

STATE OF NEW MEXICO

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT DIVISION

P.O. Box 968, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-0968

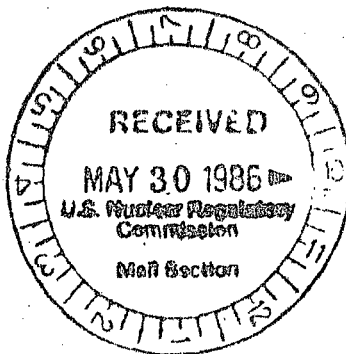
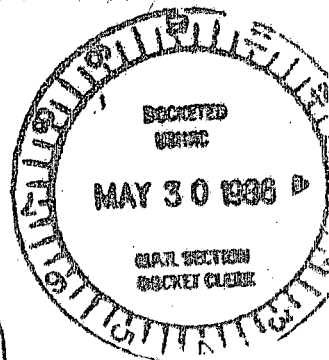
(505) 827-2948

RADIATION PROTECTION BUREAU

TONEY ANAYA
GOVERNOR

DENISE O. FORT
DIRECTOR

40-8914



May 28, 1986

Ms. Colleen D. Kelley
Environmental Supervisor
Hecla Mining Company
Box C-8000
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814-1931

Dear Ms. Kelley:

As you are aware, Governor Anaya signed a letter on March 18 requesting the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) assume licensing authority for uranium mills in New Mexico. The NRC recently voted to accept and reassert authority effective June 1, 1986. Therefore, after this date, the NRC will be responsible for managing your company's radioactive materials license #NM-RED-MB-14. You should contact Mr. Harry Pettengill at the NRC's Uranium Recovery Field Office in Denver (303-236-2805) concerning any future licensing matters. The mailing address there is

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region IV
Uranium Recovery Field Office
P.O. Box 25325
Denver, Colorado 80225

The State of New Mexico, through the EID Radiation Protection Bureau, will continue to be closely involved in uranium mill issues in New Mexico. We will work closely with the NRC to familiarize them with each license and will review major licensing actions. The Ground Water and Hazardous Waste Bureau will continue to be responsible for your company's Ground Water Discharge Permits under provisions of the New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission regulations. NRC has indicated that they will work closely with the Ground Water Bureau to avoid unnecessary duplication of requirements by licensees trying to meet both state WQCC regulations and federal ground water protection requirements.

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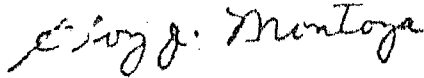
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631

Licensing Authority
Page 2

If you have any questions about the above matters, please feel free to call me at 827-2945.

Sincerely



Eloy J. Montoya
Project Manager
Radiation Protection Bureau

EJM/cvg

cc: Denise Fort, Director, EID
Richard Holland, Deputy Director, EID
Mike Brown, Acting Bureau Chief, RPB
Harry Pettengill, URFO, NRC
EID Bureau Chiefs