

## Howard Shapiro

My comment concerns grouting vs vitrification: My experience as a ceramic artist has informed me that grouting has a limited life and eventually begins to decompose allowing the elements to re-enter the environment. Grouting could be used as a temporary fix but considering the very long half life of radioactive components it is obvious that a more permanent solution is required. Therefore, I urge you to vitrify the material into glass which will prevent leaks and further contamination in the long run. I am concerned with the out-gassing of toxic materials during the vitrification process so that is an issue to be considered. However, for long term safety and cost effectiveness, vitrification, I believe is the best and safest course of action.