

Abstract - Optimization of Facility Layout to Reduce Closure Costs

Engineering Analytics (EA) is a consultant to Energy Fuels for their Sheep Mountain Project. The Sheep Mountain project is located in central Wyoming at about 7,000 feet above mean sea level. Engineering Analytics (EA) is the design engineer of record for the heap-leach pad, mill foundation, and final closure cover for the uranium mill. EA completed geotechnical investigations for two proposed leach pad areas and assisted in assessing the suitability of each area. The preliminary heap-leach pad layout did not utilize the existing topography to reduce the amount of material required during construction of the pad or for final closure. EA improved the heap-leach layout pad proposed by others by reducing the amount of earth work needed for construction by 1.4 million cubic yards, and reducing the potential for windblown material by placing the heap-leach pad in a location shielded from high winds.

