

**H.R. 347, Responsible Disposal Reauthorization Act of 2019**

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on July 16, 2019

By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2019	2019-2024	2019-2029
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	0	0
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	0	*	not estimated
Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	No	<b>Mandate Effects</b>	
Increases on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2030?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No
* = between zero and \$500,000.			

H.R. 347 would amend the Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act of 1978 to extend, through September 30, 2031, the government’s authority to operate the Cheney disposal cell in Mesa County, Colorado. That facility, administered by the Department of Energy (DOE), serves as a repository for mill tailings—radioactive waste generated during the conversion of uranium into fuel for nuclear reactors. Under current law, DOE’s authority to accept additional materials at that site is scheduled to expire on September 30, 2023.

Using information from DOE, CBO estimates that the costs associated with receiving and disposing of additional materials at the Cheney facility average less than \$500,000 annually; such spending is subject to appropriation. Because DOE already is authorized to accept materials through fiscal year 2023, CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 347 would have no effect on the department’s costs until 2024. The cost of implementing the bill in 2024 would not be significant, CBO estimates.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Kathleen Gramp. The estimate was reviewed by Theresa A. Gullo, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.