

January 05, 2005

Mr. Michael Tucker, Site Manager
U.S. Department of Energy
Grand Junction Office
2597 B3/4 Road
Grand Junction, CO 81503

SUBJECT: DECOMMISSIONING OF MONITOR WELLS AT THE MAYBELL, COLORADO,
URANIUM MILL TAILINGS RADIATION CONTROL ACT (UMTRCA) TITLE I
DISPOSAL SITE

Dear Mr. Tucker:

By letter dated December 16, 2004, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) notified the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff of its intent to decommission groundwater level monitoring wells 0601, 0676, 0695, and 0696 at the Maybell, Colorado, UMTRCA Title I site in the fall of 2005. The staff agrees with the DOE that the groundwater level monitoring requirements stipulated in the Maybell Long-Term Surveillance Plan have been satisfied and these wells no longer serve any useful purpose as the monitoring data do not provide any indication of interaction between transient drainage from the Maybell tailings disposal cell and the nearby groundwater system. Accordingly, the staff has no objection to the decommissioning of the aforementioned groundwater level monitoring wells.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Rick Weller, the Project Manager for Maybell, at (301) 415-7287 or by e-mail to RMW2@nrc.gov.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 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/NRC/ADAMS/index.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

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Sincerely,

/RA/

Gary S. Janosko, Chief
Fuel Cycle Facilities Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety
and Safeguards
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No.: WM-69

cc: D. Bergman-Tabbert, DOE GJO
R. Johnson, Stoller GJO
W. Naugle, CDPHE

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