

April 28, 2015

Mr. Matt Sattelberg, Field Supervisor  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Ecological Services Wyoming Field Office  
5353 Yellowstone Rd, Suite 308A  
Cheyenne, WY 82009

SUBJECT: CONSULTATION REGARDING UMETCO MINERALS CORPORATION  
REQUEST TO INSTALL A GROUND WATER MONITORING WELL AT THEIR  
GAS HILLS WYOMING SITE (DOCKET NUMBER 040-00299)

Dear Mr. Sattelberg:

By letter dated January 22, 2015, Umetco Minerals Corporation (Umetco) requested an amendment to its U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) radioactive materials license SUA-648 to revise the ground water monitoring program at Umetco's Gas Hills site in Fremont and Natrona counties, Wyoming (Agencywide Document Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Number ML15027A095). On April 8, 2015, Umetco revised its request to address several questions raised by the NRC staff on November 6, 2014 (ML14301A282) regarding the ground water at the Gas Hills site (ML15103A024). Umetco's proposed revision to the ground water monitoring plan includes the installation of four additional ground water monitoring wells at the site. One of the proposed new wells, MW-86, is on land with surface rights owned by Umetco, while the remaining proposed wells, MW-83, MW-84, and MW-85 are on land under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management (see enclosed map).

Concerning the well on Umetco's property, the NRC has concluded, due to the limited ground disturbance and short duration of activity anticipated to be associated with the construction of this well, that Umetco's proposed action "may affect" listed species or their designated critical habitat. However, these effects are expected to be insignificant; and, therefore, the NRC has concluded that the proposed action is "not likely to adversely affect" any endangered or threatened species or critical habitat within the area of influence for the proposed action. We request your concurrence with NRC's determination of "not likely to adversely affect" any listed species or their critical habitat.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Agency Rules of Practice and Procedure," 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 ADAMS. ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

M. Sattelberg

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If you have any questions concerning this letter or the staff's evaluation, 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  
Materials Decommissioning Branch  
Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery  
and Waste Programs  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 040-00299

Enclosure: Well location map

cc: Umetco Distribution List

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