
Department of Energy
Finding of No Significant Impact
Concerning
the
Inactive Uraniferous Lignite Ashing Sites at
Belfield and Bowman, North Dakota

U. S. Department of Energy
Albuquerque, New Mexico

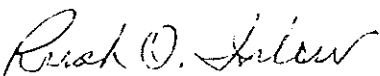
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT: The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) proposes not to perform any remedial action at the Belfield and Bowman sites. This proposed action and a remedial action alternative are assessed in the *Environmental Assessment of No Remedial Action at the Inactive Uraniferous Lignite Ashing Sites at Belfield and Bowman, North Dakota (EA-1206)*. This Environmental Assessment (EA) analyzes the impacts to human health, surface water, ground water, mineral resources, flora and fauna, land use, cultural resources, socioeconomics, environmental justice, noise, and to transportation.

BACKGROUND: At the state of North Dakota's request, DOE is proposing to revoke the designation of the Belfield and Bowman sites as designated processing sites under the Uranium Mill Tailings Remediation Control Act of 1978. Upon revocation, contamination on the sites would be classified as source material by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) subject to regulation by the state of North Dakota under their agreement with the NRC.

FINDING: Based on the EA that analyzes the consequences of the relevant issues of environmental concern, DOE finds that there would be no significant impact from the proposed action to not remediate contamination or from the remedial action alternative. DOE makes this Finding of No Significant Impact pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), 42 USC § 4321, et seq.; the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA, 40 CFR 1500; and the DOE National Environmental Policy Act Implementing Procedures, 10 CFR 1021. The proposed action does not constitute a major federal action that would significantly affect the human environment within the mandate of NEPA. Therefore, no environmental impact statement is required for this proposal.

Signed in Albuquerque, New Mexico, this 19th day of June, 1997.


for Bruce G. Twining, Manager

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information concerning this proposal, or to obtain copies of the Environmental Assessment, please contact:

U.S. Department of Energy
Environmental Restoration Division
P.O. Box 5400
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87185-5400
Telephone number: (505) 845-4887

Copies of the Environmental Assessment and the Finding of No Significant Impact will be made available at the following locations:

National Technical Information Service
Department of Commerce
5285 Port Royal Road
Springfield, VA 22161
(703) 487-4650

Public Reading Rooms in the vicinity of the sites.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE NEPA PROCESS, CONTACT:

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