

company's 14,900-acre low-level radioactive waste storage site in Andrews County, Texas, in April 2016. The NRC said that it received multiple requests for a hearing on the license application in response to a *Federal Register* notice published on August 29, 2018.

## Low-level waste

The Department of Energy is considering disposing of its inventory of depleted uranium (DU) oxide at three alternative off-site low-level radioactive waste disposal facilities: the DOE-owned LLW facility at the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) in Nye County, Nev.; the EnergySolutions facility in Clive, Utah; and the Waste Control Specialists (WCS) site in Andrews, Texas. The waste could go to one, a combination of two, or all three of the considered disposal sites.

The DOE announced on December 28, 2018, the availability of the *Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for Disposition of Depleted Uranium Oxide Conversion Product Generated from DOE's Inventory of Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride* (Draft SEIS) (DOE/EIS-0359-S1; DOE/EIS-0360-S1). The Draft SEIS evaluates the potential environmental impacts associated with shipping DU oxide to the disposal sites from the



Workers inspect cylinders containing  $DUF_6$  at a conversion facility at the DOE's Paducah site. (Photo: DOE)

DOE's Paducah facility in Kentucky and the Portsmouth facility in Ohio.

After issuing environmental impact statements in 2004 for the Paducah and Portsmouth uranium enrichment sites, the DOE issued records of decision to build facilities at Paducah and Portsmouth to convert its inventory of DU hexafluoride ( $DUF_6$ ) resulting from enrichment operations to DU oxide. The DOE also decided that the DU oxide conversion product would be reused to the extent possible or packaged in empty  $DUF_6$  cylinders



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