

September 15, 2000

Ms. Donna Bergman-Tabbert
Grand Junction Office
U.S. Department of Energy
2597 B3/4 Road
Grand Junction, CO 81503

SUBJECT: CANONSBURG TITLE I SITE - COMMENTS REGARDING BANK
STABILIZATION PROJECT FOR EROSION CONTROL, AREA C,
CANONSBURG, PA

Dear Ms. Bergman-Tabbert:

In a June 3, 2000 letter, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) provided the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) with plans for the proposed bank stabilization project at the Canonsburg - Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act (UMTRCA) Title I Site. The NRC has reviewed the plans provided by your office regarding the stabilization of the bank of Chartiers Creek adjacent to Area C near the Canonsburg Site.

The NRC offers one comment regarding the erosion protection design along the banks of Chartiers Creek. The DOE plans call for bio-engineered banks with a riprapped toe placed on the west bank of Chartiers Creek. Biologically stabilized slopes are an acceptable alternative to rock; however, the vegetation must mature and thrive in order for this method to be effective. The NRC has no objections to the bio-engineered bank stabilization design but does ask that the erosion protection project be inspected during the DOE's annual site inspections to verify that the vegetation is thriving and that the banks are in good condition.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/ADAMS/index.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

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September 15,2000

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments regarding the bank stabilization project at the Canonsburg Site. Should you have any further questions regarding the above comment, please feel free to contact Jill Caverly, the NRC project manager, at 301-415-6699 or by e-mail to jsc1@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/ D. Gillen for

Philip Ting, Chief
Fuel Cycle Licensing Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

Docket No. WM-42
TAC NO. L51095

cc: J. Gilmore, DOE Grand Junction

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TAC NO. L51095 (CLOSED)

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BANK STABILIZATION AT CHARTIERS CREEK Assession No. ML003743623

OFC	FCLB		OGC		FCLB		FCLB	
NAME	JCaverly		STreby		DGillen		PTing	
DATE	9/14/00		N/A		9/15/00		9/15/00	

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