

# Wayne Allard

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## **SENATOR ALLARD SUPPORTS SECRETARY OF THE ARMY NOMINEE AFTER GETTING ASSURANCES ON PUEBLO DEPOT**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-Colorado) voted Tuesday for Dr. Francis Harvey to be Secretary of Army after the nominee committed to ensuring that the cleanup at the U.S. Army’s Pueblo Chemical Weapons Depot goes forward on schedule. The Senate approved his nomination by a vote of 85 to 12.

“One of the high-priority programs I discussed at length with Dr. Harvey is the Army’s commitment to and funding for our obligations to eliminate our chemical weapons stockpiles,” Senator Allard said in a floor speech Tuesday before the Senate vote.

“The Army is the executive agent to carry-out the chemical demilitarization and disposal program at various sites across the country. Unfortunately, the program is falling behind schedule and costing more money than originally planned,” Senator Allard Said..

“Dr. Harvey’s qualifications and experience are well-suited to address the problems associated with the chemical demilitarization program. In my personal conversations with the nominee, and again in public testimony, I received Dr. Harvey’s assurances and commitment that the Army leadership will pay close attention to and fix the problems with the technology and demilitarization programs at all of our chemical weapons facilities.

“I am convinced that Dr. Harvey is as dedicated as I am to seeing the United States fulfill our chemical weapons treaty obligations,” the Senator said.

“I believe Dr. Harvey is well qualified for the significant challenges facing him, and I look forward to working with him to keep our army the greatest the world has ever known,” Senator Allard said.”

Last summer Senator Allard was successful in getting the Senate to appropriate \$50 million for the Pueblo cleanup, and secured a commitment from (Senate Appropriations) Chairman Ted Stevens that the remaining funding will be provided through the Appropriations Committee as the project proceeds. 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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