

You

August 16, 2001

Mr. David A. Wolf
Goldberg, Kamin & Garvin
1806 Frick Building
437 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219-6101

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON THE STATUS OF THE MOLYCORP, WASHINGTON, PA,
FACILITY DECOMMISSIONING SCHEDULE

Dear Mr. Wolf:

I am responding to your letter of August 6, 2001, which requested an update on the status of the Molycorp, Washington facility decommissioning process. On April 25, 2001, we held an open meeting with representatives of Molycorp to discuss Molycorp's request for an alternate decommissioning schedule. A member of your firm was in attendance at this meeting. A report of this meeting was issued on May 1, 2001, a copy of which is attached.

Under our regulations, Molycorp is required to complete its decommissioning of the Washington facility by August 8, 2002. However, we understand that Molycorp plans to submit a request to extend its decommissioning schedule past the August 8, 2002, deadline. Molycorp has recently informed us that it is starting to cleanup and survey some of the buildings on site prior to their demolition. We will perform confirmatory surveys, as necessary, before any buildings are demolished. Also, we plan to meet with Molycorp within the next two months to discuss the appropriate type and number of monitoring wells that need to be in place prior to site demolition and excavation. The NRC is anticipating the receipt of a revised decommissioning schedule from Molycorp in September, 2001. As soon as the revised decommissioning schedule is received from Molycorp, we will forward a copy to you. To keep you better informed about the progress of decommissioning this facility, we are adding your name to our distribution list for this site.

D. Wolf

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Please contact me at (301) 415-5869 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Tom McLaughlin, Project Manager
Facilities Decommissioning Section
Decommissioning Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosure: Meeting Report

Docket No.: 040-08778

License No.: SMB-1393

cc: Molycorp, Washington Dist. List

D. Wolf

-2-

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Tom McLaughlin, Project Manager
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