

MOAB TAILINGS PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE

Quarterly Meeting

Anchor Location: Grand County Commission Chambers 125 E Center St, Moab, UT 84532

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PqMG7PDz1Ac>

MTPSC MINUTES

Tuesday, April 22, 2025 at 3:00PM (MST)

A. CALL TO ORDER

The April 22, 2025 quarterly meeting of the Moab Tailings Project Steering Committee was called to order at 3:02pm. The following committee members were in attendance:

Joette Langianese (Grand County Resident Representative), Ben Fredregill (Grand County Economic Development), Bill Jackson (Grand Co. Roads Department), Colin Topper (City of Moab Representative), Tony Mancuso (Department of Natural Resources), Joel Brown (Representative from the Utah Senate District 26 State Senator's Office), and Dave Pals (BLM).

The following non-committee members were in attendance:

Matt Udovitsch (DOE), Barbara Michel (DOE), Thomas Bachtell (Pro2Serve, Technical Assistance Contract), Christopher Pulkamp (DOE), Carla Johnson (Pro2Serve, Technical Assistance Contract), Kenny Shafer (DOE), Steven Volwes (Grand County Clerk/Auditor), Jessica Thacker (Grand County UMTRA Liaison/Technical Inspector), Lee Shenton (Citizen), Tim Parker (Citizen), and Siobhan Kitchen (Citizen).

Per Resolution 3198 at least seven committee members were present to constitute a quorum.

B. INTRODUCTIONS

C. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 28, 2025 MINUTES

Minutes from the January 28, 2025 meeting were not reviewed due to an incorrect date listed on the meeting agenda. They will be presented for approval at the July 22, 2025 meeting.

D. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Public citizens Lee Shenton, Tim Parker, and Siobhan Kitchen were present. No formal public comments were submitted.

E. MOAB UMTRA PROJECT UPDATE

Matthew Udovitsch reported that the Department of Energy (DOE) had entered Phase 2 of its Integrated Project Team (IPT) planning with the Office of Legacy Management (LM) in preparation for eventual site closure. This phase focuses on developing technical workgroups to ensure that the handoff of responsibilities is seamless and efficient. The goal is to maintain continuity and regulatory compliance as the project transitions to LM oversight, ensuring that data systems, procedures, and environmental responsibilities are preserved without disruption.

As of April 2025, a total of ~15.5 million tons of tailings have been shipped from the Moab site to the Crescent Junction disposal facility. The site remains six shipments ahead of schedule for the fiscal year, marking one of its most productive periods to date. While the primary tailings pile may be fully removed by the end of 2025, an estimated one million tons of additional contaminated material, including off-pile and sub-pile sources, remains to be addressed. Full remediation of these remaining materials is anticipated by mid-2027, adhering to EPA 192 standards or approved supplemental standards, depending on site-specific conditions.

Matt Udovitsch also reported on project funding, noting that the site is currently operating under a full-year

continuing resolution (CR) budget of \$67 million, which is adequate to sustain current operations. Joette Langianese added that she had recently met with Utah's congressional delegation in Washington, D.C., where she advocated for maintaining this level of funding through the project's conclusion. She expressed optimism about continued support but acknowledged that Congress will expect the project team to identify when such a high funding level is no longer necessary. DOE also met with two recently appointed federal officials and plans to return to Washington in June to continue building awareness among political leadership, many of whom are unfamiliar with the scope and history of the Moab UMTRA Project.

Chris Pulskamp provided an update on the proposed transition from a traditional rock-armored cap to an evapotranspiration (ET) cover at the Crescent Junction disposal cell. He stated that the DOE had submitted the complete design along with a redline-strikeout version of the updated Remedial Action Plan (RAP) to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). While formal concurrence from the NRC is still pending, DOE anticipates approval within the current fiscal year, following final review of a supplemental NEPA analysis. If granted, this would allow DOE to begin construction of the ET cover as early as 2026, ahead of the previously projected 2027 start date. Full construction is expected to conclude in 2029, coinciding with site closure.

The update also covered the ongoing development of the Groundwater Compliance Action Plan (GCAP), which outlines the long-term remediation strategy for groundwater at the site. Matt Udovitsch explained that the current focus is on completing a three-phase modeling effort involving refinement of the conceptual site model, calibration of flow modeling, and fate-and-transport analysis. The modeling is expected to be complete by early 2026, which will allow DOE to finalize a robust and defensible GCAP. Udovitsch noted that DOE is currently ahead of schedule on this front and is exploring ways to further accelerate progress in collaboration with regulatory partners.

Kenny Schafer provided an overview of the Final Status Survey (FSS), which verifies that soils at the site meet cleanup criteria. He reported that approximately 3,000 of the 14,000 planned survey units have been completed to date, primarily in areas already believed to be clean. Surveyors will soon begin testing within previously contaminated areas using gamma scanning and soil sampling, supplemented by historic borehole data from the early 2000s to assess contamination depths. Independent verification will be conducted by the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE), which will develop its own sampling plan to validate DOE findings.

Lastly, Barbara Michel provided an update on recent and upcoming community engagement efforts. She highlighted the Moab Museum's opening of its U92 uranium exhibit, which DOE participated in, and noted that a second phase of the exhibit is expected to open in July 2025. She is coordinating a rescheduled tour of the Los Colonias Park site in Grand Junction for stakeholders and is also planning a site tour of the Crescent Junction disposal facility for members of the Steering Committee. She noted the importance of direct engagement with newly elected Representative Mike Kennedy. A tour is being explored for mid-May to give the congressman a firsthand understanding of the site's scale and progress.

F. AIR MONITORING AND LIAISON ACTIVITIES STATUS UPDATES

Jessica Thacker provided a detailed presentation regarding activities observed at the Project along with a summary of air monitoring data for both sites (Moab and Crescent Junction). The status update can be found on the Grand County Moab UMTRA website or by email at jthacker@grandcountyutah.gov

G. STAKEHOLDERS UPDATE

Ben Fredregill reported that the office name had been updated to the Moab Office of Tourism, with economic development responsibilities shifting to the Grand County Commission. Bill Jackson discussed the ongoing challenge of sourcing clean fill material, noting that storm-related debris may be stockpiled for potential use in site restoration if it meets regulatory standards. Tony Mancuso affirmed that work on permitting for monitoring below the high-water mark is ongoing. Joette Langianese shared that Senators Curtis and Lee had introduced legislation in Congress to transfer the Moab UMTRA site property to Grand County upon completion of the project. The bill includes language prohibiting the land's sale or lease to private or nonprofit entities, ensuring it remains under local public jurisdiction. She stated that the City is maintaining close coordination through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for future site planning and

development.

H. FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

I. ADJOURNMENT

Joette Langianese adjourned the meeting at 3:51PM.

Respectfully submitted to the Steering Committee,

Jessica Thacker

Jessica Thacker

UMTRA Liaison, Moab Tailings Project Steering Committee