

COGEMA

Mining, Inc.

December 12, 2000

**LICENSE SUA-1341
DOCKET NO. 40-8502**

Mr. Phillip Ting, Chief
Fuel Cycle Licensing Branch, FCSS
c/o Document Control Desk
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

RE: Application for Permit Modification, UIC 97-401 Class I

Dear Mr. Ting:

COGEMA Mining, Inc. (COGEMA) is currently operating two Class I Non-Hazardous disposal wells under Permit UIC 97-401 (Christensen Ranch Disposal Wellfield) at our Christensen Ranch in-situ leach uranium mine in Johnson County, Wyoming. Recently, COGEMA has made the decision to suspend uranium production activities and to concentrate our efforts on groundwater restoration of the previously mined wellfields at Christensen. In order to increase the rate of groundwater restoration, additional wastewater disposal capacity will be necessary.

To support the increased restoration rate, COGEMA wishes to have the ability to add two disposal wells, for a total of four, to the current Christensen Ranch Disposal Wellfield, if necessary. In order to do this, the current UIC permit must be modified to expand the existing aquifer exemption to add the two new well locations at the Christensen Ranch Project.

License Section 10.7 of Source Material License SUA-1341, currently authorizes the disposal of wastewater streams into the following four wells at the Irigaray and Christensen Ranch Projects.

Christensen wells: COGEMA DW No. 1 and Christensen 18-3
Irigaray wells: DW-1 and DW-2

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Therefore, COGEMA is requesting an amendment of license Section 10.7 to include the two additional wells with the existing four wells. The amendment would authorize the following specified wells:

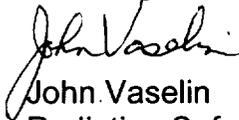
Christensen wells
COGEMA DW No. 1
COGEMA DW No. 2
COGEMA DW No. 3
Christensen 18-3

Irigaray wells
DW-1
DW-2

Two copies of the application to the DEQ for modification of Permit UIC 97-407 are enclosed for your review.

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

Sincerely,



John Vaselein
Radiation Safety Officer

Enclosures

cc: NRC Region Director, Arlington, TX
Donna Wichers - COGEMA