

May 7, 2013

Mr. Richard Bush  
Site Manager  
U.S. Department of Energy  
2597 B 3/4 Road  
Grand Junction, CO 81503

SUBJECT: U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION STAFF REVIEW OF U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY REPORT ENTITLED "AUGUST 2012 GROUNDWATER AND SURFACE WATER SAMPLING AT THE TUBA CITY ARIZONA DISPOSAL SITE" (WM-73)

Dear Mr. Bush:

I am writing to provide U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff comments on a U.S. Department of Energy report entitled "August 2012 Groundwater and Surface Water Sampling at the Tuba City, Arizona, Disposal Site" dated November 2012. Note that the NRC did not receive this report until April 2013. NRC staff has reviewed the subject report and have the following comment:

It appears that 13 of the approximately 35 extraction wells were not sampled because the pumps at these wells were not functioning. It is not clear from the report if the pumps have been repaired or replaced because the reports states that no corrective action was taken.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC "Rules of Practice for Domestic Licensing Proceedings and Issuance of Orders," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

R. Bush

2

If you have any questions concerning the NRC staff comments, please contact me at 301-415-6749 or by email at [Dominick.Orlando@nrc.gov](mailto:Dominick.Orlando@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Dominick A. Orlando, Senior Project Manager  
Special Projects Branch  
Decommissioning and Uranium Recovery  
Licensing Directorate  
Division of Waste Management  
and Environmental Protection  
Office of Federal and State Materials  
and Environmental Management Programs

cc: See next page

L. Bush

2

If you have any questions concerning the NRC staff comments, please contact me at 301-415-6749 or by email at [Dominick.Orlando@nrc.gov](mailto:Dominick.Orlando@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

Dominick A. Orlando, Senior Project Manager  
Special Projects Branch  
Decommissioning and Uranium Recovery  
Licensing Directorate  
Division of Waste Management  
and Environmental Protection  
Office of Federal and State Materials  
and Environmental Management Programs

cc: See next page

**ML13123A179**

|      |          |         |        |          |
|------|----------|---------|--------|----------|
| OFC  | DWMEP    | DWMEP   | DWMEP  | DWMEP    |
| NAME | DOrlando | SAchten | LChang | DOrlando |
| DATE | 5/6/13   | 5/6/13  | 5/7/13 | 5/7/13   |

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

Tuba City Distribution List

Madeline. Roanhorse,  
Navajo AMLR/UMTRA Department  
Window Rock Blvd, Building #3783  
P.O. Box 1875  
Window Rock, AZ 86515

C. Holiday  
Navajo AMLR/UMTRA Department  
Window Rock Blvd, Building #3783  
P.O. Box 1875  
Window Rock, AZ 86515

L. Benally  
Navajo AMLR/UMTRA Department  
Window Rock Blvd, Building #3783  
P.O. Box 1875  
Window Rock, AZ 86515

Bennie Williams,  
Water Code Administration  
P.O. Box 678  
Ft. Defiance, AZ 86504

Norman Honie, Jr.,  
Hopi Mining & Mineral Resources  
Director, Office of Mining and Mineral Resources  
1999 Broadway, Suite 3320, Denver, CO 80202-3050

E. Rich,  
Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency  
P.O. Box 339  
Window Rock, AZ 86515

April Gil  
U.S. Department of Energy  
2597 B 3/4 Road  
Grand Junction, CO 81503