

January 26, 2012

Mr. Alan D. Cox, Project Manager
Grants Reclamation Project
Homestake Mining Company
P.O. Box 98/Highway 605
Grants, NM 87020

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR SUBMITTAL OF REVISED CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN,
LICENSE SUA-1471, DOCKET NO. 40-8903

Dear Mr. Cox:

On October 19, 2011, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and State of New Mexico members of the Executive Steering Committee (ESC) met to discuss remedial actions at the Homestake Mining Company (HMC) site. At the meeting, the ESC reaffirmed the need for a coordinated and consistent regulatory approach to remedial activities at the HMC site. To meet this objective, EPA and the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) were requested to identify any outstanding regulatory requirements which needed to be incorporated into the revised Grants Reclamation Project Groundwater Corrective Action Plan (CAP).

In a letter dated November 22, 2011, NMED provided a comprehensive listing of all State regulations and guidance documents that should be considered for incorporation into the revised CAP (see Enclosure 1). On December 13, 2011, EPA provided NRC with an outline of the process and the regulations that EPA expects to use prior to consideration of site deletion from the National Priorities List (NPL) (see Enclosure 2).

In the enclosed letters, neither agency specifically identified any outstanding regulatory, technical or safety issues for incorporation into the revised CAP. Therefore, as the lead regulator for remediation activities at the HMC site, NRC is requesting that HMC submit its revised CAP as soon as possible. Upon receipt of the revised CAP, we will begin an expedited review and engage stakeholders, including EPA and NMED, in accordance with NRC Policy. If during the review, EPA and NMED identify specific regulatory requirements which have not been addressed in the CAP, HMC may be requested to incorporate the specific requirements to ensure that the final CAP is a comprehensive plan for terminating the license and removing the site from the NPL.

A. Cox

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If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me, at (301) 415-6607, or by e-mail at john.buckley@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

John T. Buckley, Senior Project Manager
Decommissioning and Uranium Recovery
Licensing Directorate
Division of Waste Management
and Environmental Protection
Office of Federal and State Materials
and Environmental Management Programs

Docket No.: 40-8903

License No.: SUA-1471

Enclosures:

1. New Mexico Requirements
2. EPA Requirements

cc: Homestake Distribution List

A. Cox

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DISTRIBUTION:

DWMEP r/f BSpitzberg, R IV LGersey, R IV

ML113390071

OFFICE:	DWMEP	DWMEP	DWMEP	DWMEP	DWMEP
NAME:	JBuckley	CHolston	BWatson	LCamper	JBuckley
DATE:	1/23/2012	1/22/2012	1/23/2012	1/24 /2012	1/ 26 /2012

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Homestake Distribution List

cc:

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Candace Head-Dylla, President
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Multicultural Alliance for a Safe Environmental (MASE)
P.O. Box 4254
Albuquerque, NM 87196

Enclosure 1
New Mexico Requirements
ML113390071

Enclosure 2
EPA Requirements
MI113390071