

From: Malliakos, Asimios
Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2012 3:31 PM
To: NMLADY2000@Hotmail.com
Subject: Answers to your questions still outstanding from the February 2, 2012, public meeting on the draft Environmental Impact Statement for the International Isotopes proposed plant

Dear Rose Gardner,

At the public meeting held on February 2, 2012, in the Lea County Event Center, Hobbs, New Mexico for the draft Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed International Isotopes Fluorine Extraction Process and Depleted Uranium Deconversion plant you asked some questions. Some of your questions were not answered. Below please find your questions still outstanding and the corresponding answers.

Question: Are there any underground pipes carrying dangerous materials within the proposed site or within the proposed International Isotopes plant?

Answer: The International Isotopes [Environmental Report \(ER\)](#) and [License Application \(LA\)](#) do not mention any underground piping carrying any licensed material. Specifically the LA states that International Isotopes Fluoride Process Inc. (IIFP) facility will not have underground piping for transporting process waters (Section 1.1.1). The LA indicates a number of underground pipes will be built for transporting water including fire mains, sanitary sewer, and well water. In addition, the 640 acre IIFP property has a number of existing external oil and gas pipelines, which are not part of the IIFP operations. The 40 acres which will contain the IIFP buildings have been situated to avoid these external pipelines. The IIFP facility will also have some underground piping to transfer industrial gases (e.g., natural gas).

Question: Are there any groundwater wells in the area of the IIFP proposed site that provide water to the Lea County citizens?

Answer: There are no wells within the proposed site to provide water to the Lea County citizens, other than those used for IIFP operations. Within a mile of the site there is one domestic well and 6 industrial wells for Abbott Bros. These wells are not on the IIFP site.

Question: How would the depleted uranium be transported to the site and how would the oxide wastes after the processing be transported from the site?

Answer: The proposed International Isotopes facility would receive the depleted uranium hexafluoride in 14-ton cylinders by truck (ER Section 2.1.3.2). The depleted uranium oxides and all other low level waste materials generated at the facility would be transported by truck in metal containers, such as 242-(dry) liter (55 gallon) drums or 2,973-(dry) liter (105 cubic foot) boxes, that meet disposal facility's waste acceptance criteria, to a licensed facility in accordance with NRC and Department of Transportation packaging and shipping regulations. The applicant estimates there will be an average

of 550 shipments per year of radiological related materials (i.e., depleted uranium) to and from the site, (ER Section. 4.2.4.3).

Please let me know if you have any comments/questions.

Sincerely,

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