



Department of Energy
200 Grand Avenue
Grand Junction, Colorado 81501

May 9, 2011

Ms. Kimberly Conway, Project Manager
FSME Division of Waste Management and Environmental Protection
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop T8F5
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject: Monitoring Beyond the Toe of the Crescent Junction Disposal Cell, Moab
Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action (UMTRA) Project

Ms. Conway:

This letter is to withdraw our letter to you dated November 29, 2010, of the same subject. Based on our conference call on April 13, 2011, we are going to proceed with the monitoring activities described in the approved Remedial Action Plan (RAP). The Department of Energy (DOE) intends to proceed with both the installation of the standpipes located in the disposal cell and recompleting four monitoring wells located outside the disposal cell as specified in the approved RAP. DOE will recomplete these four existing monitoring wells to the appropriate depth in the near future and then monitor for the presence of water as originally prescribed.

In the November 29 letter, we acknowledged not recompleting boreholes as monitoring wells prior to waste placement per Section 7.2.4 of the RAP. We believe that not completing the wells prior to waste placement has not compromised monitoring for leachate from tailings fluids. Because the residual radioactive material (RRM) is being placed at near optimum moisture, daily observations of the RRM placed have not resulted in any evidence that free liquids are present.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at (970) 257-2115.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald R. Metzler", is written over the typed name.

Donald R. Metzler
Moab Federal Project Director

FSME21

cc:

L. Chang, NRC

J. Berwick, DOE

K. Wethington, DOE

L. Brede, RAC

C. Niemeyer, RAC

J. Ritchey, TAC

Project File MOA 2.12 (C. Smith)

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