

May 16, 2002

MEMORANDUM TO: Daniel Gillen, Chief
Fuel Cycle Facilities Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety
and Safeguards
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

FROM: Jill S. Caverly, Project Manager
Uranium Processing Section
Fuel Cycle Facilities Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety
and Safeguards
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

SUBJECT: SITE VISIT TO THE RIO ALGOM - LISBON URANIUM MILL FACILITY,
LA SAL, UTAH

Attached for your information is a summary of the April 3, 2002, site visit to the Rio Algom LLC uranium mill facility near La Sal, Utah. This visit was conducted to support the review of erosion protection facilities required under License Condition No. 52.

CONTACT: Jill S. Caverly, NMSS/FCSS/FCFB
(301) 415-6699

Attachment: Site Visit to Rio Algom - Lisbon Mill facility

May 16, 2002

MEMORANDUM TO: Daniel Gillen, Chief
Fuel Cycle Facilities Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety
and Safeguards
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

FROM: Jill S. Caverly, Project Manager
Uranium Processing Section
Fuel Cycle Facilities Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety
and Safeguards
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

SUBJECT: SITE VISIT TO THE RIO ALGOM - LISBON URANIUM MILL FACILITY,
LA SAL, UTAH

Attached for your information is a summary of the April 3, 2002, site visit to the Rio Algom LLC uranium mill facility near La Sal, Utah. This visit was conducted to support the review of erosion protection facilities required under License Condition No. 52.

CONTACT: Jill S. Caverly, NMSS/FCSS/FCFB
(301) 415-6699

Attachment: Site Visit to Rio Algom - Lisbon Mill facility

Distribution:

Accession #: ML021400296

FCFB r/f TJohnson Region IV
C:\ORPCheckout\FileNET\ML021400296.wpd

OFC	FCFB		FCFB		FCFB			
NAME	JCaverly		JMuszkiewicz		GJanosko			
DATE	05/13/02		05/14/02		05/16/02			

*See Previous Concurrence

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

**SITE VISIT TO THE RIO ALGOM- LISBON MILL FACILITY
LA SAL, UT
APRIL 3, 2002**

GENERAL

On April 3, 2002, Jill Caverly and Ted Johnson of the Uranium Processing Section, Fuel Cycle Facilities Branch, visited the Rio Algom - Lisbon uranium mill facility to discuss the proposed erosion protection designs for the site. The site visit was made to support the review of the erosion control facility designs which Rio Algom submitted in accordance with License Condition 52.

SITE VISIT

Upon arriving at the site, NRC staff were greeted by Mr. William Paul Goranson and Frank Fossey, RSO, of Rio Algom Mining LLC and were escorted to a conference room for a meeting with Rio Algom representatives Joe Bierschied and Larry Axtell. Also in attendance were John Satterfield and George Hennessee of C.H. Guernsey & Co., the engineering consulting firm finalizing the erosion control plan.

After introductions and general comments, Mr. Ted Johnson discussed the general concerns of the NRC staff regarding the erosion control design submittal. Two important issues were the documentation of the design and the completeness of the design. Also, Mr. Johnson explained that the purposes of the site visit were to familiarize NRC staff with the site, to verify the need for certain erosional features, and to discuss the amount, type and organization of the data to be submitted.

After a brief discussion was held regarding the requirements for the erosion control features, the group toured the site and visited the location of major erosional features of the design. During the tour, the licensee and consultants agreed that the "upper drainage areas" should be redesigned to account for velocity and to dissipate energy of the run-off before it travels over the tailings pile. Sedimentation of the diversion channel was discussed and determined not to be a serious factor due to the bedrock features near the channel.

The visit concluded with a short exit meeting in which Rio Algom agreed to revise the erosion control design for changes discussed at the site and to incorporate additional design details into a new report that will be submitted to the NRC during FY02.