

February 8, 2016

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

SUBJECT: LICENSE AMENDMENT - UMETCO MINERALS CORPORATION 2015  
FINANCIAL ASSURANCE SURETY UPDATE FOR THE GAS HILLS URANIUM  
TAILINGS SITE LICENSE NO. SUA-648 (DOCKET NO.: 040-0299)

Dear Mr. Gieck:

By letter dated June 9, 2015 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession Number ML15167A212), Umetco Minerals Corporation (Umetco) submitted its 2015 annual financial assurance surety update for its Gas Hills uranium tailings site in Fremont and Natrona Counties, Wyoming. On July 13, 2015, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff requested additional information regarding the financial assurance information submitted by Umetco in its June 9, 2015, submittal (ML15188A480). On August 6, 2015, Umetco provided additional information, including revised cost and annual property tax estimates, and an Agreement for Services from a third party contractor<sup>1</sup>. On November 16, 2015, Umetco confirmed that the property tax estimates provided by Umetco were based on 2015 tax rates. The NRC staff also requested the analytical laboratory rates from Umetco's contract laboratories, Test America and ACZ Laboratories. On November 19, 2015, and December 21, 2015, Umetco provided additional information relating to analytical laboratory rates from Test America and ACZ Laboratories (ML15329A189) and a revised legal expense estimate (ML16005A428).

The NRC staff has completed its review of Umetco's surety update. Based on this review, the NRC staff approves the proposed revised surety amount of \$1,423,985.67, pending Umetco's submittal of a revised Standby Trust Agreement and Surety Bond to increase the coverage amount of the previously approved 2014 surety amount from \$1,161,638 to \$1,423,985.67. The NRC staff's evaluation can be found in the enclosed technical evaluation report. License Condition 55 has been revised to reflect this revised surety amount, a copy of the revised license is also enclosed.

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

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<sup>1</sup> This information is withheld as non-public pursuant to 10 CFR 2.390 because it contains proprietary information.

T. Gieck

- 2 -

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>.

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.: 040-0299

License No.: SUA-648

Enclosures:

1. Technical Evaluation Report
2. License Amendment 72

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- 2 -

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Sincerely,

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Dominick A. Orlando, Senior Project Manager  
Materials Decommissioning Branch  
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**ADAMS Accession No.:**

**ML16011A295**

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