July 25, 2008

Mr. Donald Metzler, Moab Federal Project Director U.S. Department of Energy 200 Grand Avenue Grand Junction, Colorado 81501

SUBJECT: NRC CONCURRENCE IN THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S PROPOSED REMEDIAL ACTION FOR THE MOAB, UTAH MILL TAILINGS SITE

Dear Mr. Metzler:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has completed its review of the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) Final Remedial Action Plan and Site Design for Stabilization of Moab Title I Uranium Mill Tailings at the Crescent Junction, Utah, Disposal Site and all associated documentation pertinent to the proposed remedial action for the uranium mill tailings site at Moab, Utah. Our review is documented in the enclosed Technical Evaluation Report, which discusses the NRC staff's evaluation of the proposed remedial action for compliance with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency standards in 40 CFR Part 192.

Based on our review, we conditionally concur in DOE's proposed remedial action. DOE's proposed remedial action addresses cleanup and disposal of the tailings and contaminated soils from the Moab site but does not address cleanup of contaminated groundwater, which DOE has deferred. While the NRC staff considers DOE's deferral of groundwater cleanup to be acceptable, it precludes us from fully concurring in the proposed remedial action. Therefore, our concurrence with DOE's proposed remedial action is conditional until the staff determines that DOE has adequately addressed the cleanup of contaminated groundwater at the Moab site.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice for Domestic Licensing Proceedings and Issuance of Orders," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Myron Fliegel, the NRC Project Manager for the Moab site, at (301) 415-6629 or by email at <u>Myron.Fliegel@nrc.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Keith I. McConnell, Deputy Director 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.: WM-110

Enclosure: Final TER

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Myron Fliegel, the NRC Project Manager for the Moab site, at (301) 415-6629 or by email at <u>Myron.Fliegel@nrc.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

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Keith I. McConnell, Deputy Director Decommissioning and Uranium Recovery Licensing Directorate Division of Waste Management and Environmental Protection Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs

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