



PATHFINDER

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September 4, 2008

Mr. Keith I. McConnell, Deputy Director
Decommissioning & Uranium Recovery Licensing Directorate
Division of Waste Management & Environmental Protection
Office of Federal & State Materials & Environmental Management Programs
Mail Stop T8-F5
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
11545 Rockville Pike
Rockville, Maryland 20852-2738

Re: Docket No. 40-6622, License No. SUA-442

Dear Mr. McConnell:

Condition 22 of the referenced license requires the submittal of the results of effluent and environmental monitoring in accordance with 10 CFR 40.65. This is to advise you that no effluent or environmental monitoring was done during the first and second quarters of 2008 at the Shirley Basin tailings site, consistent with amendment number 52 to the license.

The ground water and surface water monitoring results for the first six months of 2008 will be submitted to the NRC under separate cover during early September, 2008, pursuant to condition 47C of the license. Enclosed is the annual land use survey required by condition 21 of the license.

Sincerely,

T. W. Hardgrove
Operations Manager

Encls.

cc: D. B. Spitzberg, U.S. NRC – Region IV

Annual Land Use Survey
2007-2008
Pathfinder Mines Corporation
Shirley Basin Mine
Source Material License SUA-442

September 4, 2008

Pursuant to condition 21 of Source Material License SUA-442, a review of the land use status within five miles of the restricted area boundary was conducted. There were no significant changes in land use over the past year compared to what was described in the last survey report. Aside from the Heward Ranch noted below, there were no private residences within five miles of the site. No new private or public potable water or agricultural wells were completed within five miles of the restricted area boundary. Activities at the Pathfinder site consisted of tailings reclamation and adjacent mine reclamation by a contractor (completed by late fall, 2007), ground water monitoring within the restricted area, and general mine site cleanup.

The primary agricultural use of adjacent lands was cattle and sheep grazing. The Heward Ranch, some three miles southeast of the restricted area, continued to be the nearest agricultural residence. Grazing utilization did not change appreciably from the previous year. Wildlife such as pronghorn antelope, deer, sage grouse, and various non-game species continue to utilize the habitat available in the general area. No new nonresidential structures were built within the area of concern, and uses of existing structures did not change. There was some gravel mining and processing conducted for a highway maintenance project on land approximately one mile SE of the former mill site. There was no appreciable mineral claim staking activity in the general area on Federal land since most available areas of interest previously had been claimed. Pathfinder did stake claims on some Federal land within the restricted area in order to preclude potential "nuisance claim staking" by other parties. Limited recreational utilization of the public lands adjacent to the restricted area continued in the form of hunting, primarily during September-October.

The Jenkins Pit, reclaimed by the Abandoned Mine Lands Program as a lake, remains open to public access for fishing. The lake is located south-southeast of the Pathfinder site.

The nearby Petrotomics tailings/mine site is under the stewardship of the U.S. Department of Energy.