



Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Program Report to the Texas Radiation Advisory Board (TRAB) April 25, 2025, TRAB Meeting

The TCEQ's Radioactive Materials Division (RMD) licenses low-level radioactive waste disposal (including legacy buried waste sites), by-product material disposal, alternative methods of disposal of radioactive material, radioactive waste storage and processing, and in-situ uranium recovery operations. RMD maintains 15 licenses that authorize these activities.

Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal

RMD licenses Waste Control Specialists (WCS) in Andrews for the treatment, storage, processing, and disposal of low-level radioactive waste. Technical review of the WCS license renewal application and minor amendment application is ongoing.

Los Alamos National Laboratory Transuranic Waste

Movement of the remaining Los Alamos National Laboratory transuranic waste from storage in the Federal Waste Facility to Bin Storage Area 1 began on March 11, 2024. The waste drums will be prepared for shipment offsite to the U.S Department of Energy's Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) in New Mexico.

By-product Material Disposal

Operation of the by-product material disposal facility continues under WCS' current by-product license. By license condition, the by-product disposal operation is limited to receiving only the Fernald, Ohio by-product waste. TCEQ reviews WCS' environmental monitoring reports and related data.

TCEQ licenses three legacy conventional uranium milling sites whose tailings impoundment waste is classified as by-product material. These three sites will ultimately be transferred to the Department of Energy (DOE) for long-term care and maintenance.

- ConocoPhillips' Conquista project: a major amendment for the has been declared technically complete and is in the comment period.
- ExxonMobil Ray Point Uranium Mill Site: a draft Completion Review Report (CRR) for the has been submitted to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and is



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under review.

- Panna Maria facility: a draft CRR was reviewed by the NRC, and TCEQ will submit a response packet to the NRC the week of 4/14/25

Radioactive Waste Storage and Processing

TCEQ licenses Nuclear Sources & Services, Inc. (NSSI) and WCS for radioactive waste storage and processing. A renewal application for NSSI is under technical review.

Uranium Mining and Processing Operations

TCEQ licenses the following uranium mining and recovery operations:

- four sites for in-situ mining operations,
- two sites for processing operations, and
- three sites for both in-situ mining and processing operations.

Current licensing actions for licensed sites:

- The updated renewal and major amendment application for enCore's Alta Mesa Project was received on February 16, 2024, and is under technical review.
- An application for major amendment for enCore's Upper Spring Creek project was received on October 17, 2022, and has been declared technically complete and is in the comment period.
- A letter requesting termination of Rio Grande Resources Radioactive Material License R06063, Panna Maria Uranium Processing Site, was received on October 5, 2022, and the Final CRR was approved by NRC on March 17, 2025.

TCEQ permits several Class III underground injection well operations for in-situ uranium recovery operations, with multiple ongoing permitting action:

- Uranium Energy Corp's (UEC)
 - Burke Hollow Project UR03090 (active site - permit for new PAA1 issued on January 14, 2025 – production planned to begin October 2025)



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- Goliad Project UR03075 (active site - Class III Area Permit renewal in progress – no production yet)

- enCore
 - Rosita Project UR02880 (active site – Class III Area Permit renewal in progress – PAA5 currently producing, PAA3 in standby mode)

 - Alta Mesa Project UR03060 (active site – Class III Area Permit renewal under technical review – PAA7 Amendment pending issuance)