

July 20, 2000

Mr. Mike Garner, Executive Director
Northwest Interstate Compact
P.O. Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

Dear Mr. Garner:

I am pleased to respond to your June 29, 2000 letter in which you requested our review and comment on a draft letter addressing a request from Dawn Mining Company. Specifically you requested that we address whether the draft response meets the guidance requirements of 60 FR 49296, Criterion 8.

Criterion 8 requires that the licensee get approval from both the sending and the receiving low-level radioactive waste (LLW) Compacts for the transfer of the LLW to be disposed of in the mill tailings impoundment. In the Dawn Mining case, the Northwest Compact is both the shipping and the receiving Compact. The draft letter states that under the Northwest Compact, no approval is required for transfer of this material given the relationship of the Dawn mine and mill sites. Given this statement, we conclude the draft letter would meet the intent of Criterion 8.

The response letter should be addressed to Dawn Mining Company since they will need to present the letter to the Washington Department of Health, Radiation Control Division, in support of their license amendment request.

If you have any questions or we may be of further assistance, please contact me at 301-415-3340 or Dennis Sollenberger at 301-415-2819.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Paul H. Lohaus, Director
Office of State and Tribal Programs

Mike Garner

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