

# NPL Site Narrative for W.R. Grace & Co., Inc./Wayne Interim Storage Site (USDOE)

## W.R. GRACE & CO., INC./WAYNE INTERIM STORAGE SITE (USDOE) Wayne Township, New Jersey

**Conditions at proposal (September 8, 1983):** Rare Earths, Inc., extracted thorium and rare earths from monazite ore on a 6.5-acre site in Wayne Township, Passaic County, New Jersey, from 1948 to 1957, when Davison Chemical, a division of W.R. Grace & Co. Inc., acquired the facility. Grace ceased processing monazite ore in 1971 and amended its license to cover only storage of radioactive materials.

Grace and its consultant decontaminated the site in 1974, and in 1975 the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission released the site for unrestricted use provided the land deed indicated that radioactive material was buried on the property. The wastes on-site consist of residues from processing monazite ore and from the decontamination.

An EPA aerial survey in May 1981 indicated elevated radiation levels at the plant site and an area to the west. As a result of extensive soil contamination, the overburden covering the waste disposal area on the site may be insufficient to prevent further movement of the contaminated soil by run-off.

**Status (September 21, 1984):** The U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE) is addressing the site under a \$2 million appropriation as part of its Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP).

**Status (March 13, 1989):** USDOE acquired the site on September 18, 1984 and renamed it "Wayne Interim Storage Site." On September 21, 1984, the site was placed on the final NPL under the name "W.R. Grace & Co., Inc. (Wayne Plant)."

The site is being re-classified as a Federal facility site and being renamed "W.R. Grace & Co., Inc./Wayne Interim Storage Site (USDOE)."

Under FUSRAP, USDOE has removed radioactively contaminated soil from a number of properties in the vicinity and contained it on-site in an interim storage facility awaiting a permanent disposal site. USDOE is conducting a monitoring program at the site.

For more information about the hazardous substances identified in this narrative summary, including general information regarding the effects of exposure to these substances on human health, please see the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) ToxFAQs. ATSDR ToxFAQs can be found on the Internet at [ATSDR - ToxFAQs](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/index.asp) (<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/index.asp>) or by telephone at 1-888-42-ATSDR or 1-888-422-8737.