

**Executive Summary**  
**Citizens Criteria Repository Siting Process Memorandum**  
**Upper Basin Repository Site Ranking Process**  
**March 12, 2010**

Cleanup activity at the Bunker Hill Superfund Site results in the need to safely store the metals-contaminated soil and other waste materials. Even though cleanup activities have been underway for nearly a decade in the area from Elizabeth Park to Mullan, over one million cubic yards of contaminated material identified for excavation and disposal still remain in this area. The current repository at Big Creek is nearly full. More repository space is needed to continue the cleanup to provide Silver Valley residents with a safe place to work, live and recreate.

DEQ and EPA recognize that repositories should be sited in locations that meet the needs of the local residents as well as the needs of the overall cleanup. In an effort to incorporate citizens' input into the repository siting process early on, DEQ and EPA held two workshops in Wallace in Spring 2009. Citizens were asked to identify the important factors we should consider when siting the next repository.

Well over fifty written and oral comments were received during the workshops. DEQ and EPA reviewed the comments and grouped them by issue. Nine citizen criteria were developed from these comments. The nine criteria to consider in siting a new repository are:

- Impacts to wetlands
- Impacts to surface water, fish and wildlife
- Impacts to the floodplain
- Location relative to mapped faults and landslides
- Impacts to people living and working near the repository
- Truck traffic
- Minimize trucking costs
- Preservation of development potential
- Size (large size better than small size)

After developing the criteria, the next step was to assign relative weighting to each. This way the most important criterion had a greater influence on the final ranking than the least important criterion. This step was carried out by asking Silver Valley elected officials and their representatives, the Tribes, and public agency representatives to rate the relative importance of each criterion. The criteria weighting process resulted in this order of importance:

<u>Criteria</u>	<u>Relative Importance</u>
1. Impacts to people living and working near the repository	100 (most important)
2. Preservation of development potential	84
3. Size (large size better than small size)	75
4. Impacts to the floodplain	69
5. Impacts to surface water, fish and wildlife	65
6. Minimize trucking costs	63
7. Truck traffic	55
8. Impacts to wetlands	52
9. Location relative to mapped faults and landslides	42 (least important)

Scores for each of the nine weighted criteria were compiled for the eight sites being considered. The site with the highest score was the site judged most suitable for development using the citizen criteria. Lower-scored sites were thus less suitable for use as a repository. The ranking of the eight sites, in order from most to least suitable using the citizen criteria, is:

<u>Site</u>	<u>Score</u>
1. Osburn Tailings Impoundment	82.6 (most suitable)
2. Star Tailings Impoundment	63.4
3. Field near Cole and Larson Roads east of Mullan	61.5
4. Burns – Yaak	53.4
5. Willow Creek east of Mullan	46.7
<u>Site</u>	<u>Score</u>
6. Former Smelterville Gun Range	44.2

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|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 7. Government Gulch               | 42.7                  |
| 8. Former RV Park in Smeltonville | 41.6 (least suitable) |

Details of the citizen criteria ranking are described in the Citizens Criteria Repository Siting Process Memorandum. We appreciate all the citizen input in the process. Your participation helps guide DEQ and EPA in selecting the next repositories for the Upper Basin.