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

NOV 21 1979

WMUR:JER
Docket No. 40-8380

MEMORANDUM FOR: Ross A. Scarano, Chief
Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch
Division of Waste Management

FROM: Jack E. Rothfleisch
Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch
Division of Waste Management

SUBJECT: REPORT OF EXCURSION AT ROCKY MOUNTAIN ENERGY COMPANY
NINE MILE LAKE R&D IN SITU LEACH TEST FACILITY

At approximately 1:30 p.m. on November 19, 1979, I was notified by a telephone call from Mr. M. R. Neumann, RMEC Reclamation Specialist that RMEC had experienced an excursion in Pattern no. 3 of their Nine Mile Lake in situ leach test operation. Mr. Neumann further informed me that USNRC Region IV personnel as well as Wyoming DEQ personnel had been notified of the situation on Friday, November 16. The excursion was discovered during a routine check of pH and conductivity of a monitor well sample. A written report describing the details of the excursion along with the corrective actions taken by RMEC is in preparation and will be distributed shortly.

A point of interest is that, to the best of my knowledge, USNRC has never been informed of the startup of operations on Pattern No. 3 at the Nine Mile Lake test site. This may be in violation of their license.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J E Rothfleisch".

Jack E. Rothfleisch
Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch
Division of Waste Management

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