

January 17, 2003

Donna Bergman-Tabbert, Manager
Grand Junction Office
U.S. Department of Energy
2597 B $\frac{3}{4}$ Road
Grand Junction, CO 81503

SUBJECT: PARTICIPATION IN THE MOAB PROJECT ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACT STATEMENT

Dear Ms. Bergman-Tabbert:

By letter dated November 22, 2002, to Dr. Myron Fliegel, you invited the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to consider participating, as a cooperating agency, in the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) preparation of the Moab Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The Moab Project is the former Atlas Corporation uranium mill facility that held NRC license SUA-917 before being transferred to DOE in accordance with the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2001.

As NRC staff are familiar with the site and the issues involved in its remediation, we agree that it would be beneficial for NRC to be a cooperating agency in the DOE effort to prepare an EIS. In March 1999, NRC published an EIS (Final Environmental Impact Statement Related to Reclamation of the Uranium Mill Tailings at the Atlas Site, Moab, Utah, NUREG-1531) addressing Atlas Corporation's proposal to remediate the site by stabilizing the tailings in place. Much of the material in NUREG-1531 should be applicable to the DOE EIS.

We are prepared to discuss with DOE our role as a cooperating agency. However, please be aware that the resources that NRC can devote to this effort are limited.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the

Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room). If you have any questions concerning this letter, please notify the NRC point of contact, Dr. Myron Fliegel, at (301) 415-6629 or e-mail at MHF1@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Daniel M. Gillen, Chief
Fuel Cycle Facilities Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety
and Safeguards
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No. WM-110

D.Bergman-Tabbert

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Sincerely,

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NAME	M.Fliegel		B. Garrett		G.Janosko		D.Gillen	
DATE	01/13/03		01/15/03		01/15/03		01/17/03	

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