November 23, 2009

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

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF THE USE OF HIGH DENSITY POLYPROPYLENE LINERS AT THE MOAB URANIUM MILL TAILING REMEDIAL ACTION PROJECT

Dear Mr. Metzler:

By letter dated October 26, 2009, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) informed the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) that the Moab Uranium Mill Tailing Remedial Action Project is now using plastic liners, and provided information that supported the conclusion that the high density polypropylene (HDPE) liners described in the letter will not prevent DOE from adequately compacting the materials placed in the disposal cell. This letter is to acknowledge receipt of the October 26, 2009, letter. As DOE will be following the approved specifications in the Remedial Action Plan, which addresses placement of non-soil materials in the cell, NRC does not have any concerns with the use of plastic liners and understand that the HDPE sheets will not result in voids in the waste mass. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (301) 415-7188, or by e-mail at richard.chang@nrc.gov.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC "Rules of Practice ," 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 NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC website at http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Richard Chang, Project Manager
Special Projects 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. WM-110

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