



**COGEMA**

Mining, Inc.

August 27, 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 5MW66**

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 5MW66. The excursion was initially reported on August 22, by E-mail to the Region IV Branch Chief and our Project Manager.

A routine monthly water sample collected on August 21, 2001 from monitor well 5MW66, exceeded all of its upper control limits (UCLs). A confirmation sample was collected on August 22, which also exceeded all 3 UCLs. Monitor well 5MW66 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.

5MW66 is a perimeter ore zone monitor well located approximately 300 feet west of the Production Unit 5 boundary, at the Christensen Project. Mine Unit 5 has completed the groundwater sweep phase of restoration and has been idle for several months. Corrective pumping (30 gpm) of 3 Mine Unit 5 wells near 5MW66, began on August 22. Groundwater restoration have been completed in Production Unit 2.

The following table gives the analysis data for the two samples which confirmed the excursion for 5MW66 along with the initial weekly sample. Note that the sample collected on August 27 dropped significantly in all 3 excursion parameters and did not exceed the chloride UCL. This indicates that the corrective pumping is succeeding in pulling the excursion back to the wellfield.

*NMSSo1 Public*

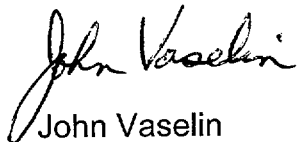
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Monitor Well 5MW66

Sample Date	Chloride mg/l UCL 22.7	Conductivity umhos/cm UCL 1004	Alkalinity mg/l UCL 220.4	Uranium mg/l as U3O8	pH
8-21-01	24.6	1137	220.4	< 0.4	8.2
8-22-01	31.4	1270	296.8	< 0.4	7.3
8-27-01	21.9	1094	216.1	< 0.4	7.8

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