

## Air Quality Management Plan

**T**he Rocky Flats Plant Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) is a new document, put together by EG&G Rocky Flats, which contains provisions for continued protection of human health and the environment by comprehensively assessing the air quality around the Rocky Flats Plant (RFP). The plan also outlines how the plant keeps local communities and regulatory agencies informed about air quality issues.

### **Background**

The Rocky Flats Plant (RFP) is part of a nationwide U.S. Department of Energy complex for the research, development, and production of nuclear weapons. The plant is responsible for fabricating nuclear weapons components from plutonium, uranium, beryllium, and stainless steel. Primary production activities include metal fabrication and assembly, chemical recovery and purification of process-related transuranic radionuclides, and related quality control functions.

Because radioactive and chemically hazardous materials are handled at Rocky Flats, the plant maintains an extensive environmental protection program. The program, which cost about \$2.7 million to maintain in 1990, includes regular air monitoring for radioactive materials at locations on site,

at the plant boundary, and off site.

Rocky Flats air monitoring programs have been in existence since the early 1950s. The plant currently incorporates progressive air quality programs that protect plant employees, the general public, and the environment through appropriate engineering and administrative controls and subsequent monitoring and assessment of the impact to the air from both radiological and non-radiological sources.

Environmental operations at the plant are under the jurisdiction of a number of agencies, most notably the Department of Energy, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the Colorado Department of Health.

### **Plan Summary**

The plan is the result of a collaborative effort among three Rocky Flats departments—the Clean Air and Environmental Reporting Division, the Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Division, and the Health and Safety Department, Emergency Assessment Systems Branch. The plan was primarily written for the following purposes:

- To protect the health of plant employees and the general public and minimize environmental impacts.

- To ensure that Rocky Flats is in compliance with applicable local, state, and federal air quality regulations
- To ensure that plant commitments to regulatory agencies, environmental review committees, and other organizations are met
- To define resources assigned to successfully implement the plan
- To ensure that air quality activities have an applicable technical basis

The plan, a supplemental report for a Department of Energy Order, provides the framework for providing information to regulatory agencies and local municipalities about the status of RFP air quality programs. Specifically, the plan (1) outlines existing regulatory requirements to which the plant must adhere, (2) evaluates the plant's compliance with regulatory requirements, (3) defines existing air quality programs, and (4) describes how the air quality programs are implemented.

The plan has a broad scope that includes environmental controls, ambient air surveillance for radioactive and non-radioactive pollutants, air permitting, air quality reporting, chemical tracking, emergency response, meteorological monitoring, atmospheric dispersion modeling, quality assurance, and ongoing research.

## **Review and Comments**

The Air Quality Management Plan is open for public review and comment from July 8, 1991 to September 9, 1991. Written comments can be directed to

AQMP Plan Comments, Beth Brainard, Public Affairs Officer, U S Department of Energy, Rocky Flats Office, P O Box 928, Golden, Colorado 80402-0928

Copies of the plan are available for review at the following public reading rooms

U S Environmental Protection Agency  
Superfund Records Center  
999 18th Street, 5th floor  
Denver, Colorado 80202-2405  
303-293-1842

U S Department of Energy  
Public Reading Room  
Front Range Community College Library  
3645 West 112th Avenue  
Westminster, Colorado 80030  
303-469-4435

Colorado Department of Health  
4210 East 11th Avenue  
Room 351  
Denver, Colorado 80220  
303-331-6733

Rocky Flats Environmental Monitoring Council  
1536 Cole Boulevard  
Suite 150, Building 4  
Denver West Office Park  
Golden, Colorado 80401  
303-232-1966-by appointment only

Boulder Public Library  
1000 Canyon Boulevard  
Boulder, Colorado 80306  
303-441-3100

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For further information about air quality issues at Rocky Flats, contact

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