

Rocky Mountain Arsenal's Explanation of Significant Differences for Off-Site Waste Disposal and Cost Increases for On-Site Disposal Facility Projects

The U.S. Army recently completed the Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) for the Off-Site Waste Disposal and Cost Increases for On-Site Disposal Facility Projects at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal (RMA). The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires public notification for any modification to the On-Post Record of Decision (ROD), which provides detailed descriptions of the cleanup approach selected for the site. The On-Post ROD was signed by the Army, State of Colorado, and EPA on June 11, 1996, and is supported by Shell Oil Co. and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

This ESD summarizes significant changes involving transporting remediation waste to an off-site, EPA-approved disposal facility because the RMA's landfills have accepted all ROD-identified waste and are now full and closed. Waste generated during the remainder of the cleanup program is expected to be minimal, will be evaluated to determine the appropriate approved off-site disposal facility and will be managed and disposed of in accordance with all applicable federal, state and local requirements. The ESD also summarizes cost increases for the RMA's two on-site landfills. Cost increases were due to inflation and constructing the facilities with larger capacities, which resulted in higher construction and operations costs; constructing support facilities; and additional design requirements not accounted for in the ROD. The RMA's overall cleanup program remains on budget even with these increases due to cost savings on other cleanup projects.

These changes do not alter the overall hazardous waste management remedy selected in the ROD and are supported by the federal, state and local regulatory agencies.

This ESD, the Administrative Record, the RODs and Post-ROD documents supporting the cleanup are available at the RMA Joint Administrative Record and Document Facility, 5650 Havana St., Building 129, Commerce City, CO 80022, 303-289-0983, open M – F 12 – 4 p.m. or by appointment at 303-289-0983, and at the EPA Superfund Records Center, 1595 Wynkoop, Denver, CO 80202, 303-312-7287, open M – F 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Comments on this ESD are requested by July 14, 2008. Written questions/concerns should be directed to: Ms. Peggy Machamer, RVPRO, RMA, 5650 Havana St., Building 129, Commerce City, CO 80022; 303-289-0300; Fax: 303-289-0582; E-mail: pao@rma.army.mil.