



COGEMA

Mining, Inc.

June 5, 2001

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

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

Subject: Excursion status reporting of monitor well M2

Dear Mr. Leach:

As per license Section 12.2 and 9.2, this letter serves as the written notification of the excursion status for monitor well M2. The excursion was initially reported on May 31, by E-mail to the Region IV Branch Chief and the Project Manager.

A routine quarterly (every 3 months) water sample collected on May 29, 2001 from monitor well M2, exceeded 2 of its 3 upper control limits (UCLs). A confirmation sample was collected on May 30, which also exceeded 2 of its 3 UCLs. Monitor well M2 was then placed on excursion status and its sampling frequency increased to weekly. This will continue until 3 consecutive weekly samples indicate that not more than one UCL is exceeded.

M2 is a perimeter ore zone monitor well located approximately 440 feet west of the Production Unit 2 boundary, at the Irigaray Project. Mining and groundwater restoration have been completed in Production Unit 2. M2 has been reported on and off excursion status in the past and was last taken off excursion status April 12, 2001. The following table gives the analysis data for the two samples which confirmed the excursion for M2 along with the initial weekly sample.

Sample Date	Chloride mg/l UCL 18.0	Conductivity umhos/cm UCL 685	Alkalinity mg/l UCL 131.1	Uranium mg/l as U3O8	pH
5-29-01	18.5	822	95.9	< 0.4	8.5
5-30-01	18.6	857	94.8	< 0.4	8.6
6-5-01	20.1	836	97.9	< 0.4	8.7

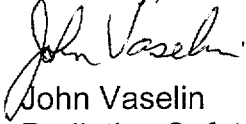
NMSSO Public

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Corrective pumping began on June 4 from ore zone trend well T10 (located approximately 260 feet north of M2). In the past, this has proven to be effective in reversing the excursion

Written progress reports describing the status of all monitor wells on excursion status will be submitted on a quarterly basis, as per license Section 11.2. Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this report.

Sincerely,



John Vaselin
Radiation Safety Officer

cc: Chuck Cain - NRC, Arlington, TX
Elaine Brummett - NRC, Washington
Donna Wichers - COGEMA