

HOMESTAKE MINING COMPANY

P.O. BOX 98
GRANTS, NEW MEXICO 87020
(505) 287-4456

March 29, 1999

VIA NEXT DAY AIR TRACKING LABEL: 1Z 875 261 01 10000 164 1

Mr. N. King Stablein, Acting Chief
USNRC, URB
Division of Waste Management TWFN-7E-47
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
11545 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852

Re: **Docket No. 40-8903**
License No. SUA-1471
Annual Groundwater Monitoring Report

Dear Mr. Stablein:

Pursuant to NRC License SUA-1471, Docket No. 40-8903, License Condition 35 (E), Homestake Mining Company hereby submits three (3) copies of the 1998 Annual Groundwater Monitoring Report. This report is an updated performance review of the groundwater corrective action program for the Grants site.

Homestake has noted in the past that monitoring conditions on the site, as described in our program, may require periodic judgement decisions relative to the ability to supply certain data to meet Table 2 - Groundwater Monitoring Program (8-97) requirements. During this reporting period, Wells 0835 and 0933 could not be sampled due to problems beyond our control. Both wells are located on private property and permission was not granted to sample the wells. Well WR5 was converted from a collection well, which was normally sampled, to an injection well where sampling is not required. Occasionally collection wells cannot be sampled due to maintenance repairs causing the well to be down during the sampling period. In addition, samples are normally taken from the West Collection Pond but during the fourth quarter the pond was dry for inspection so no sample was taken.

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Homestake does not feel that the loss of the information from the sample locations mentioned above has the potential of compromising the existing monitoring program due to the large number of other wells sampled in close proximity of the missing samples.

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An Equal Opportunity Employer

If you have any questions, please call me at Grants at (505) 287-4456.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

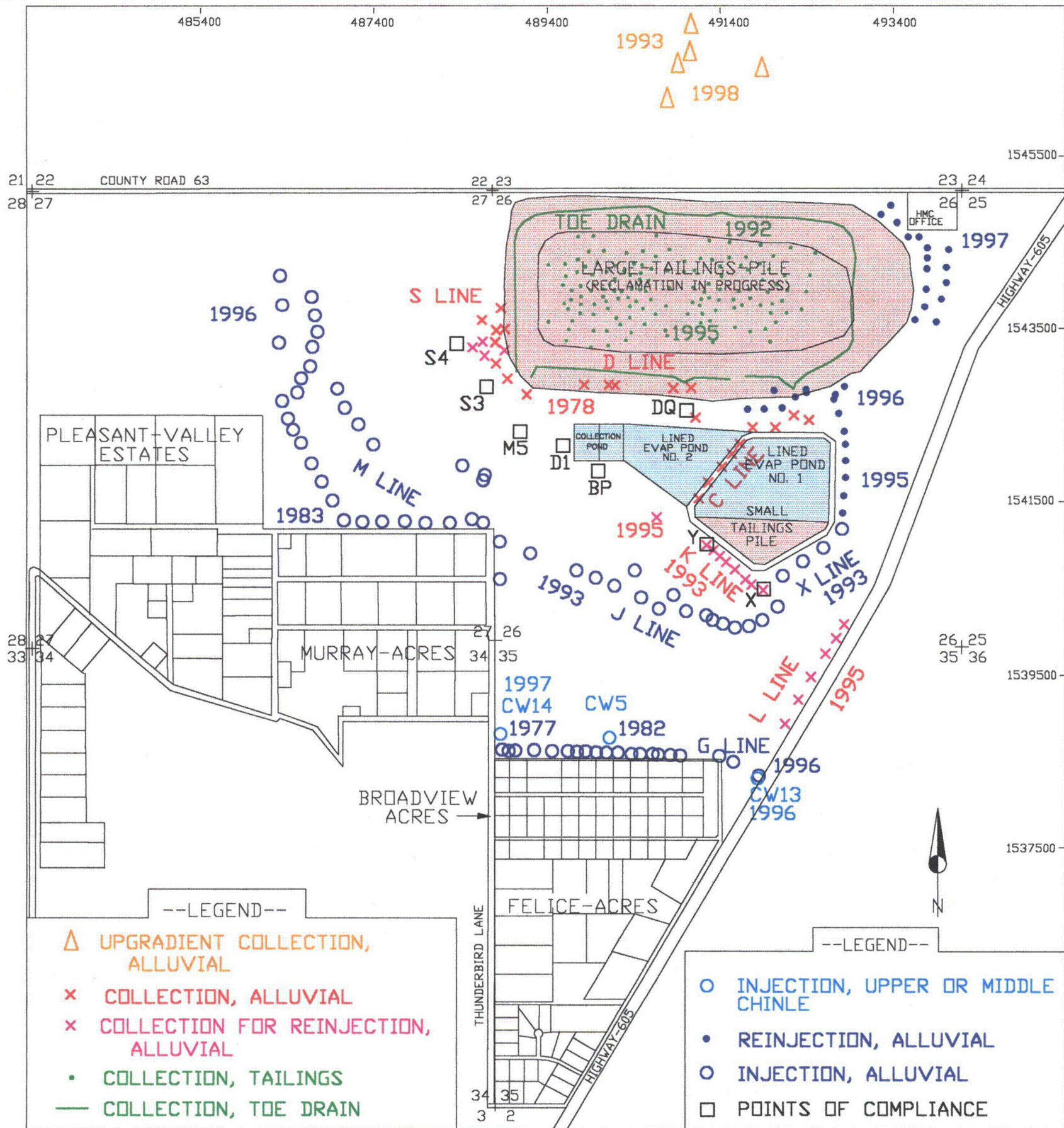
HOMESTAKE MINING COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA



Roy R. Cellan
Corporate Manager, Reclamation

Attachments

cc: Mr. Ken Hooks, NRC Project Manager w/encl
Mr. C. Cain, NRC Arlington, TX w/encl
Mr. Harold F. Barnes, HMC SFO w/encl



GROUND-WATER MONITORING AND PERFORMANCE REVIEW
 FOR HOMESTAKE'S GRANTS PROJECT
 NRC LICENSE SUA-1471 AND DISCHARGE PLAN DP-200, 1998