UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 19, 2017

Mr. Thomas E. Gieck, Remediation Leader
Umetco Minerals Corporation
2754 Compass Drive, Suite 280
Grand Junction, CO 81506-8728

SUBJECT: LICENSE AMENDMENT REQUEST TO REVISE THE GROUND WATER MONITORING PROGRAM AND MAILING ADDRESS AT THE UMETCO MINERALS CORPORATION'S GAS HILLS EAST, WYOMING SITE (Docket 040-0299)

Dear Mr. Gieck:

I am writing in response to your letters, dated January 22, 2015, April 8, 2015, and November 17, 2016, requesting that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) amend Umetco Minerals Corporation's (Umetco's) radioactive materials license by revising the ground water monitoring program at Umetco's Gas Hills East, Wyoming site (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Numbers ML15027A095 and ML14301A282) and to change Umetco's mailing address (ADAMS Accession Number ML16326A406).

Regarding the revision to the ground water monitoring program, the NRC staff has reviewed the information in your letters and has completed our evaluation of your request. The NRC staff also contacted the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office (WYSHPO) and consulted with them regarding your request. Based on the NRC staff's evaluation and consultation with the FWS and WYSHPO, the NRC staff has revised your radioactive materials license to incorporate your requested changes. The NRC staff's evaluation of your request, and the results of our consultation with the FWS and WYSHPO, are summarized in the enclosed Technical Evaluation Report (TER) (Enclosure 1). License Condition 35 of Umetco's radioactive materials license has been revised to incorporate these changes and a copy of your amended license is also enclosed (Enclosure 2). In accordance with our discussions about your amendment request, the NRC has delayed issuing this license amendment until Umetco received approval for the installation of wells on Bureau of Land Management land. You informed the NRC that this approval was obtained by Umetco on November 17, 2016 (ADAMS Accession Number ML16326A406).

In addition to your requested changes, the NRC staff has determined that the following license conditions should be included in the amended license. These license conditions were discussed with you on May 11, 2016.

A. Conduct monitoring as described in the Ground Water Monitoring Plan and as discussed in Umetco's January 22, 2015 and April 8, 2015 requests. The licensee shall submit this monitoring data, in the form of a Ground Water Conditions report, to the NRC by

September 30th of each year and include ground water contour maps, contamination iso-concentration maps, and trend graphs. The licensee shall include a thorough description of all model simulations and any further revisions to the geochemical model in the evaluation in the Ground Water Conditions report. The licensee shall provide electronic copies of all model input files used in the evaluation. The licensee shall submit to the NRC a final Ground Water Conditions report for verification once the licensee validates the model predictions for a time period that has been approved by the NRC. The final, as built, completion reports for the new monitoring wells shall be included in the first Ground Water Conditions report following completion of well installation.

F. If any cultural materials are discovered during the installation of the ground water monitoring wells or related construction activities, work in the area shall be halted immediately, the NRC and the State of Wyoming Historic Preservation Office shall be contacted, and the materials shall be evaluated by an archeologist or historian meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards.

G. Measures shall be taken to ensure that no take of migratory birds occurs during project related activities. Work that could lead to the take of a migratory bird or eagle, their young, eggs, or nests (e.g. drilling a water well or constructing new roads in the vicinity of a nest) shall be coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Cheyenne, Wyoming Office.

An environmental assessment was not performed for this action as it is categorically excluded under 10 CFR Part 51.22(c)11.

Regarding your change of address, this is an administrative change and, as such, an environmental assessment was not performed for this action as it is also categorically excluded under 10 CFR Part 51.22(c)11.

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (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.

If you have any questions concerning the NRC comments please feel free to contact me at (301) 415-6749 or at Dominick.Orlando@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Dominick Orlando, Senior Project Manager
Materials Decommissioning Branch
Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery,
and Waste Programs
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosures:
1. Technical Evaluation Report
2. License Amendment No. 74

Docket No.: 040-0299
License Number: SUA-648

If you have any questions concerning the NRC comments please feel free to contact me at (301) 415-6749 or at Dominick.Orlando@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,
/RA/

Dominick Orlando, Senior Project Manager
Materials Decommissioning Branch
Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery,
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