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THE STATE OF WYOMING



JIM GERINGER
GOVERNOR

Department of Environmental Quality

250 Lincoln Street • Lander, Wyoming 82520-2848 • Fax (307) 332-7726

ABANDONED MINES
(307) 332-5085

AIR QUALITY
(307) 332-6755

LAND QUALITY
(307) 332-3047

SOLID & HAZARDOUS WASTE
(307) 332-6924

WATER QUALITY
(307) 332-3144

July 27, 1998

Mr. Joseph J. Holonich, Chief
Uranium Recovery Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

RE: ANC Gas Hills Site, Open Issues

Dear Mr. Holonich,

This letter is in response to your letter dated May 22, 1998 in which you requested an update on several "open issues" related to the reclamation of the ANC site. Responses follow in the order in which the items were outlined in your letter:

- Tailings Pile No. 2 Completion Report

Work on tailings pile no.2 was completed on October 30, 1997. A final report on the work has been compiled in draft form, including a final "as-built" topography map. Unfortunately, the contract with the consulting engineer (AVI p.c.) expired at the end of the year, before the report was finalized. For various reasons we have not yet issued a new contract to allow the engineer to finish the report. We will submit the report before the end of this year.

- Groundwater Issues

An evaluation of the groundwater situation was conducted by Roberta Hoy, Geohydrologist, and a report of her findings and recommendations was transmitted to Mr. Ken Hooks on March 26, 1997. We would appreciate a thorough review of the overall groundwater situation from your staff so that we can develop consensus on how to resolve this issue. You may recall that Mr. Chancellor requested NRC assistance on the groundwater issue in his letter of July 10, 1995.

Handwritten initials/signature

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- Windblown Tailings Cleanup Plan

Development of an acceptable windblown tailings cleanup plan has been a frustrating issue for us. Our 9/8/97 submittal of this plan was the fifth version. We plan to prepare an updated submittal to incorporate additional survey data and to respond to comments received from your staff on 10/6/97. We tentatively plan to submit the updated plan before the end of this year.

- Final Reclamation Design for Tailings Pond No.1

Preparation and submittal of the final design for reclamation of tailings pond no.1 is still tentatively planned for 1999.

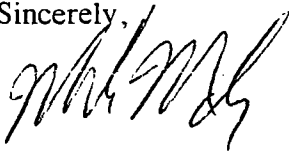
- Radon Flux Test Report

The report which was submitted to EPA and NRC on August 20, 1997 did contain QA/QC data (i.e. duplicates and blanks). If specific additional information is required, please let me know.

Final reclamation of Tailings Pond No.1 (Phase III) is still tentatively planned for 2000, however 2001 may be more realistic. This schedule is contingent upon NRC acceptance of the windblown tailings cleanup plan and the pond no.1 reclamation plan, consolidation of the tailings, resolution of groundwater issues and receipt of DOE Title X funds.

If you or your staff have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Mark Moxley
LQD District II Supervisor

cc: Rick Chancellor - DEQ-LQD Cheyenne
Roberta Hoy - DEQ-LQD Cheyenne
Russell Edge - DOE Grand Junction
Ken Hooks - NRC Washington, D.C.
William Salisbury - ANC Casper