



COGEMA

Mining, Inc.

September 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

RE: Quarterly Progress Report of Monitor Wells on Excursion Status

Dear Mr. Leach:

The letter serves as a progress report, as required by License Sections 11.2 and 12.2, concerning the 10 monitor wells which remained on excursion status during the third quarter of 2001. Nine of these wells are located at the Irigaray Project (IR) and one is at the Christensen Ranch Project (CR). Each well update is given below and a table is attached listing the weekly sample analysis data and water level elevations.

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 (IR Production Unit 2) has been on excursion status since August 28, 1996. Small net increases occurred in chloride and alkalinity, while no significant net change occurred in conductivity. On September 24, chloride was 61.6 (UCL 38.5), conductivity was 1841 (UCL 1451) and alkalinity was 162.6 (UCL 219.1).

SSM18 (IR Production Unit 8) has been on excursion status since September 11, 1996. Small net increases occurred in all excursion parameters. On September 24, chloride was 20.5 (UCL 14.7), conductivity was 1842 (UCL 1849) and alkalinity was 168.9 (UCL 119.4).

SSM40 (IR Production Unit 8) has been on excursion status since March 6, 1994. A small net increase occurred in conductivity, a small net decrease occurred in alkalinity, while no significant net change occurred in chloride. On September 24, chloride was 13.6 (UCL 13.6), conductivity was 1599 (UCL 1672) and alkalinity was 107.3 (UCL 109.2).

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SSM41 (IR Production Unit 4) has been on excursion status since November 17, 1998. No significant net changes occurred. On September 24, chloride was 36.9 (UCL 24.9), conductivity was 2475 (UCL 2566) and alkalinity was 140.2 (UCL 126.8).

SSM42 (IR Production Unit 3) has been on excursion status since October 10, 1990. A small net decrease in conductivity occurred, while no significant net changes occurred in chloride and alkalinity. On September 24, chloride was 61.8 (UCL 23.3), conductivity was 2345 (UCL 1571) and alkalinity was 143 (UCL 213.2).

SSM43 (IR Production Unit 1) has been on excursion status since October 11, 1989. No significant net changes occurred. On September 24, chloride was 36.9 (UCL 25.6), conductivity was 1740 (UCL 1456) and alkalinity was 142.2 (UCL 170.4).

Interior Deep Sand Monitor Wells

DM10 (IR Production Unit 6) has been on excursion status since February 2, 1994. All three excursion parameters decreased during the first half of the quarter and then increased thereafter. On September 24, chloride was 37.5 (UCL 16.4), conductivity was 919 (UCL 606) and alkalinity was 245.3 (UCL 107.5). DM10 is located in Production Unit 6, which is currently in the permeate injection phase of restoration.

Perimeter Ore Zone Monitor Wells

RS27 (IR Production Unit 5) has been on excursion status since June 6, 2001. No significant net changes occurred. However, alkalinity dropped below its UCL numerous times during the quarter. On September 24, chloride was 12.4 (UCL 16.9), conductivity was 716 (UCL 646) and alkalinity was 100.8 (UCL 101.2). RS27 is located on the west perimeter of Production Unit 5, which has completed restoration. No corrective action is planned at this time.

M2 (IR Production Unit 2) has been on excursion status since August 14, 2001. A small net decrease occurred in the excursion parameters on the final week, which appears to be related to corrective pumping. Note that chloride dropped below its UCL. On September 24, chloride was 16.8 (UCL 18.0), conductivity was 790 (UCL 685) and alkalinity was 92.4 (UCL 131.1). M2 is located on the west perimeter of Production Unit 2, which has completed restoration. Corrective pumping from trend well T10, is again proving effective. Note that this is the third time M2 has been reported on excursion status during 2001.

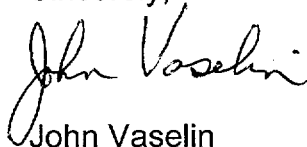
5MW66 (CR Mine Unit 5) has been on excursion status since August 21, 2001. Net increases occurred in the excursion parameters. Corrective pumping (30 gpm) of three Mine Unit 5 wells near 5MW66, began on August 22.

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On August 27 the excursion parameters decrease noticeably, but increased thereafter. Monitor well 5MW66 is located between two sections of wellfield which makes it difficult to determine the direction of the excursion. One of the three pumping wells was shut down in late September to provide a balanced corrective pumping from both directions. On September 24, chloride was 27.8 (UCL 22.7), conductivity was 1225 (UCL 1004) and alkalinity was 277.3 (UCL 220.4). Note that Mine Unit 5 has completed the groundwater sweep phase of restoration and has been idle for several months.

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

Sincerely,



John Vaselin
Radiation Safety Officer

cc: Region IV Branch Chief/NRC, Arlington, TX
Donna Wichersi/COGEMA

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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
07/03/01	57.2	1845	154.5	7.8	4306.2	< 0.4
07/09/01	56.7	1847	155.4	7.8	4305	< 0.4
07/16/01	57.5	1813	159.9	7.8	4305	< 0.4
07/23/01	57.3	1832	158.5	7.9	4304.7	< 0.4
07/30/01	59.3	1837	151.9	7.7	4304.6	< 0.4
08/06/01	58.8	1830	152	7.7	4304.4	< 0.4
08/14/01	60.8	1829	157.1	7.8	4304.3	< 0.4
08/20/01	61	1815	162.9	7.8	4304.2	< 0.4
08/27/01	59.3	1840	153.2	7.8	4303.9	< 0.4
09/04/01	60.8	1828	160.4	7.9	4304	< 0.4
09/10/01	60.9	1839	161.2	7.9	4303.8	< 0.4
09/17/01	60.3	1838	162.3	7.9	4303.8	< 0.4
09/24/01	61.6	1841	162.6	7.8	4303.6	< 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
07/03/01	18.1	1821	157.8	7.8	4309	< 0.4
07/09/01	18.4	1842	162	7.9	4309.6	< 0.4
07/16/01	18.2	1794	159.5	7.8	4308.6	< 0.4
07/23/01	18.2	1814	160.7	7.9	4308.8	< 0.4
07/30/01	18.5	1811	154.7	8	4308.8	< 0.4
08/06/01	18.8	1813	159.1	7.7	4308.4	< 0.4
08/14/01	19.4	1807	162.1	7.8	4308	< 0.4
08/20/01	20.1	1811	167.4	7.8	4308.6	< 0.4
08/27/01	18.8	1821	157.2	7.8	4308.2	< 0.4
09/04/01	18.9	1822	165.1	7.9	4308.3	< 0.4
09/10/01	18.9	1823	158.4	7.8	4308	< 0.4
09/17/01	20	1834	166.4	7.8	4308.1	< 0.4
09/24/01	20.5	1842	168.9	7.7	4307.8	< 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
07/03/01	12.9	1531	111.7	8	4310.3	< 0.4
07/09/01	13.8	1631	116.4	8.2	4310.4	< 0.4
07/16/01	14.2	1608	116.9	8.1	4310.4	< 0.4
07/23/01	13.4	1465	107.8	8.3	4310.4	< 0.4
07/30/01	13.8	1581	113.2	8.2	4310.4	< 0.4
08/06/01	14.2	1598	114.5	8	4310.1	< 0.4
08/14/01	13	1434	110.5	8.1	4310.1	< 0.4
08/20/01	15.1	1612	120.3	8	4310.1	< 0.4
08/27/01	12.9	1503	108.3	8.1	4309.7	< 0.4
09/04/01	14	1538	115.1	8.1	4310	< 0.4
09/10/01	14.3	1589	115	8.1	4309.7	< 0.4
09/17/01	14.1	1591	112.8	8.1	4309.5	< 0.4
09/24/01	13.6	1599	107.3	7.9	4309.5	< 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
07/03/01	33.5	2481	138.2	7.8	4305	< 0.4
07/09/01	33.8	2482	139.8	8	4305	< 0.4
07/16/01	34.1	2446	139.4	7.8	4308	< 0.4
07/23/01	34.2	2463	143.1	7.9	4304.5	< 0.4
07/30/01	35.2	2456	136.6	8	4304.6	< 0.4
08/06/01	35.5	2464	138.6	7.7	4304.5	< 0.4
08/14/01	36.2	2435	134.5	8	4304.2	< 0.4
08/20/01	38.8	2472	147.9	7.8	4304.3	< 0.4
08/27/01	37.6	2474	146.1	7.9	4304.1	< 0.4
09/04/01	37.9	2487	146.2	8	4304	< 0.4
09/10/01	36.3	2467	140.7	8	4303.8	< 0.4
09/17/01	36.7	2470	143.2	7.9	4304	< 0.4
09/24/01	36.9	2475	140.2	7.7	4303.4	< 0.4

Monitor Well ID: 5MW66 Location: Christensen Ranch Project, MU # 5						
Sample Date	Chloride (UCL 22.7 mg/l)	Conductivity (UCL 1004 umhos)	Alkalinity (UCL 220.4 mg/l)	pH	Water Level Elevation	U3O8
08/21/01	24.6	1137	220.4	8.2	4566.2	< 0.4
08/22/01	31.4	1270	296.8	7.3	4559	< 0.4
08/27/01	21.9	1094	216.1	7.8	4555.1	< 0.4
09/04/01	24.7	1133	237.3	7.7	4552.1	< 0.4
09/10/01	24.2	1132	231	7.6	4547.5	< 0.4
09/17/01	26.5	1163	256.8	7.9	4544.3	< 0.4
09/24/01	27.8	1225	277.3	7	4551.2	< 0.4

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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
07/03/01	59.9	2376	145.4	7.8	4300	< 0.4
07/09/01	58.7	2360	137.7	7.8	4300.6	< 0.4
07/16/01	56.6	2300	135.3	7.8	4300.6	< 0.4
07/23/01	57.2	2333	141.1	7.9	4300.2	< 0.4
07/30/01	59.4	2344	135.1	7.7	4300.4	< 0.4
08/06/01	59.4	2343	135.4	7.6	4300.2	< 0.4
08/14/01	59.9	2311	142.1	7.6	4300.3	< 0.4
08/20/01	61.6	2324	143.5	7.6	4300.1	< 0.4
08/27/01	58.4	2353	132.9	7.7	4300	< 0.4
09/04/01	59.3	2337	139.3	7.9	4300	< 0.4
09/10/01	61.6	2345	145.1	7.8	4298	< 0.4
09/17/01	59	2342	135.4	7.8	4299.8	< 0.4
09/24/01	61.8	2345	143	7.8	4299.7	< 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
07/03/01	34.4	1738	141.1	8	4303.8	< 0.4
07/09/01	34	1719	141.8	8.1	4303.6	< 0.4
07/16/01	34.8	1684	144.9	8	4303.5	< 0.4
07/23/01	33.7	1715	141	8.1	4303.1	< 0.4
07/30/01	35.9	1721	142.6	8.2	4303.1	< 0.4
08/06/01	36	1721	142.2	7.8	4303.3	< 0.4
08/14/01	36.3	1707	139.2	8	4303	< 0.4
08/20/01	36.6	1714	142.8	7.9	4303	< 0.4
08/27/01	37.3	1741	146.3	7.9	4303	< 0.4
09/04/01	37	1728	145.3	8.1	4302.8	< 0.4
09/10/01	36.2	1724	141.1	8.1	4302.7	< 0.4
09/17/01	36.7	1734	144	8.1	4302.7	< 0.4
09/24/01	36.9	1740	142.2	8	4302.7	< 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
07/03/01	35.8	941	257.5	8.2	4259.8	< 0.4
07/09/01	33.2	889	248.9	8.3	4237	< 0.4
07/16/01	29.3	841	224.5	8.2	4238.2	< 0.4
07/23/01	29.9	851	229.3	8.3	4237.9	< 0.4
07/30/01	32.6	876	229	8.3	4237.8	< 0.4
08/06/01	26.5	787	198.8	8.2	4239	< 0.4
08/14/01	26.4	772	196.5	8.3	4239.9	< 0.4
08/20/01	32.3	826	228.8	8.2	4243.3	< 0.4
08/27/01	33.1	846	231.2	8.2	4242.3	< 0.4
09/04/01	28.2	793	201.5	8.3	4240.1	< 0.4
09/10/01	29.6	806	208.7	8.3	4239.3	< 0.4
09/17/01	34.4	872	231.5	8.3	4247.1	< 0.4
09/24/01	37.5	919	245.3	8.2	4249.4	< 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
08/14/01	20.1	812	98.3	8.6	4261	< 0.4
08/15/01	20.2	810	98	8.5	4261	< 0.4
08/20/01	20.7	828	97.7	8.5	4261.1	< 0.4
08/27/01	20.1	820	97.8	8.5	4249.6	< 0.4
09/04/01	20.4	805	102.1	8.6	4253.5	< 0.4
09/10/01	18.8	799	97.7	8.7	4245.9	< 0.4
09/17/01	18	793	95.4	8.6	4247.1	< 0.4
09/24/01	16.8	790	92.4	8.5	4247.4	< 0.4

Monitor Well ID: RS27 Location: Irigaray Project, PU # 5						
Sample Date	Chloride (UCL 16.9 mg/l)	Conductivity (UCL 646 umhos)	Alkalinity (UCL 101.2 mg/l)	pH	Water Level Elevation	Uranium as U ₃ O ₈
07/03/01	11.8	729	98.6	8.5	4256	< 0.4
07/09/01	11.5	729	100.5	8.6	4246.3	< 0.4
07/16/01	11.5	717	99.7	8.6	4248.3	< 0.4
07/23/01	11.5	723	102.1	8.7	4250.3	< 0.4
07/30/01	11.8	722	99.8	8.7	4249.2	< 0.4
08/06/01	11.6	717	98.9	8.5	4251	< 0.4
08/14/01	12.3	711	102.8	8.5	4251.4	< 0.4
08/20/01	12.2	710	102.2	8.5	4252.7	< 0.4
08/27/01	12.2	722	99.9	8.5	4248.8	< 0.4
09/04/01	12.3	718	101.2	8.6	4248.2	< 0.4
09/10/01	12.3	718	101.8	8.6	4246.5	< 0.4
09/17/01	12.6	717	104.8	8.5	4248.6	< 0.4
09/24/01	12.4	716	100.8	8.5	4256.1	< 0.4