

April 14, 2005

William E. Cobb, Director
Environmental Department
Phelps Dodge Corporation
One North Central Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85004

SUBJECT: ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT OF FINANCIAL ASSURANCE
INSTRUMENT (TAC LU0084)

Dear Mr. Cobb:

I am responding to your letter dated March 30, 2005, which forwarded the annual update of the parent company guarantee for Western Nuclear, Inc. This document has been received and it is currently being reviewed for compliance with regulatory requirements. We plan to complete our review within 60 days at which time we will notify you of its approval or any additional information that will be needed to effect its approval. Following approval, we will return any superseded instruments.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please call me at (301) 415-6251 or by e-mail at rwv@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 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>.

Sincerely,

/RA/

William von Till, Senior Project Manager
Uranium Processing Section
Fuel Cycle Facilities Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety
and Safeguards
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No.: 40-1162
License No.: SUA-56

cc: L. Corte, Western Nuclear, Inc.

William E. Cobb, Director
Environmental Department
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