

# Wayne Allard

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
May 13, 2004

CONTACT: Angela de Rocha at (202) 224-5944

## **SEN. ALLARD MEETS WITH UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE TO CONTINUE PRESS FOR PUEBLO DEPOT FUNDING**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-Colorado) continued his full-court press to get full funding for cleanup at the U.S. Army's Pueblo Chemical Weapons Depot at a meeting with Under Secretary of Defense Michael Wynne Thursday. Under Secretary Wynne is the senior Defense Department official in charge of the cleanup program.

“Today’s meeting allowed me to once again impress upon Under Secretary Wynne the importance of keeping the Pueblo project fully funded and on track,” Senator Allard said. “I was very pleased that during the meeting, Under Secretary Wynne stated that the Army is definitely going to stick with the current technology for the Pueblo cleanup, and get the job done.”

Last week Senator Allard was successful in getting funding authority restored for the chemical weapons cleanup at the Pueblo Depot when the Senate Armed Services Committee voted to restore \$147 million to keep the project on track in the FY2005 Defense Authorization Bill.

The Senator’s meeting with Under Secretary Wynne was also in preparation for full Senate debate on the legislation, scheduled to begin Monday.

“We scored a big victory with the Committee vote, but the fight is not over,” Senator Allard said. “When the Defense Authorization Bill gets to the Senate floor next week, I intend to be down there defending this funding request. The floor vote will be crucial to ensuring that the Pueblo Depot project continues to move forward on schedule.”

The Department of Defense’s (DOD) initial FY2005 budget request for the project, made in February, would have resulted in a shortfall in funding and, as a result, raised the risk that the cleanup would be delayed.

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