.6.13 Utilities and Energy

Heating, ventilation, and electrical systems appropriate to the needs of the NTS suitable working environments and to properly filter and exhaust the airborne discharge to the atmosphere are estimated to require approximately 10,000 MWh per year for normal operation. This would represent about a 4-percent increase in NTS electrical consumption and maintenance of transmission line upgrades. Emergency diesel electrical generators would provide 3000 MWh of facility services during power outages.

5.6.14 Facility and Transportation Accidents

The differences in the potential consequences and risks of accidents at the Nevada ECF compared to the ECF at INEL are related to the meteorological transport of released materials to the population exposure, and the distance of transport. The following sections address the potential consequences and risks associated with locating an ECF at the NTS.

5.6.14.1 Facility Accidents. A number of hypothetical accidents were evaluated for the Nevada ECF

ECF. These included radiological accidents involving naval spent nuclear fuel during storage, dry storage, and dry cell operations, as well as accidents involving toxic chemical releases from the ECF. Calculations of the cancer fatalities which might occur as a result of all the accidents are provided in Attachment F. A comparison of the accident consequences for all accidents is provided in Section 3.7.

The difference in the calculated consequences for accidents at the Nevada ECF compared to the ECF at INEL is that the exposure received by the entire population would be less at the Nevada ECF due to a different population distribution within an 80-kilometer (50-mile) radius. The most limiting of the postulated accidents for the Nevada ECF would be an airplane crash at the dry cell facility. The exposure to the entire population from this accident is calculated in terms of cancer fatalities over 50 years, as described in Attachment F.

The exposures to collocated workers following all accidents are well below the DOE standard of 5 rem per year for occupational exposure. However, exposures to the public located at a Nevada ECF site 100 meters from the radiation release point could exceed the standard following an accident resulting in an inadvertent criticality or an airplane crash.

Effects from accidents at the Nevada ECF involving toxic chemicals are similar to those described in Section 5.2.14 for the existing ECF at INEL. Due to the amount and type of chemicals stored at the ECF site, toxic chemicals do not pose a risk to the public following accidents. However, following the maximum foreseeable accident analyzed (a fire that releases a large number of toxic chemicals would exceed Emergency Response Planning Guideline (ERPG) values for workers on the Nevada ECF site. For the maximum off-site individual, ERPG-2 values for toxic chemicals are not exceeded under either 50% meteorology or 95% meteorology conditions. Concentrations of toxic chemicals as well as a summary of the analysis methods are provided in Attachment F.

5.6.14.2 Transportation Accidents. The health effects associated with accidents during

shipments of naval spent nuclear fuel and test specimens have been assessed for the and hypothetical maximum exposed individual for each alternative. As summarized in is unlikely that there will be any health effects as a result of naval spent nuclear specimen shipments since the risk estimates are much less than one fatal cancer or effect for each alternative. However, the most severe accident, with a likelihood greater than 1×10^{-7} events per year, is estimated to result in a maximum of 2.1 f details of the transportation analysis are provided in Attachment A.

5.6.14.3 Other Impacts of Accidents. In addition to the possible human health effects

associated with facility or transportation accidents described in the preceding sec such as the impacts on socioeconomics and land use in the area and the costs of cle estimated in order to develop a perspective and to evaluate potential differences a The analyses described in Attachment F showed that for the most severe hypothetical area of between about 8 acres extending about 1/4 mile downwind (for an accidental approximately 210 acres extending about 1 1/4 mile downwind (for a large airplane c examination facility) might be contaminated to the point where exposure could excee per year. Beyond these distances, the exposure would be less than 100 millirem, th Regulatory Commission's standard for protection of the general population from radi affected by the hypothetical accidents would not extend beyond the boundaries of th Site. Persons who work at locations within this area might be prevented from going the federally owned facilities until measures had been taken to reduce the potentia

An accident might result in short-term restrictions on access to a relatively would not be expected to produce any enduring impacts on cultural or similar resour such as Native American rights or interests, partially because the area involved wo partly because all remedial actions would be conducted in a careful, controlled man compliance with applicable laws and regulations. The area would vary only slightly alternatives. Overall, the risks are small so these considerations do not assist i alternatives.

Facility or transportation accidents associated with an Expanded Core Facilit Test Site would not have an appreciable effect on the ecology of the area, consider for human health effects and the amount of land which might be affected, as describ of this section. There is little consensus among scientists on methods for estimat radiation on ecological resources such as plant or animal life, but since human hea the accidents analyzed are small and most plants and animals are not thought to be radiation than human beings, the small impacts on human health provide an indicatio on animal and plant species in the area would also be small for an alternative whic the Expanded Core Facility to the Nevada Test Site. Similarly, since the areas whi contaminated to measurable levels by chemicals or radioactive material during the h accidents would be relatively small, effects on the ecology should be limited to sm previously stated, there are no endangered or threatened species unique to the area location considered for an Expanded Core Facility at the Nevada Test Site, so an ac be expected to result in destruction of any species. The effects of accidents rela alternatives and any cleanup which might be performed would be localized within a s would extend only a relatively short distance from the relocated Expanded Core Faci would not be expected to appreciably affect the survival potential of endangered or in the vicinity. Based on these considerations, evaluation of the impacts of accid resources does not help to distinguish among alternatives.

5.6.14.4 Effects of Accidents on Environmental Justice Due to Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel

Storage and Handling. As discussed in the preceding paragraphs, the impacts on hum the environment resulting from facility or transportation accidents associated with naval spent nuclear fuel at the NTS would be small under any of the alternatives co example, it is unlikely that a single additional fatal cancer would occur as a resu nuclear fuel management activities under any alternative. Since the potential impa accident for any of the alternatives considered would present no significant risk a a credible adverse impact on the surrounding population, no adverse effects from ac with the management of naval spent nuclear fuel would be expected for any particula

population, minorities and low-income groups included.

To place the impacts on environmental justice in perspective, the risk from h accidents associated with naval spent nuclear fuel examination under any of the alt would amount to less than one additional fatality per year in the entire population in 1990 there were approximately 40,000 traffic fatalities in the United States pop were about 7,400 deaths caused by traffic accidents among people of color in the U. the additional cancer deaths associated with an accident involving any of the alter for naval spent nuclear fuel management were assumed to occur only among people of group would experience less than one additional fatal cancer per year. The same co drawn for low-income groups.

5.6.15 Waste Management

During Nevada ECF operation, non-radioactive and non-hazardous solid waste an solid waste would be generated in quantities similar to those for the ECF at INEL. would be managed in a manner identical to that for the ECF at INEL (i.e., non-hazar radioactive solid wastes would be disposed of at a sanitary landfill and hazardous be contained at their point of generation and transported off-site to an approved d Waste management practices for these wastes would produce no identifiable impact on and safety of the environment.

Operation of the ECF at NTS would generate the same quantities of low-level w transuranic waste, and mixed wastes as the ECF at INEL. Low-level waste generated ECF would be disposed of at the NTS. The 425 cubic meters (556 cubic yards) of low generated annually by the ECF at INEL represents a small fraction of the low-level the NTS and would not impact planned disposal operations. No high-level waste woul

Less than 0.0001 cubic meter of transuranic waste per year is generated by cu operations at the INEL. Any transuranic waste generated by the Nevada ECF would be Nevada Test Site's transuranic waste storage cell, and would not impact planned was operations. Any mixed wastes generated by Nevada ECF operation would be stored on-future disposal action.

5.6.16 Cumulative Impacts

Up to this point, Section 5.6 has discussed the potential environmental conse structing and operating the ECF Project at the NTS in terms of annual impacts (i.e. doses and health effects, accident risks, and quantities of wastes that would be ge operations) based on the maximum expected annual workload of the ECF. To determine consequences for 40 years of ECF operation (from 1995 to 2035), an evaluation of th environmental consequences and risks of constructing and operating the Nevada ECF w

5.6.16.1 Radiological Cumulative Impacts. The Nevada Test Site has not been used for naval

spent nuclear fuel operations in the past. Prior to this time, naval spent nuclear storage operations have been conducted only at INEL. Therefore, no cumulative impa resulted from previous naval spent nuclear fuel inspection and storage operations a except for INEL.

Operation of the Nevada ECF will not result in discharges of radioactive liqu there would be no changes to the surface or ground water as a result of normal oper alternative. There will be small quantities of radioactivity in the air released f contribute to the cumulative air quality impacts.

The annual radiological impacts associated with the alternatives where naval would be inspected or stored at the NTS are very small and are described in Section detailed results of analyses provided in Attachment F. In order to calculate cumul the period between 1995 and 2035, the annual radiological impacts associated with e alternative were summed over 40 years. The results of this summation are tabulated and 3-6 of Section 3.

The cumulative transportation impacts for the population groups from naval sp transportation activities since the beginning of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Progr calculated and are very small. In addition, the cumulative impacts from transporta nuclear fuel over the 40-year period between 1995 and 2035 for each alternative hav The detailed results of these calculations are presented in Attachment A and summar 3.7.4.

The total exposure (from operations and transportation) to the general public ECF operation would be approximately 6 person-rem. This means that there would be 3×10^{-3} fatal cancers from these operations over the entire 40-year period evaluated. The maximally exposed off-site individual would be less than 1 millirem from 40 years of Nevada Test Site ECF operation. The corresponding risk of a cancer fatality to the maximally exposed individual is 6.8×10^{-9} during his or her lifetime. A worker at the Nevada Test Site 5 meters from the facility would receive less than 2 millirem over 40 years of Nevada operation, which corresponds to a 7.2×10^{-7} risk of fatal cancer during the worker's exposures and cancer risks are as a result of ECF operations only. The exposures and cancer risks corresponding to site-wide operations (including ECF) are discussed in Volume 1, Chapter 4. Analyses of hypothetical accidents which might occur as a result of these alternatives show that the risk of cancer fatalities is small. The impacts associated with transportation of fuel for all of the alternatives considered would be similarly low.

Cumulative impacts due to radioactive waste generation are expected to be minimal. Approximately 425 cubic meters of low-level waste are expected to be generated annually at Nevada ECF over the subject 40-year period. This is not expected to affect the NTS waste management program. Very little transuranic waste or mixed waste and no high-level waste are generated from Nevada ECF operations.

No contribution to cumulative impacts from accidents involving naval spent nuclear fuel has been included in the analyses presented in this Environmental Impact Statement because there has never been a nuclear reactor accident, criticality accident, transportation accident, or release of radioactivity which had a significant effect on the environment.

5.6.16.2 Non-radiological Cumulative Impacts. The cumulative socioeconomic impacts

Impacts associated with constructing and operating the Nevada ECF are expected to be minor. The Nevada Test Site currently employs over 8,500 people. In the past, no employment at the NTS has been associated with naval spent nuclear fuel operations. Nevada Test Site ECF operations are expected to provide long-term employment for 500 people at the NTS. The peak number of additional jobs at the NTS in any given year would be approximately 1050, which includes both construction and operations workers during the peak of the Nevada Test Site ECF construction effort. Construction of the Nevada Test Site ECF would increase the labor force in the region of influence is expected to reach 792,309 people by 2004, a number of jobs added from the construction and operation of the Nevada Test Site ECF. The Nevada Test Site ECF is expected to have only a minor socioeconomic impact in the NTS area.

Construction and operation of the Nevada ECF are not expected to result in significant impacts relative to cumulative non-radiological emissions. Construction of the ECF is remote and removed from the nearest NTS boundaries such that concentrations of fugitive dust from construction would be well below applicable standards, as discussed in Section 5.6.16.1. Attachment F. Current operations at the Nevada Test Site are in compliance with Title 40, Chapter 2, Federal Regulations, Part 61, "National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants." Cumulative air emissions would not threaten to exceed any applicable air quality regulations, either federal, state, or local in radiological and non-radiological categories.

Minimal cumulative land use impacts would be expected to occur as a result of construction of a new ECF. The land that would be dedicated for this purpose is on existing Nevada Test Site land. The use of this land would not result in the need for additional land to be added to the Nevada Test Site. The Nevada Test Site occupies an area of 3,500 square kilometers (1,350 square miles) of which only about 0.55% is developed. Construction of the Nevada Test Site ECF would affect 30 acres of land. This is less than 0.001% of the total Nevada Test Site land area.

The cumulative impacts associated with non-radiological waste management are expected to be small. The volume of hazardous waste produced by ECF has not been calculated. Considering the nature of the work associated with ECF, the amount of hazardous waste produced would have a small effect on the cumulative impacts associated with this waste. The Nevada Test Site manages municipal solid wastes and sanitary wastes which would be generated in addition to the number of additional workers added, and this small incremental increase would not significantly increase the amount of non-radiological wastes generated. The amount of non-radiological wastes generated would not introduce any changes to waste management practices and would not impose any additional stress on the capacity of waste disposal or treatment facilities. Therefore, any cumulative impacts associated with the generation and disposal of additional wastes would be very small. There are no current environmental problems associated with these types of wastes.

5.6.17 Unavoidable Adverse Effects

Construction of an ECF at NTS would directly affect about 30 acres of land and loss of terrestrial habitat would be minimal.

Construction of the Nevada ECF would also generate liquid effluents, atmospheric and solid wastes typical of those for construction of a major industrial facility. Emissions would be below applicable environmental requirements and would not be expected in any major adverse impacts.

During Nevada ECF operations, non-radioactive and non-hazardous solid waste and solid waste would be generated in quantities similar to those discussed for the INE and non-hazardous solid waste would be disposed of in the NTS sanitary landfill. It would be contained at their point of generation and transported off-site to an appropriate facility. The amount of hazardous waste generated by Nevada ECF operation would be compared to the amount of hazardous waste that is generated and currently in inventory at NTS. No discernible differences from normal hazardous waste management at the NTS from this strategy.

During Nevada ECF operations, unavoidable radiation exposures would include occupational exposures and exposures to the public from normal atmospheric emissions of radioactive materials that would be minimal compared to criteria contained in 40CFR Part 61.92 and DOE Order 5400.1. Sanitary waste and service waste liquid discharges would be below applicable environmental standards. Solid wastes generated during operations, including transuranic, low-level mixed wastes, would result in small increases in potential exposures to radioactive materials. Freon emissions would result in a negligible increase in the risk of skin cancer. Freon will be used when available.

Construction and operation of the Nevada ECF would not require the use of scarce resources. Expected groundwater withdrawals during construction and operation represent small incremental increases in the amount of water being withdrawn by ongoing operations. In general, the unavoidable adverse impacts would be few and limited, and have been identified that would have a detectable effect on public health and safety. The impacts between the ECF alternative at the NTS and the other DOE sites (INEL, Savannah River, Hanford, Oak Ridge) is not discernible.

5.6.18 Irreversible and Irrecoverable Commitments of Resources

During operation of the Nevada ECF, additional fuel would be burned to supply heat. The fuel is not in short supply. The water to be used for the Nevada ECF would come from the groundwater aquifers. No new water wells are expected to be required, and impacts have resulted from previous withdrawals. Total consumption of water attributable to pool operations and consumption of potable water by operating personnel would represent a small percentage of the supply available by aquifer recharge.

The total cost of locating a new ECF at the Nevada Test Site is approximately \$100 million. This cost represents the total cumulative cost over the 40-year period and includes construction, operation costs of the new ECF as well as the cost associated with shutting down the existing ECF. Refer to Section 3.7 for a comparison of the total cumulative costs among alternatives.

As is the case with the ECF at INEL, construction and operation of the Nevada ECF would not require the use or consumption of scarce resources.

5.7 RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SHORT-TERM USE OF THE

ENVIRONMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY

Implementation of any of the alternatives for the Navy will commit and utilize environmental resources shortly after the implementation date. In general, up to 100 acres of land could be committed to support naval spent nuclear fuel management activities. It should be noted however that the land at the Naval Reactors Facility at the Idaho National Laboratory is already committed to this purpose and implementation of the Preferred Alternative would not require the commitment of any additional land. The spent nuclear fuel management activities are expected to require up to 2.5 million gallons of water per year and 100 megawatt-hours of electrical energy per year depending on the alternative selected. Throughout this Appendix, the normal operations associated with naval spent nuclear fuel management will result in some radioactive releases and releases of some toxic chemicals and other pollutants. However, due to the types of operations involved and the stringent controls that would be implemented, the impacts are expected to be minimal.

these releases would be extremely small and would not affect long-term productivity. Commitment of these resources is necessary to support long-term safe handling examination of naval spent nuclear fuel.

5.8 POTENTIAL MITIGATION MEASURES

As stated earlier, all of the environmental impacts associated with implement the alternatives would be small. However, measures will be taken to reduce these s lowest possible levels. Consistent with existing Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program historical practices, actions would be taken to prevent pollution, and to mitigate spent nuclear fuel management facility construction, operations and potential accid measures are summarized below; additional discussion is provided in Attachment F.

5.8.1 Pollution Prevention

Extensive environmental control programs and procedures are in place at all n order to minimize any environmental and public safety and health impacts that might radiological and non-radiological operations. A summary of some of these controls following sections.

5.8.1.1 Radiological Pollution Prevention Actions. The policy of the U.S. Navy is to reduce to

the minimum practicable the amounts of radioactivity released to the environment. implemented at shipyards and prototype sites through procedures that are consistent recommendations of the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements an standards issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, International Commiss Radiation Protection, International Atomic Energy Agency, National Academy of Scien Research Council, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and U.S. Department of Energy

The principal source of radioactivity in liquid effluents is trace amounts of products from reactor plant metal surfaces in contact with reactor cooling water. radioactive fission products are normally not a consideration for waste disposal be products remain within spent nuclear fuel elements, which are not handled as waste. liquids that are generated at shipyard and prototype sites are collected in contain remove most of the radioactivity, and reused rather than intentionally discharged t

Radiological work facilities are designed to ensure that there are no appreci radioactivity in airborne exhausts. Radiological controls are exercised in radiolo to preclude exposure of workers to airborne radioactivity exceeding limits specifie of Federal Regulations, Chapter 20. These controls include performing work involvi materials inside plastic bags or glove boxes which are completely sealed off from t Air exhausted from radiological work facilities is passed through high efficiency p which remove more than 99.9 percent of all particles from air, and is monitored dur verify the effectiveness of the control measures.

Sources of radiation are controlled at shipyards and prototypes. Radiologica are designed to minimize radiation exposure to personnel who perform work in the fa ensure that exposure to personnel outside the facility is negligible. Ambient radi with sensitive devices outside the boundaries of areas where radiological work is p to confirm that radiological operations result in no measurable increase in exposur public.

Shipyards and prototypes are not permitted to dispose of radioactive waste on solid radioactive wastes are packaged in strong, tight containers, shielded as nece burial sites that are either licensed by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission or agreement with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission or are authorized for radioac disposal by the U.S. Department of Energy. The volume of waste that is generated a minimized through use of work procedures that limit the amount of material that bec ed during work on radioactive systems and reactor components. Workers periodically specifically intended to help them minimize the production of radioactive waste.

Personnel who work with radioactive materials receive specific training regar hazards associated with radioactive materials, the general and specific radiologica she might encounter, and his or her responsibility to the Navy and the public for s radioactive materials. More details regarding the scope of this training are provi Propulsion Program Reports NT-94-2 and NT-94-3 (NNPP 1994b and NNPP 1994c).

5.8.1.2 Non-radiological Pollution Prevention Actions. Naval shipyards and prototype sites

follow applicable federal, state, and local requirements for the prevention of rele cal pollutants to the environment. Procedures are in place at each location that e at the shipyard or prototype comply with environmental requirements and that the op have an adverse effect on the workers, the public, and the environment.

Shipyards and prototype sites are subject to regulation under the Clean Air A follow Environmental Protection Agency, state, and local regulations regarding air prevention. Permits are secured as required for operation of facilities which migh toxic, or hazardous air pollutants. Equipment is designed and operated in order to National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants and National Ambient Air Q Standards for the region. Procedures are also in place at shipyard and prototype s the facilities comply with federal, state, and local requirements regarding asbesto burning, vehicle emissions, and use of ozone depleting substances. When appropriat are treated in order to achieve compliance with requirements and to ensure that the degrade ambient air quality.

Shipyard and prototype sites also must comply with the requirements of the Cl The Navy policy is to reduce or eliminate the need for wastewater treatment by mini eliminating pollutants at the source. Permits are secured as required for all poin navigable waters and corrective measures are taken to comply with the terms of thes cases where Publicly Owned Treatment Works are used for industrial wastewater disch measures are taken by the site to ensure that the discharges are in accordance with local requirements.

Each site has an active program for evaluating equipment and chemicals propos purchase to minimize or eliminate environmental, safety, and health hazards. These help to minimize the amount of hazardous waste that is generated by ensuring that t quantities of hazardous materials procured are kept to a minimum. Each site has an investigate the replacement of toxic or hazardous materials with other materials an substitutions are made in order to avoid the use of chemicals that would result in hazardous waste. The procurement program includes approval by appropriate safety a organizations at the site. Hazardous wastes and other toxic substances, such as po biphenyls, are handled and disposed of in accordance with applicable Environmental Agency, state, and local requirements. Personnel who handle hazardous materials, h and other potentially hazardous substances receive training regarding the specific materials that they are expected to handle and the methods for safely handling thos training is conducted in accordance with applicable requirements such as those mand Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the Department of Transportation, an mental Protection Agency. Non-hazardous solid wastes are handled and disposed of i with applicable federal, state, and local requirements. When practicable and econo materials are recycled or recovered.

Naval designs also consider the effects of the life-cycle of components, incl disposal. For example, stainless steel fittings are frequently used in equipment i bronze fittings, which contain lead, and which can allow lead to leach out of the m Similarly, solvents chosen for naval work in recent years have been selected to avo substances and complex organic chemicals.

Contingency plans exist at shipyard and prototype sites to respond to all acc and hazardous substance (radiological and non-radiological) releases. These plans developed in accordance with the applicable federal, state, and local requirements ensure that workers, the public, and the environment would be protected in the even release.

5.8.1.3 Prevention of Mixed Wastes. Mixing of radioactive and chemically hazardous materials

is avoided; compounding the intrinsic hazards of radioactivity with the chemical ha materials creates a complex regulatory and occupational safety and health situation execution of the work. For example, hazardous materials which could give rise to h listed under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (such as acetone) are precl radiological work. Other materials such as alcohol are used instead. The success in avoiding the creation of mixed radioactive and hazardous waste is reflected by t 1993, Program sites, naval shipyards, and Program DOE laboratories and prototypes p than 30 m3 of mixed waste and hold a current inventory of less than 100 m3.

5.8.2 Construction

In the event that implementation of an alternative requires construction of a location will be selected to avoid impacts on the cultural, archaeological, aesthetic resources of the area and to ensure that the rights and interests of Native American Hawaiian groups are not infringed. Ecologically sensitive areas such as those in threatened or endangered species, and sites listed in the National Register of Historic Places be avoided.

If upon implementation of an alternative, it is determined that construction of a nuclear fuel management facility would appreciably impact some resources, then actions to avoid those impacts would be taken. These actions could include, but would not be necessary items such as: archaeological data collection prior to construction, education of cultural resources and unauthorized artifact collection, involvement of Native American Hawaiians in the selection of a mitigation strategy, and memorandums of agreement between and concerned parties. Preconstruction surveys would be conducted to identify any plan that could be affected. As needed, mitigation measures and recovery plans would be developed by agencies such as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services and the Corps of Engineers would be developed. The potential for soil erosion could be reduced through methods such as control of runoff, including sediment catch basins. Fugitive dust emissions would be minimized by wetting exposed soils. Traffic concerns could be controlled by widening of roads and proper management. Workers in the construction environment would be protected by the use of hard hats and ear plugs and other safety equipment as needed.

5.8.3 Normal Operations

As has been the policy of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program, normal work at any naval spent nuclear fuel management facility would be designed to minimize releases and therefore mitigate the impacts on the environment. Releases as a result of normal operations would be minimized through a variety of measures, including: closely controlling the generation of contaminated waste, using total containment devices for certain work that could result in release, filtering the ventilation exhaust from radiological facilities, and recycling used in contaminated systems. All radiological workers at naval facilities are trained in mitigation principles and in other methods of minimizing radiation exposure. Mitigation measures such as the use of toxic or hazardous materials make use of administrative controls, training, and equipment to provide personnel protection and emergency response. For personnel protection, controls involve safety review committees for planned activities that establish required permits and procedures, and the use of required clothing such as rubber boots, gloves, and eye protection that mitigate the effects associated with use of toxic or hazardous materials. Procedures may also require provisions for positioning mitigative devices such as emergency showers before work is allowed to commence. All of the facilities would employ emergency response programs to mitigate impacts of potential toxic chemicals to workers and the public.

5.8.4 Accidents

Although a serious accident involving naval spent nuclear fuel is highly unlikely, plans are in place at all nuclear naval facilities to mitigate the impacts of a facility accident. These plans include activation of emergency control organizations through the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program to provide on-scene response as well as support for the response team. Realistic training exercises are conducted periodically to ensure that organizations maintain a high level of readiness, and to ensure that coordination with local authorities and other federal and state agencies are effective. Facilities are designed to resist corrosion and damage due to accident conditions; this rugged construction also has an important mitigative effect on the impacts of an accident involving naval fuel.

Emergency response measures include provisions for immediate response to any accident at any naval site, identification of the accident conditions, and communications with the public. Providing radiological data and recommendations for any appropriate protective actions following an accident involving radioactive or toxic materials, workers in the vicinity of the accident would promptly evacuate the immediate area. This evacuation can typically be accomplished within a short period of time.

of the accident and would reduce the hazard to workers.

For members of the general public residing at the site boundary and beyond, a taken to prevent the public from exceeding certain limits on exposure to radiation needed. Individuals that reside or work on site, or those that may be traversing t would be evacuated from the affected area within 2 hours. Security personnel and a officials at all locations would oversee the removal of residents, workers, and tra efficient manner. Periodic training and evaluation of the emergency response perso to ensure that correct actions are taken during an actual casualty. Therefore, exp workers, and travelers to any hazard, including the potential for ingestion and inh nation, would be limited, as much as possible. Upon stabilization of the situation remediation actions would be implemented as soon as practicable.

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