

PDR 40-3453

Atlas Minerals
Division of Atlas Corporation
2508 Prudential Plaza
1050 17th Street
Denver, Colorado 80203
Phone (303) 534-8181
June 1, 1979



S. Dearth, President

Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Attention: Mr. John Linehan

Gentlemen:

This letter is confirmation of the phone conversation of the afternoon of May 25, 1979 between Wayne Jensen, Dick McCormick, and Dale Edwards. An application for amendment to our license issued on April 30, 1979 will be made in the near future.

As per our discussion of certain conditions of Atlas License No. SUA-917, Reference No. 40-3453, our first concern deals with Item No. 19. Atlas raised the dike of the tailings pond to NRC specifications during 1978. In doing this, Atlas now finds that they no longer have the 150 feet of beach required by Licensee's application of November 18, 1974, if measured from the outermost perimeter of the new dike. As discussed, we must measure from the outermost perimeter of the old dike to stay in compliance. Atlas therefore requested a ruling from you that this compliance method is in accordance with NRC specifications.

With regard to Item No. 21 discussion was held on what constitutes a failure. It was agreed that minor failures such as a leaking flange that spills a few gallons or tons need not be reported.

Item No. 25 (d) poses a distinct problem for Atlas as to the location of the monitoring device. Atlas respectfully requests an amendment to this subsection, which presently reads as follows:

". . . An Alpha Radiation Survey Meter shall be available at the exit to the change room. . . ."

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Nuclear Regulatory Commission

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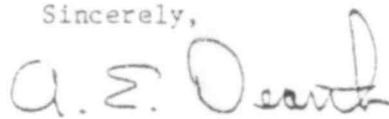
We would like to change only the last two words in that sentence from "change room" to "guard house" because we can do a much better job of monitoring individuals at this point than at the change room. The guard house is at the edge of the restricted area and all walking traffic must exit through this building.

Item No. 26 was discussed in connection with implementation: Atlas is presently designing a vehicle that will be assigned to do this specific job of minimizing dusting from the active ore piles, however, we want you to know that as of today this is not being done on a regular basis.

Skipping down to Item No. 36, we discussed the problems of providing individual tank containment systems. Because of tank locations it is impossible to provide these individual systems. Therefore, we proposed an alternate of area containment. A new plot plan is being prepared to illustrate this concept in accordance with our phone discussions, and will be forwarded to you in the near future.

Finally, Item No. 45 states operations shall be immediately suspended in the affected areas of the mill if any of the emission control equipment for the ore feed or the yellowcake drying or drumming areas specified in the Licensee's submittal dated April 20, 1978 is inoperative. As we discussed on the phone, the ore bins are in a separate building and are not usually occupied by any one employee except when changing over from one bin to another which only takes a matter of minutes. Because of this, we (Atlas) desire an amendment to No. 45 striking the words "ore feed" from the statement as it presently appears, and adding to the end of the statement the following: "Operations shall also declare the ore feed area a respirator-only area in the case of a failure of any of the emission control system in this area; this area will remain a respirator-only area until such failure is repaired."

Sincerely,



A. E. Dearth

AED:dh

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Docket No. 40-3453

"LICENSE AMENDMENTS"

13077

William O. Miller, License Fee Management Branch, ADM

MATERIALS LICENSE AMENDMENT CLASSIFICATION

Applicant: Atlas Minerals
 License No: SUA-917 Fee Category: 2A
 Application Dated: 6-1-79 Received: 6-6-79
 Applicant's Classification: _____

The above application for amendment has been reviewed by NMSS in accordance with §170.31 of Part 170, and is classified as follows:

1. Safety and Environmental Amendments to Licenses in Fee Categories 1A through 1H, 2A, 2B, 2C, and 4A
 - (a) ___ Major safety and environmental
 - (b) ___ Minor safety and environmental
 - (c) ___ Safety and environmental (Categories 1D through 1G only)
 - (d) ___ Administrative
2. Justification for reclassification: _____

3. The application was filed (a) ___ pursuant to written NRC request and the amendment is being issued for the convenience of the Commission, or (b) ___ Other (State reason): _____

1st amendment will be sent later.

Signature _____
 Division of Fuel Cycle & Material Safety
 Date _____