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DOE TO HOLD MEETING ON GUNNISON ALTERNATE SITE STUDY

The U.S. Department of Energy, in cooperation with the State of Colorado, will hold a public meeting in Gunnison, Colorado, on July 2, 1985. The meeting will begin at 7 pm in the Gunnison County Commission Chambers room. All interested citizens are encouraged to attend.

The purpose of the meeting is to give details about four sites which have been identified as potential alternate disposal sites for the inactive uranium mill tailings pile located near the Gunnison airport. The DOE and the State of Colorado will soon select two or three of the alternate sites to be included in an Environmental Assessment currently being prepared for the clean up of the uranium mill tailings.

The four sites under consideration are the New East Gold Basin site, the Chance Gulch site, the Midway site (located between New East Gold Basin and Chance Gulch), and the Section 22 site. Stabilization in place is being considered as the alternative to moving the pile. Representatives of the DOE have staked the approximate areas at each of these sites where the tailings would be placed for final disposal. The public is invited to inspect the sites and the staked areas at each of the alternate disposal sites prior to the July 2 meeting.

If anyone needs directions to the sites, they may call Michael Rock, Gunnison County Administrator, at 641-0248, or Frank Bosiljevac, DOE site engineer, at (505) 844-3941.

No decision has been made by the DOE or State of Colorado as to the disposal site for the approximately 540,000 tons of uranium mill tailings. That decision will come only after public input is received.

Cleanup of the Gunnison mill tailings is being managed by the DOE's Albuquerque Operations Office in Albuquerque, New Mexico, through their Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action (UMTRA) Project Office. Gunnison is one of 24 sites nationwide to be cleaned up under the UMTRA Project.

-DOE-

For further information, contact: Ben E. McCarty (505) 844-6938
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