



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

August 11, 2016

Mr. Donald R. Metzler
Moab Federal Project Director
U.S. Department of Energy
200 Grand Avenue
Grand Junction, CO 81501

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF PROPOSED SPECIFICATION CHANGES TO REMEDIAL ACTION PLAN AND REMEDIAL ACTION INSPECTION PLAN FOR THE CRESCENT JUNCTION DISPOSAL CELL

Dear Mr. Metzler:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has completed its review of your letter dated July 25, 2016 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML16224A248), in which the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) proposed changes to residual radioactive material (RRM) and debris placement specifications for the Crescent Junction disposal cell. The proposed changes to the Moab Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action (UMTRA) Project Remedial Action Plan (RAP) Specification 31-00-20, "Placement and Compaction of RRM and Interim Cover," are as follows:

- Changes to Section 3.2.1 to allow an increase from 12 inches to 24 inches of loose RRM in each lift in the disposal cell. No change was requested for interim cover lifts, which will remain at 12 inches.
- Changes to Section 3.2.5 to specify a ratio of no more than 50/50 debris to RRM by volume.

Corresponding changes to the Remedial Action Inspection Plan (RAIP) were also proposed to make it consistent with the proposed language of the RAP. Specifically, DOE proposed revisions to: Section 6.4.2, RRM Placement; Section 6.4.3, Inspection and Testing; Section 6.4.4, Demolition Debris; and the Cell Construction Material Installation Summary Table. A redline/strikeout version noting the revisions to the RAP and RAIP were included as an enclosure to your July 25, 2016, submittal.

Staff reviewed the proposed changes to Specification 31-00-20 and the RAIP and determined that the changes do not affect the overall approved design (volume and area) of the Crescent Junction disposal cell. The intent of the proposed modifications is to allow for more efficient handling and compaction of the RRM and debris in the disposal cell. Verification test frequency for RRM placement remains the same as described in Section 6.4.3 of the RAIP. Based on its review, NRC staff finds the proposed changes noted in the July 25, 2016, submittal to be acceptable.

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice for Domestic Licensing Procedures and Issuance of Orders," a copy of

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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 web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me either by telephone at (301) 415-1335 or by e-mail at kimberly.conway@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Kim Conway, Project Manager
Reactor Decommissioning Branch
Division of Decommissioning, Uranium
Recovery, and Waste Programs
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No. WM-110

cc: J. Peach, DOE

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