NM 264

JAN 9 1984

Mr. Jim Baca
Commissioner of Public Lands
Post Office Box 1148
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-1148

Re: United Nuclear Site
Churchrock, New Mexico

Dear Mr. Baca:

In the Environmental Protection Agency's efforts to pursue a remedial investigation/feasibility study at the United Nuclear Corporation's (UNC) Churchrock site, it has become necessary to gain access to lands owned by the State, which abut the UNC mill.

The State owned area involved in this project is Section 36 of Township 16 North, Range 16 West, in McKinley County.

The purpose of this investigation is to determine the nature and extent of the groundwater contamination of the Upper Gallup aquifer and provide data required to develop and evaluate remedial alternatives. This will require the installation of monitoring wells and periodic sampling of these wells on Section 36.

The remedial investigation should begin on or about March 1, 1984, and continue for approximately one (1) year. A more definite start time cannot be given at this time. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is presently in the process of finalizing the work plan with its contractor and acquiring access to additional properties. EPA will notify you when a definite start time has been decided upon.

If you have any questions, please contact Steve Phillips of my staff at (214)767-4075.

Sincerely,

Larry Wright, Acting Chief
Superfund Enforcement Section

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