

PROACTIVE WASTE MINIMIZATION INITIATIVES FOR ENERGETIC WASTE SITES

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ABSTRACT

For the past decade, the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) has been under increasing pressure from state and federal regulatory authorities to develop management strategies for waste streams generated at its bases, installations, and ranges. Since passage of the Federal Facilities Compliance Act (FFCA) in 1992, concerns have focused in particular on military munitions and energetic waste streams.

In response to the requirements of the FFCA, DoD has issued two proposed rules: the Munitions Rule defines when military munitions become hazardous wastes and the Range Rule governs how munitions will be handled on closed, transferred, and transferring ranges. While DoD policy makers struggle with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state regulatory authorities over the verbiage of the Rules, DoD military installations are proactively seeking innovative solutions to munitions and energetic waste management issues. This paper discusses the initiatives being pursued throughout DoD, and in particular at the Hill Air Force Range (HAFR), Utah, to respond to these regulatory concerns.