



March 24, 2005

LICENSE SUA-1341
DOCKET NO. 40-8502

Mr. John Lusher, Project Manager
Fuel Cycle Facilities Branch
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop T-8A33
Two White Flint North
11545 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852

RE: Christensen Ranch - 5MW66 removal from excursion status.

Dear Mr. Lusher:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that monitor well 5MW66 at COGEMA's Christensen Ranch Project has been officially released from excursion status by the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (WDEQ) effective March 2, 2005. As required by License Sections 11.2 and 12.2 all wells at COGEMA's Wyoming projects on excursion status are reported to the NRC on a quarterly basis. The last formal quarterly report was sent to Mr. Gary Janosko on January 4, 2005 and covered the fourth quarter of 2004. A copy of that report is attached for your reference.

Monitor well 5MW66 went on excursion status on July 21, 2004. This well is a perimeter monitor well in Mine Unit (MU) 5, Sec. 16, T.44 N., R.76 W. Campbell County, WY. A formal report of this well entering excursion status was compiled and submitted to Ms. Elaine Brummett on August 18, 2004. A report on the proposed method of managing the excursion at this particular location was submitted to the WDEQ (copy to Elaine Brummett) on December 9, 2004. This proposal was reviewed by Mr. Mark Taylor WDEQ Senior Analyst, and approved on March 2, 2005, a copy of that approval notice is attached for your reference.

The excursion at this site presented a unique situation as the MU was already in its post - stabilization phase of groundwater restoration. Ms. Elaine Brummett was contacted by phone at the initial excursion date, and as she requested, was kept informed of the progress on the resolution of the excursion with the WDEQ. Ms. Brummett indicated her position would be, that whatever resolved the situation with the WDEQ would be acceptable in her review of the incident. Hopefully a review of the reports submitted to Ms. Brummett and the attached data will provide you with the necessary information for your concurrence with the WDEQ's position on this well. Should you require any additional information please contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Tom Nicholson
Environmental Specialist/RSO

cc: Donna Wichers/COGEMA

Attachments.

WP\2005REPT\NRC\5MW66_off.wpd



COGEMA

January 4, 2005

LICENSE SUA-1341
DOCKET NO. 40-8502

Mr. Gary Janosko, Chief
Fuel Cycle Facilities Branch
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop T-8A33
Two White Flint North
11545 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852

RE: Quarterly Progress Report of Monitor Wells on Excursion Status - 4th Qtr. 2004

Dear Mr. Janosko:

This letter serves as the progress report required by License Sections 11.2 and 12.2, for all of COGEMA's Wyoming operation wells on excursion status through the end the fourth quarter of 2004. Excursion status is defined as a monitor well which exceeds more than one upper control limit (UCL). Excursion status can be removed when a monitor well no longer exceeds more than one UCL for three consecutive weeks.

COGEMA has only one well on excursion status at either the Irigaray or Christensen Ranch project sites. As reported to you in our letter of 8/18/04, Christensen Mine Unit (MU) 5 well 5MW66 went on excursion status on 7/21/04. This well remains on excursion status as we are currently awaiting response to our evaluation report sent to the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (WDEQ) on December 9, 2004 (copied - E. Brummett NRC Project Mgr.).

We are currently sampling this well quarterly with the last sample date being October 19, 2004. Results from that sample are provided in the following table:

Date	Chloride mg/l (UCL 22.7)	Conductivity μ mhos/cm (UCL 1004)	Alkalinity mg/l (UCL 134.3)	U ₃ O ₈ mg/l	pH
10/19/04	30.4	1105	209.2	<0.4	7.8

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

Sincerely,

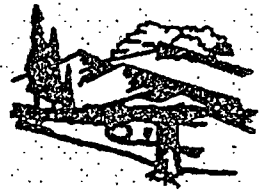
Tom Nicholson
Environmental Specialist/RSO

cc: Donna Wichers/COGEMA

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Department of Environmental Quality



To protect, conserve and enhance the quality of Wyoming's environment for the benefit of current and future generations.

Dave Freudenthal, Governor

John Corra, Director

March 2, 2005

Mr. Tom Nicholson
COGEMA Mining, Inc.
P.O. Box 730
Mills, WY 82644

RE: Monitoring Well 5MW66, Permit No. 478

Dear Tom:

I have completed my review of information presented in your letter of December 9, 2004 concerning monitoring well 5MW66 at Christensen Ranch Mine Unit No. 5. Your plans are in order.

Please call me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Mark Taylor
Senior Analyst

mt/

cc: Cheyenne File

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