



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

MAY 29 1992

Docket No. 40-8778  
License No. SMB-1393

Molycorp, Inc.  
ATTN: Mr. George W. Dawes  
Environmental and  
Safety Engineer  
P.O. Box 500  
Washington, Pennsylvania 15301

Dear Mr. Dawes:

As you know, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission recently issued an Action Plan (copy enclosed) describing the approach the agency will use to accelerate the cleanup of sites listed in the Site Decommissioning Management Plan (SDMP). In a letter dated April 10, 1992, we informed you of the agency's intent to contact each licensee or responsible party listed in the SDMP to initiate site-specific steps to implement the Action Plan. The purpose of this letter is to notify Molycorp of NRC's intent to begin this process for your Washington, Pennsylvania facility.

The Action Plan communicates NRC's expectation that site cleanup generally be completed within about 4 years after licensed operations cease. Since operations ceased at your site some years ago, we believe the schedule outlined below to be reasonable. To achieve the decommissioning objective, we request that Molycorp commit to the following decommissioning milestones: (1) submittal of a Site Characterization Plan by September 1, 1992; (2) submittal of a Site Characterization Report by May 30, 1993; (3) submittal of a Site Decommissioning Plan by November 30, 1993; and (4) completion of decommissioning along with a final radiological survey by May 30, 1995, demonstrating that site cleanup has been performed consistent with the Site Decommissioning Plan. You should submit a license amendment request to incorporate these or reasonable alternative dates into Molycorp's license (SMB-1393). It is the NRC's intention that schedules be firm and enforceable to achieve the goals of the Action Plan.

Each step in site remediation must be accomplished in an orderly and effective manner to minimize the time and cost associated with site cleanup. Therefore, it is important that we stay in periodic contact throughout decommissioning to ensure that each milestone is met. We believe that meetings should be scheduled periodically to assess your progress in meeting these milestones.

DLT

Mr. George W. Dawes

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The NRC staff looks forward to meeting with representatives of MolyCorp in the near future to discuss your decommissioning schedule and plans for decommissioning the site. As indicated in the Action Plan, NRC seeks your voluntary cooperation in decommissioning this facility in an timely and effective manner.

We would appreciate your response within 30 days from the date of this letter. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Chad Glenn of my staff on (301) 504-2546.

Sincerely,

**ORIGINAL SIGNED BY**

John H. Austin, Chief  
Decommissioning and Regulatory  
Issues Branch  
Division of Low-Level Waste Management  
and Decommissioning  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Enclosure: As stated

cc:

E. Erickson, EPA RIII  
Administrator  
W. Dornsife, PA Bureau  
of Rad. Protection  
E. Farrell, PA Bureau  
of Waste Management  
J. Kinneman, NRC RI

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PDR YES ☒

PDR NO ☐

ACNW YES ☒

Category: Proprietary ☐ or CF Only ☐

NO ☐

SUBJECT ABSTRACT: DECOMMISSIONING

OFC: :LLDR *[Signature]* :LLDR *[Signature]* :LLDR *[Signature]* :CGlenn *[Signature]* :LLWM *[Signature]* :LLWM *[Signature]*  
NAME :CGlenn :MWeber :JAustin :RFonner :WBrach :RBangart  
DATE : 5/28/92 : 5/28/92 : 5/28/92 : 5/28/92 : 5/28/92 : 5/28/92