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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

September 18, 2000

Mr. George Dawes, Sr. Scientist
Molycorp, Inc.
300 Caldwell Avenue
Washington, PA 15301

SUBJECT: DISPOSAL OF ABOVE-GRADE LOW-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE FROM
THE MOLYCORP, WASHINGTON, PA, FACILITY

Dear Mr. Dawes:

I am responding to your letter of September 15, 2000, which informed the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff of your plans to dispose of low-level radioactive waste, currently located in the slag pile, drums, and roll-off boxes, at the Envirocare facility in Clive, Utah. Your letter also included the bases for your conclusions that the planned activities are authorized under the terms and conditions of your license.

Based on the information provided in your letter, we have concluded that the activities as described in your letter do not involve excavation and, therefore are not addressed by conditions 15A and B. We have also reviewed your radiation protection procedures submitted by letter dated August 3, 2000, to meet condition 15 D and they appear acceptable to ensure that the requirements of Part 20 are met. Accordingly, we have concluded that the proposed activities for offsite disposal are authorized by condition 15F. Finally, we note your commitment as described in your September 15, 2000, letter to construct engineered barriers to control runoff and erosion, cover the pile, maintain programs for storm water management and sediment control, and sample both surface water and sediment. Should these plans change, please notify me prior to implementation of any changes.

If you require additional information, please contact Mr. LeRoy Person of my staff at (301) 415-6701.

Sincerely,

Larry W. Camper, Chief
Decommissioning Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No.: 040-08778
License No.: SMB-1393

cc: Molycorp, Washington Dist. List