



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

PDR
40-8304
40-8502

JUL 28 1979

WM'R:RC
40-8304
SUA-1204

Wyoming Mineral Corporation
ATTN: Mr. K. R. Schendel, Manager
Licensing Projects
Government and Environmental Affairs
3900 South Wadsworth Boulevard
Lakewood, CO 80235

Gentlemen:

We have reviewed your request in your letter of May 24, 1979, to renew your research and development Source Material License No. SUA-1204, Docket No. 40-8304, for a five-year period. Our review was made in conjunction with your commercial Source Material License No. SUA-1341, Docket No. 40-8502, issued on November 17, 1978, and valid until October 31, 1983.

We deny your renewal request for the following reason. Under section 161h of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, we are authorized to combine in a single license application one or more of the activities for which a license is required by the Act. By issuing License SUA-1341, authorizing commercial-scale in situ uranium solution extraction at the Irigaray site, the Commission incorporated the research and development licensing authorization of SUA-1204 at this site.

This is evident in License SUA-1341 by Conditions 10, 32, 33-39, 41, and 43-45, among others. Furthermore, Amendment No. 2, issued May 25, 1978, under Condition No. 16 of License SUA-1204, states, "The 100 gpm development test at the 9AI area of the Irigaray site may continue under authority of this license until superseded by license approval for production-scale operations obtained through the application filed under Docket No. 40-8502, or until February 4, 1979, whichever comes first." Finally, this is also clear from the Final Environmental Statement for the Irigaray Site, NUREG-0481, dated September 1978.

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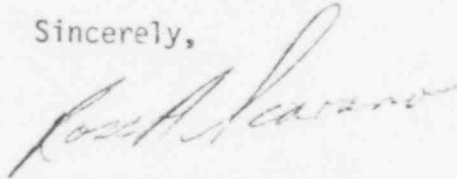
Therefore, your request to renew your research and development license is superfluous, because any further proposed research and development activity should be incorporated into your commercial license.

Please inform us by August 17, 1979, when your status report on the experiments concerning ammonia transport and nitrate formation at the 5I7 site will be available for our review as noted in the Final Environmental Statement (NUREG-0381) on page 6-9.

You may request a hearing on the denial within 20 days from the date of receipt of this letter.

With respect to the \$17,300 fee paid for renewal of the license, Footnote 4 of Section 170.31 of Part 170 provides that upon completion of the licensing review, the Commission will review its expenditures for professional manpower and appropriate support services, recompute the renewal fee, and, if necessary, refund any overcharges. You will be hearing from us in the near future on this matter.

Sincerely,



R. A. Scarano, Chief
Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch
Division of Waste Management

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