ENVIRONMENT department

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT DIVISION
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DEPUTY SECRETARY

June 12, 1981

Mr. Thomas M. Hill, Director
Tailings Management
UNC Mining and Milling
P.O. Box 3951
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87190

Dear Mr. Hill:

Your letter of June 3, 1981 to the Director of the Environmental Improvement Division (EID) requesting approval of the deposition and storage of coarse, dry tailings sands in the North Pond area of your present tailings disposal site, has been reviewed with a recommendation for approval by my staff. The State Engineer has approved your proposal in a letter to you dated June 8, 1981.

The EID has frequently requested that UNC phase out use of the present tailings disposal site. Your proposal to open the North Pond to tailings deposition and storage is, therefore, somewhat unexpected. However, you have made numerous verbal and written commitments to terminate within five years the use of the present site for tailings disposal and staging. Based on the strength of that commitment, the approval of the State Engineer, and the recommendation of my staff, I am amending my order of July 16, 1979 to permit deposition and storage of coarse, dry tailings sands in the North Pond.

This approval is subject to your conformance with statements, representations, and conditions contained in letters dated June 3, 1981 from Mr. Thomas M. Hill of UNC to Mr. Thomas E. Baca of EID and June 8, 1981 from S.E. Reynolds, of the State Engineer to Mr. Thomas E. Hill of UNC and the report, Raney Geotechnical Job No. 053-001.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Baca
Director

cc: S.E. Reynolds
Maxine Goad
Gerald Stewart

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C PDR