

January 29, 2008

Ms. Sara Needles  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office  
Barrett Building, Third Floor  
2301 Central Ave., Cheyenne, WY 82002

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR CONCURRENCE ON THE DETERMINATION OF EFFECTS ON  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES FOR THE COGEMA MINING, INC., REQUEST TO  
RESTART OPERATIONS (TAC NO. J00522)

Dear Ms. Needles:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has received a request from COGEMA Mining, Inc. (COGEMA) to amend its NRC Materials License SUA-1341 to revert to an operating (uranium production) status from the current restoration and decommissioning status. COGEMA has requested that its license be amended to include essentially the same operational requirements it contained when the facility was last in operational status, which was in 2001. Since 2001, COGEMA has been conducting groundwater restoration at the facility. If this amendment is approved, COGEMA would only be authorized to conduct operational activities that were previously evaluated and approved by the NRC on June 30, 1998, when the license was last renewed.

The 1998 license renewal process included the preparation of an environmental assessment (EA), in which there was an evaluation of the potential effects of COGEMA operations on historic and cultural resources. The final determination of this evaluation, discussed in Section 2.7 of the 1998 EA (Enclosure 1), was that there would be no effects on historic or cultural properties. COGEMA has indicated that no additional historic properties or cultural properties are known to exist in the affected area and, if the amendment request were approved, there would be no additional activities authorized beyond what has been previously evaluated. Additionally, the cultural and historic resource mitigation measures COGEMA previously agreed to (as discussed in the 1998 EA) would be maintained with the amended license.

After a review of the potential impacts of the proposed action, we have determined that there are no additional historic or cultural properties within the area of potential effects that have not previously been evaluated, and as such, there will be no effects on historic or cultural properties. The supporting basis for this conclusion is the EA that was published in 1998 and the information from COGEMA that no additional cultural or historic properties are known to exist outside of those that have been previously evaluated. We request your concurrence with this determination that the proposed action does not adversely affect any historic or cultural properties.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at 301-415-7777, or by e-mail, at [rcl1@nrc.gov](mailto:rcl1@nrc.gov).

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Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Ron C. Linton  
Uranium Recovery and Licensing Branch  
Decommissioning and Uranium Recovery  
Licensing Directorate  
Division of Waste Management  
and Environmental Protection  
Office of Federal and State Materials  
and Environmental Management Programs

Docket No.: 040-08502

License No.: SUA-1341

Enclosure: Historic and Cultural Resources Evaluation

cc: G.Mooney (WYDEQ)

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Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Ron C. Linton  
Uranium Recovery and Licensing Branch  
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and Environmental Management Programs

Docket No.: 040-08502  
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Enclosure: Historic and Cultural Resources Evaluation

cc: G.Mooney (WYDEQ)

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