

June 27, 2005

Peter Luthiger, Manager
Radiation Safety and
Environmental Affairs
Rio Algom Mining, LLC
P.O. Box 218
Grants, NM 87020

SUBJECT: AUTHORITY TO APPROVE FINANCIAL ASSURANCE DOCUMENTS

Dear Mr. Luthiger:

In response to your recent inquiry, Branch Chiefs have the authority to approve financial assurance documents for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) as documented in paragraph C.3 of Handbook 8.12 in NRC's Management Directive 8.12, "Decommissioning Financial Assurance Instrument Security Program." A copy of this Management Directive is enclosed. Mr. Gary S. Janosko is Chief of the Fuel Cycle Facilities Branch in my Division. As such, Mr. Janosko has the authority to approve financial assurance documents.

If you have any questions, please call Mr. Robert Nelson of my staff at (301) 415-7298 or via electronic mail at ran@nrc.gov.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of 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/

Robert C. Pierson, Director
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety
and Safeguards
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No.: 40-8905
License No.: SUA-1473

Enclosure: MD 8.12

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*See previous concurrence

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