

PR-061
84FR35037

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PUBLIC SUBMISSION

As of: 11/20/19 8:59 AM Received: November 19, 2019 Status: Pending_Post Tracking No. 1k3-9den-am0e Comments Due: November 19, 2019 Submission Type: Web

Docket: NRC-2017-0081
Greater-than-Class-C and Transuranic Waste

Comment On: NRC-2017-0081-0027
Greater-than-Class-C and Transuranic Waste; Extension of Comment Period

Document: NRC-2017-0081-DRAFT-0053
Comment on FR Doc # 2019-19645

Submitter Information

Name: Ty Howard

Submitter's Representative: Utah Division of Waste Management and Radiation Control

Organization: Utah Dept. of Environmental Quality

Government Agency Type: State

General Comment

Utah DWMRC Comment -- Draft Regulatory Basis -- GTCC-TRU Waste Disposal

Attachments

UT DWMRC Comments NRC Draft Reg Basis GTCC-TRU Waste Disposal 2019-11-19
DRC-2019-014842



State of Utah

GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

SPENCER J. COX
Lieutenant Governor

Department of
Environmental Quality

L. Scott Baird
Interim Executive Director

DIVISION OF WASTE MANAGEMENT
AND RADIATION CONTROL
Ty L. Howard
Director

November 19, 2019

Secretary

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Washington, DC 20555-0001,

ATTN: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff

Docket ID No.: NRC-2017-0081

RE: Comments on the Draft Regulatory Basis for the Disposal of Greater-than-Class C (GTCC) and Transuranic Waste (RIN number: 3150-AK00)

Dear Secretary:

On behalf of the Utah Division of Waste Management and Radiation Control, I appreciate the opportunity to provide comments on the subject document. I also express appreciation for the staff who have worked on this matter and the manner in which the scope and content of the Draft Regulatory Basis reflect the importance of the technical and regulatory issues associated with Greater-Than-Class C (GTCC) and transuranic (TRU) low-level radioactive waste management.

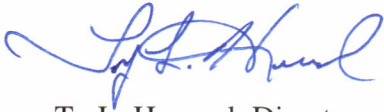
Since Utah is a member of the Low-Level Waste Forum, I offer my support for the comments submitted by the Forum's Part 61 Working Group under a separate letter. Additionally, as an Agreement State for the low-level waste program and as a host state for a commercial low-level radioactive waste disposal facility, it is important to inform the NRC of an existing Utah law regarding the disposal of GTCC within Utah. Specifically, Part 3 of the Utah Radiation Control Act has the following provision that explicitly addresses the management of high-level radioactive waste and GTCC radioactive waste in Utah:

The placement, including transfer, storage, decay in storage, treatment, or disposal, within the exterior boundaries of Utah of high-level nuclear waste or greater than class C radioactive waste is prohibited. (§19-3-301(1), Utah Code Ann.)

I would add that this statutory prohibition would logically extend to any low-level radioactive waste containing transuranic isotopes in concentrations that exceed the Class C limit of Table 1 of 10 CFR 61.55.

Again, I appreciate the opportunity to provide comments on the Draft Regulatory Basis for the Disposal of GTCC and TRU Waste. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please feel free to contact me at (801) 536-0203 or tyhoward@utah.gov or Rusty Lundberg of our staff at (801) 536-4257 or rlundberg@utah.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ty L. Howard", is written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

Ty L. Howard, Director
Division of Waste Management and Radiation Control

TLH/RL

c: Joe Klinger, Interim Executive Director, LLW Forum