



U.S. ARMY CHEMICAL
MATERIALS AGENCY

FACT SHEET

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Deseret Chemical Depot

Stack Emissions



For more information,
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Monitoring stack air emissions at chemical weapons disposal facilities is an important part of protecting the community, workers and environment. The Army is committed to safely disposing of and eliminating chemical weapons at stockpile sites across the United States. During the disposal process, the Army complies with federal and state regulations and will do so throughout the life of the Chemical Stockpile Elimination Project.

A number of federal environmental regulations impact air emissions at the chemical weapons disposal facilities. These include the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act and the Toxic Substances Control Act, as well as associated state regulations. The Army has designed and constructed its facilities to meet or exceed the standards in these regulations. In fact, the Army's process destroys 99.9999 percent or more of the agent before the incinerator exhaust exits the stack.

The Army has carefully designed its chemical weapons disposal facilities to protect human health and the environment. Prior to being discharged to the environment, process exhaust gases are cooled

and cleaned through the pollution abatement system. Automatic air monitoring systems provide continual monitoring in the pollution abatement system exhaust stack. The monitoring systems are capable of detecting agent concentrations at very low levels, well below the levels at which human health effects would be possible and conservatively within all federal and state safety requirements. To ensure the accuracy of these stack monitors, they are calibrated and tested every four hours.

Army disposal systems are typically more effective than municipal incinerators in reducing emissions of dioxins and furans. In fact, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, cigarette smoke and diesel truck exhaust contain far greater concentrations of chlorinated dioxins than the emissions from the Johnston Island disposal facility (that safely completed disposal operations in November 2000) and the emissions from the currently operating disposal facility in Tooele, Utah.