



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

August 1, 2017

Thomas Wohlford, Closure Manager
Grants Reclamation Project
Homestake Mining Company of California
P.O. Box 98/Highway 605
Grants, NM 87020

SUBJECT: ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED PER
CONDITIONS 1, 8, 10, AND 12 OF THE CONFIRMATORY ORDER DATED
MARCH 28, 2017 (LICENSE NO. SUA-1471, DOCKET NO. 40-8903).

Dear Mr. Wohlford:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) acknowledges receipt of the following correspondence required per the Confirmatory Order (CO) dated March 28, 2017, modifying License No. SUA-1471:

- **Condition 12-** Standard Operating Procedure 15 entitled, "Post-Treatment Tank (SP-2) Water Sampling, Analysis and Reporting Requirements."
- **Condition 1-** Root Cause Protocol reviewed by an independent third party consultant, Root Cause Protocol with identified changes made by the independent third party consultant, and a qualification statement for the independent third party consultant.
- **Conditions 8 & 10-** Impact analyses for the Re-Injection Program entitled, "Collection for Re-Injection Mass Balance/Removal Analysis" and the exceedances in effluent being discharged from the Reverse Osmosis Plant, entitled "Analysis of the Impact of Exceedances of Ground-Water Protection Standards in Injection Water."

Please note that the Root Cause Protocol provided by electronic mail on July 26, 2017, states that the document is a "Draft" and the document is being provided for NRC review. The Root Cause Protocol should be a "Final" version of the third party reviewed protocol. Specifically, Condition 1 of the CO states that Homestake will "provide a copy of the independent third party reviewed protocol to the NRC within 120 days of issuance of this Confirmatory Order." Your submittal of the finalized independent third party reviewed Root Cause Protocol, as identified in Condition 1, is needed for compliance with the March 28, 2017 CO. Additionally, the copy of the independent third party reviewed protocol that is provided to NRC can be used, pursuant to the CO, to complete Conditions 2, 3, and 4 of the CO and prior NRC review before this use is not required.

Further, please note that, pursuant to the CO, the Root Cause Protocol is to be made available for review during future inspections as stated in Condition 1 of the March 28, 2017, CO.

The NRC will begin auditing the impact analyses submitted to fulfill the requirements of Conditions 8 & 10 of the March 28, 2017, CO. As stated in Conditions 8 & 10, the NRC will perform an audit of the analyses, and provide the audit results in writing, including any recommended changes. HMC will incorporate NRC audit results in the actions described in Condition 5 of the March 28, 2017, CO.

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

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at (301) 415-6198, or by e-mail at Matthew.Meyer@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Matthew R. Meyer, Hydrogeologist
Materials Decommissioning Branch
Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery
and Waste Programs
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No.: 40-8903
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T. Wohlford

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