



May 23, 2003

**LICENSE SUA-1341  
DOCKET NO. 40-8502**

Ms. Susan Frant, Chief  
Fuel Cycle Licensing Branch  
Mail Stop T-8A33  
Two White Flint North  
11545 Rockville Pike  
Rockville, MD. 20852

**Subject: Excursion status reporting of monitor well 5MW54**

Dear Ms. Frant:

As per license Section 12.2 and 9.2, this letter serves as the written notification of the excursion status for monitor well 5MW54. The excursion was initially reported on May 22, 2003, by E-mail to the Region IV Branch Chief and our Project Manager.

A routine monthly water sample collected on May 19, 2003 from monitor well 5MW54, exceeded all three of its upper control limits (UCL). A confirmation sample was collected on May 21, 2003 again with all three UCLs exceeded. Monitor well 5MW54 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.

5MW54 is a perimeter ore zone monitor well located approximately 300 feet west of the well field boundary in Mine Unit 5 (module 5/5), at the Christensen Project. Mine Unit 5 is currently undergoing the reverse osmosis treatment phase of restoration. Initial corrective pumping began on May 20, 2003 at two adjacent recovery wells, the effects of this action will be monitored steadily and modified as required to correct the excursion as quickly as possible.

The attached table provides the analysis data for the two samples which confirmed the excursion status of well 5MW54.

14m5501

Monitor Well 5MW54

Date	Chloride mg/l (UCL 22.7)	Conductivity $\mu$ mhos/cm (UCL 1004)	Alkalinity mg/l (UCL 134.3)	U <sub>3</sub> O <sub>8</sub> mg/l	pH
5/19/03	34.0	1327	322	< 0.4	7.3
5/21/03	40.9	1536	389.9	< 0.4	7.3

Written progress reports describing the status of all monitor wells on excursion 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,



Tom Nicholson  
Environmental Specialist/RSO

cc: Chuck Cain - NRC, Arlington, TX.  
Elaine Brummett - NRC, Rockville, MD.  
Donna Wichers - COGEMA