



COGEMA
Mining, Inc.

July 26, 2000

LICENSE SUA-1341
DOCKET NO. 40-8502

Mr. Daniel Gillen, Chief
Uranium Recovery Section
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards
Mail Stop T7J9
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

SUBJECT: Use of wells which failed mechanical integrity testing.

Dear Mr. Gillen:

In a December 12, 1999 memo to Melanie Wong, Mr. Tom Hardgrove listed the projected licensing submittals for the year 2000. This list included an amendment request for the use of select wells which failed mechanical integrity testing (MIT) for restoration purposes. At the time, the use of MIT-failed wells was viewed as necessary to the ongoing restoration efforts. However, as time progressed it became evident that restoration was successfully progressing without the use of those wells. Therefore, COGEMA has now decided that it will not be necessary to file an amendment request for use of MIT-failed wells for restoration at the Irigaray Mine.

The MIT-failed wells at the Irigaray Mine that will not be repaired and are deemed "no longer useful" will be properly abandoned without future use. COGEMA Mining, Inc. currently is seeking a contractor capable of completing the plugging and abandonment work.

Please contact me at 464-1427 (ex. 17) if you have any questions regarding this report.

Sincerely,

John Vaselin
Radiation Safety Officer

cc: Division Director/NRC, Arlington, TX
Wayne Heili/COGEMA