



Office of the Governor

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

William F. Janklow
GOVERNOR

September 24, 1979

Mr. Jack Martin
Division of Waste Management
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Mr. Martin:

Members of my staff have reviewed the final draft of the Above Ground Gamma Ray Logging of Edgemont, South Dakota, and vicinity. The gamma ray logging survey was conducted in November of 1978, by the United States Environmental Protection Agency - Las Vegas, through a contract with the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission. A list of participants on this 1978 survey is enclosed. Agencies represented include the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Tennessee Valley Authority and the State of South Dakota. It is apparent after review of this document that additional analyses need to be conducted. Of immediate concern are the residents living in the Cottonwood Community. Actual radiation dosages to individuals living in the Cottonwood area must be determined in order to determine the health risks associated with living in this community. In addition to Cottonwood, soil samples from the Edgemont area where above-background radiation levels were found must be collected and analyzed to determine the source and extent of the radiation contamination.

The State of South Dakota's radiological laboratory equipment, finances and personnel are very limited, therefore, I am requesting, through you, that your agency join with the State of South Dakota, the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission in a cooperative effort to: (1) determine the health risk for persons living in Cottonwood, and (2) determine the source and extent of radiation contamination in the Edgemont area. If your agency is able to take part in this cooperative effort, please contact Warren R. Neufeld, Secretary of the Department of Water and Natural Resources (605-773-3152) so a meeting can be arranged.

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Thank you for your time and consideration in this very important matter.

Sincerely yours,


William J. Janklow

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Enclosure

cc: Mr. Gene Trager
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

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FTS

PING C. CHEE (312) 972-3112
EIS Division
Argonne National Lab
Argonne, IL

Michael R. Casada
Nuclear Raw Materials Branch
T.V.A. Chattanooga, Tenn
923 CBB-C FTS 554-2744

John Geidt
1860 Lincoln St.
U.S. EPA Region VIII
Denver CO. FTS 327-2221

Vonni Kallemeijn
S.D. Dept of Environmental Protection
Foss Building
Pierre, S.D. 57501 773-3351

Jeffrey L. Kotsch
Mill Licensing - NMSS (Mail Stop SS-396)
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20550
(301) 42-74103

Robert D. Dillcock
Silver King mine Inc.
Clyde, N.D. 57735

JACK E. THRALL PHONE: 702 595-2866
U.S. EPA FRESH-WATER DIV. CHA: (702) 734-2866
P.O. Box 15027 EXT. 313
LAS VEGAS NV 89114 EXT. 305 Joe Harris

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