

January 20, 2010

Mr. Scott R. Surovchak, Site Manager,
Shirley Basin South, Wyoming, Disposal Site
U.S. Department of Energy
200 Grand Junction Avenue
Grand Junction, CO 81501

SUBJECT: ALTERNATIVE CONCENTRATION LIMIT EXCEEDANCE FOR RADIUM-226 AT
THE SHIRLEY BASIN SOUTH, WYOMING, DISPOSAL SITE

Dear Mr. Surovchak:

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has completed its review of your letter dated November 4, 2009. In your letter, you indicated that the alternate concentration limit (ACL) of 91.3 picocuries per liter (pCi/L) for radium-226 was exceeded for the recently installed well 110-DC. The concentration reported for the July 2009 sampling event for this well was 172 pCi/L. In accordance with the approved long-term surveillance plan (LTSP), a confirmatory sample was performed, which confirmed the exceedance of radium-226 at the well.

In light of this ACL exceedance, a telephone conversation was held on January 6, 2010, where you indicated that the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is withdrawing the draft LTSP currently under review by the NRC. In accordance with the existing approved LTSP (dated December 2004), you stated that DOE will develop an evaluative monitoring work plan due to this ACL exceedance and will submit that plan to the NRC for review prior to initiating an evaluative monitoring program.

Please contact me at (301) 415-7188 or by e-mail at Richard.Chang@nrc.gov if you have any questions.

S. Surovchak

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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC "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 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.: 40-6659

cc: K. Frederick, WDEQ
M. Thiesse, WDEQ
R. Bush, DOE-LM
T. Pauling, DOE-LM

S. Surovchak

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Sincerely,

Richard Chang, Project Manager
Special Projects Branch
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