



March 29, 2001

**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: Quarterly Progress Report of Monitor Wells on Excursion Status

Dear Mr. Ting:

The letter serves as a progress report, as required by License Sections 11.2 and 12.2, concerning the 8 monitor wells which remained on excursion status during the first quarter of 2001. These wells are all located at the Irigaray Project and are summarized below. A table is attached listing the weekly sample analysis data and water level elevations for each well. Note that the excursion status update for monitor well 5MW43 at the Christensen Project, was addressed in a separate letter on this date.

Interior Unit 1 Sand Monitor Wells

Note that all of these monitor wells are all located in restored mine units, therefore, no recent corrective actions have been taken.

SSM3 (Production Unit 2) has been on excursion status since August 28, 1996. No significant net change was noted in any of the excursion parameters at the end of the quarter. On March 26, chloride was 55.5 (UCL 38.5), conductivity was 1794 (UCL 1451) and alkalinity was 151.2 (UCL 219.1).

SSM18 (Production Unit 8) has been on excursion status since September 11, 1996. No significant net change was noted in any of the excursion parameters at the end of the quarter. On March 26, chloride was 18.6 (UCL 14.7), conductivity was 1754 (UCL 1849) and alkalinity was 154.9 (UCL 119.4).

SSM40 (Production Unit 8) has been on excursion status since March 6, 1994. Conductivity showed a net decrease, while chloride and alkalinity showed no significant net change at the end of the quarter. On March 26, chloride was 13.9 (UCL 13.6), conductivity was 1531 (UCL 1672) and alkalinity was 111.1 (UCL 109.2).

Mr. Philip Ting
March 29, 2001
Page 2 of 2

SSM41 (Production Unit 4) has been on excursion status since November 17, 1998. Conductivity showed a net increase, while alkalinity and chloride showed no significant net change at the end of the quarter. On March 26, chloride was 33.9 (UCL 24.9), conductivity was 2401 (UCL 2566) and alkalinity was 132.2 (UCL 126.8).

SSM42 (Production Unit 3) has been on excursion status since October 10, 1990. Chloride showed a net increase, while conductivity and alkalinity showed no significant net change at the end of the quarter. On March 26, chloride was 58.7 (UCL 23.3), conductivity was 2302 (UCL 1571) and alkalinity was 131.3 (UCL 213.2).

SSM43 (Production Unit 1) has been on excursion status since October 11, 1989. No significant net change was noted in any of the excursion parameters at the end of the quarter. On March 26, chloride was 35.7 (UCL 25.6), conductivity was 1688 (UCL 1456) and alkalinity was 144.5 (UCL 170.4).

Interior Deep Sand Monitor Well

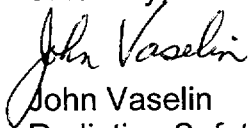
DM10 (Production Unit 6) has been on excursion status since February 2, 1994. Chloride and alkalinity showed a net increase, while conductivity and alkalinity showed no significant net change at the end of the quarter. On March 26, chloride was 34.6 (UCL 16.4), conductivity was 935 (UCL 606) and alkalinity was 272.9 (UCL 107.5). Note that DM10 is located in Mine Unit 6, which is currently in restoration. Therefore, no corrective action has been taken other than pumping wells near DM10.

Perimeter Ore Zone Monitor Wells

M2 (Production Unit 2) has been on excursion status since February 5, 2001. All three excursion parameters showed a net decrease at the end of March. Corrective pumping which began on February 26 from ore zone trend well T10 (located approximately 260 feet north of M2) appears to have been effective. On March 26, chloride was 16.5 (UCL 18.0), conductivity was 784 (UCL 685) and alkalinity was 90.2 (UCL 131.1). Note that only chloride exceeds its UCL and M2 can be taken off excursion status if this continues for 2 more weeks.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this report.

Sincerely,



John Vaselein
Radiation Safety Officer

cc: Division Director/NRC, Arlington, TX
Donna Wichersi/COGEMA

WP\2001\MEMO\NRC-EX-1

Monitor Wells on Excursion Status Page 1 of 2
COGEMA Mining, Inc. Irigaray and Christensen Projects

Monitor Well ID: SSM3 Location: Irigaray Project, PU # 2						
Sample Date	Chloride (UCL 38.5 mg/l)	Conductivity (UCL 1451 umhos)	Alkalinity (UCL 219.1 mg/l)	pH	Water Level Elevation	Uranium as U ₃ O ₈
01/02/01	55.8	1806	150.1	7.7	4304.2	< 0.4
01/08/01	56.1	1805	152.9	7.8	4304.3	< 0.4
01/15/01	56	1804	153.3	7.7	4304.4	< 0.4
01/22/01	56.1	1800	151	7.7	4304.4	< 0.4
01/30/01	55.6	1785	148	7.7	4304.6	< 0.4
02/05/01	56.5	1807	151.3	7.8	4304.5	< 0.4
02/12/01	58	1796	150.5	7.8	4304.5	< 0.4
02/20/01	58	1812	151	7.7	4304.6	< 0.4
02/26/01	57.8	1779	148.9	7.9	4304.6	< 0.4
03/05/01	59	1821	158	7.8	4304.5	< 0.4
03/12/01	57.9	1799	152.7	7.8	4304.5	< 0.4
03/19/01	58.4	1799	150.7	7.8	4304.5	< 0.4
03/26/01	58.5	1794	151.2	7.7	4304.5	< 0.4

Monitor Well ID: SSM18 Location: Irigaray Project, PU # 8						
Sample Date	Chloride (UCL 14.7 mg/l)	Conductivity (UCL 1849 umhos)	Alkalinity (UCL 119.4 mg/l)	pH	Water Level Elevation	Uranium as U ₃ O ₈
01/02/01	18.3	1766	156.2	7.7	4308.4	< 0.4
01/08/01	18	1751	154.5	7.8	4308.5	< 0.4
01/15/01	18.5	1771	158.5	7.6	4308.5	< 0.4
01/22/01	18.6	1779	157.8	7.7	4308.6	< 0.4
01/30/01	18.3	1753	157.5	7.6	4308.8	< 0.4
02/05/01	17.9	1755	152.9	7.7	4308.7	< 0.4
02/12/01	18.2	1741	153.1	7.7	4308.7	< 0.4
02/20/01	18.2	1754	153.5	7.7	4308.7	< 0.4
02/26/01	17.9	1724	149.3	7.8	4308.7	< 0.4
03/05/01	18.6	1780	164.1	7.8	4308.7	< 0.4
03/12/01	18.4	1745	154.5	7.8	4308.7	< 0.4
03/19/01	19.4	1763	160	7.8	4308.7	< 0.4
03/26/01	18.6	1754	154.9	7.7	4308.7	< 0.4

Monitor Well ID: SSM40 Location: Irigaray Project, PU # 8						
Sample Date	Chloride (UCL 13.6 mg/l)	Conductivity (UCL 1672 umhos)	Alkalinity (UCL 109.2 mg/l)	pH	Water Level Elevation	Uranium as U ₃ O ₈
01/02/01	13.9	1568	113	8	4310	< 0.4
01/08/01	13.8	1550	112.9	8	4310.2	< 0.4
01/15/01	13.8	1561	114.3	7.9	4310.2	< 0.4
01/22/01	14.2	1582	115.4	7.9	4310.2	< 0.4
01/30/01	14	1560	115.4	7.9	4310.4	< 0.4
02/05/01	14	1566	114	8	4310.4	< 0.4
02/12/01	14.4	1592	114.4	8	4310.4	< 0.4
02/20/01	14.1	1549	113.7	8	4310.4	< 0.4
02/26/01	14	1534	111.1	8.1	4310.4	< 0.4
03/05/01	14.8	1608	117.6	8	4310.4	< 0.4
03/12/01	14.2	1543	114.9	8	4310.4	< 0.4
03/19/01	14.1	1549	112.6	8	4310.4	< 0.4
03/26/01	13.9	1531	111.1	7.9	4310.4	< 0.4

Monitor Well ID: SSM41 Location: Irigaray Project, PU # 4						
Sample Date	Chloride (UCL 24.9 mg/l)	Conductivity (UCL 2566 umhos)	Alkalinity (UCL 126.8 mg/l)	pH	Water Level Elevation	Uranium as U ₃ O ₈
01/02/01	33	2435	134.1	7.7	4304.4	< 0.4
01/08/01	33.5	2448	135	7.7	4304.3	< 0.4
01/15/01	33	2428	134.6	7.7	4304.6	< 0.4
01/22/01	33.3	2408	133.9	7.6	4304.8	< 0.4
01/30/01	33.1	2435	132.7	7.7	4304.8	< 0.4
02/05/01	NA	2425	NA	NA	4304.7	< 0.4
02/12/01	34.3	2411	133.8	7.7	4304.8	< 0.4
02/20/01	33.3	2430	130.4	7.6	4304.8	< 0.4
02/26/01	33.4	2392	130.3	7.8	4304.7	< 0.4
03/05/01	33.5	2444	139	7.7	4304.7	< 0.4
03/12/01	34.1	2427	135.9	7.7	4304.7	< 0.4
03/19/01	33.7	2417	131.2	7.7	4304.7	< 0.4
03/26/01	33.9	2401	132.2	7.6	4304.7	< 0.4

Monitor Wells on Excursion Status Page 2 of 2
COGEMA Mining, Inc. Irigaray and Christensen Projects

Monitor Well ID: SSM42 Location: Irigaray Project, PU # 3						
Sample Date	Chloride (UCL 23.3 mg/l)	Conductivity (UCL 1571 umhos)	Alkalinity (UCL 213.2 mg/l)	pH	Water Level Elevation	Uranium as U ₃ O ₈
01/02/01	53.3	2311	130.4	7.8	4300	< 0.4
01/08/01	55.1	2316	129.4	7.8	4300.1	< 0.4
01/15/01	55.7	2321	130.4	7.7	4300.2	< 0.4
01/22/01	55.6	2323	128.7	7.7	4300.2	< 0.4
01/30/01	55.5	2266	133.7	7.7	4300.3	< 0.4
02/05/01	55.1	2311	128.2	7.7	4300.3	< 0.4
02/12/01	56.1	2293	128.6	7.7	4300.2	< 0.4
02/20/01	56.6	2316	128.5	7.7	4300.3	< 0.4
02/26/01	56.7	2288	125.6	7.8	4300.2	< 0.4
03/05/01	57.9	2331	131	7.7	4300.3	< 0.4
03/12/01	58.4	2321	132.7	7.8	4300.3	< 0.4
03/19/01	59.3	2309	133.2	7.8	4300.3	< 0.4
03/26/01	58.7	2302	131.3	7.7	4300.3	< 0.4

Monitor Well ID: SSM43 Location: Irigaray Project, PU # 1						
Sample Date	Chloride (UCL 25.6 mg/l)	Conductivity (UCL 1456 umhos)	Alkalinity (UCL 170.4 mg/l)	pH	Water Level Elevation	Uranium as U ₃ O ₈
01/02/01	34.2	1704	140.5	7.9	4303.1	< 0.4
01/08/01	34.8	1715	142	7.9	4303.2	< 0.4
01/15/01	34.4	1709	141.3	7.9	4303.2	< 0.4
01/22/01	33.5	1708	135	7.7	4303.3	< 0.4
01/30/01	34.7	1686	141.9	7.8	4303.4	< 0.4
02/05/01	35	1708	142.8	7.9	4303.4	< 0.4
02/12/01	35.3	1701	140.3	7.9	4303.4	< 0.4
02/20/01	35.3	1716	140	7.8	4303.4	< 0.4
02/26/01	35	1687	137.9	8	4303.4	< 0.4
03/05/01	35.6	1718	142	7.9	4303.4	< 0.4
03/12/01	35.5	1710	137.4	8	4303.4	< 0.4
03/19/01	34.9	1698	138.1	8	4303.4	< 0.4
03/26/01	35.7	1688	144.5	7.9	4303.4	< 0.4

Monitor Well ID: DM10 Location: Irigaray Project, PU # 6						
Sample Date	Chloride (UCL 16.4 mg/l)	Conductivity (UCL 606 umhos)	Alkalinity (UCL 107.5 mg/l)	pH	Water Level Elevation	Uranium as U ₃ O ₈
01/02/01	30.1	944	254.7	8.2	4255.2	< 0.4
01/08/01	29.6	946	254.5	8.3	4253.1	< 0.4
01/15/01	29.7	939	252.8	8.2	4259.5	< 0.4
01/22/01	30.6	945	267.2	8.2	4261.1	< 0.4
01/30/01	29.6	926	251.3	8.2	4258.4	< 0.4
02/05/01	28.8	918	242.9	8.1	4256.4	< 0.4
02/12/01	30.5	938	249.5	8.3	4256.6	< 0.4
02/20/01	29.9	888	234.4	8.2	4247.9	< 0.4
02/26/01	29.4	872	233.9	8.3	4247.9	< 0.4
03/05/01	30.9	916	252.6	8.2	4251	< 0.4
03/12/01	31.8	901	251.9	8.3	4252.5	< 0.4
03/19/01	32.7	931	252.6	8.3	4249	< 0.4
03/26/01	34.6	935	272.9	8.2	4253.7	< 0.4

Monitor Well ID: M2 Location: Irigaray Project, PU # 2						
Sample Date	Chloride (UCL 18.0 mg/l)	Conductivity (UCL 685 umhos)	Alkalinity (UCL 131.1 mg/l)	pH	Water Level Elevation	Uranium as U ₃ O ₈
02/05/01	19.5	806	95.3	8.4	4251.7	< 0.4
02/06/01	20.5	799	97.3	8.6	4257.8	< 0.4
02/12/01	19.7	807	94.9	8.5	4263.3	< 0.4
02/20/01	20.2	818	95.4	8.5	4264.3	< 0.4
02/26/01	20	804	92.3	8.5	4264	< 0.4
03/05/01	19.2	808	96.8	8.4	4253.7	< 0.4
03/12/01	19.1	800	93.6	8.6	4260.7	< 0.4
03/19/01	18.1	793	91.1	8.6	4252.2	< 0.4
03/26/01	16.5	784	90.2	8.4	4251.4	< 0.4