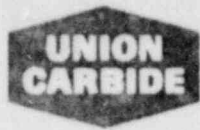


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UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION
METALS DIVISION
P. O. BOX 1029, GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO 81502
TELEPHONE (303) 245-3700

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS
POOR QUALITY PAGES

June 19, 1980

Mr. Ross Scarano, Chief
Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch
Division of Waste Management
Mail Stop 483-SS
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Subject: Radioactive Material License SUA-673

Dear Mr. Scarano:

On May 30, 1980 Union Carbide submitted to the Radiation and Hazardous Waste Control Division of the Colorado Department of Health, its recommended long range plan for processing of its Uravan mineral belt ores.

This plan and a list of the supporting documentation is presented in the attached letter from Mr. L. P. Twichell of Union Carbide to Mr. A. J. Hazle of the Colorado Department of Health.

At the request of Mr. Ken Weaver, of the Division, a copy of this submittal is enclosed for your review.

Sincerely yours,

P. C. Rekemeyer
P. C. Rekemeyer
Environmental Coordinator

PCR/brs

cc: Mr. Ken Weaver - CDH

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UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION

METALS DIVISION

P. O. BOX 1029, GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO 81501

TELEPHONE (303) 245-3700

May 30, 1980

Mr. A. J. Hazle, Director
Radiation and Hazardous Wastes Control Division
State of Colorado Department of Health
4210 East 11th Avenue
Denver, Colorado 80220

Subject: Radioactive Material
License SUA-673

Dear Mr. Hazle:

As per your letter of December 20, 1979, to R. G. Beverly, the following information is submitted for the May 30, 1980, meeting between Union Carbide Corporation and the Colorado Department of Health.

Long-Range Study

Union Carbide has studied several alternative long-range plans for the processing of its Uravan Mineral Belt ores. These alternatives include 1) remaining at Uravan, 2) ceasing operation at Uravan and building a new mill, 3) ceasing operation at Uravan and tolling ore through mills owned by others, 4) ceasing milling operations but continuing to mine and sell ore, and 5) ceasing all operations.

Recommended Long-Range Plan

Of the various alternatives studied, our preferred and recommended plan is to remain at Uravan. Our reasons for selecting this option are 1) desire to maintain control of our own milling operation, 2) operating confidence by continuing a going plant, 3) desire to offer continued employment for our Uravan personnel, and 4) desire to continue to contribute to the economic welfare of the local community.

For business reasons, we believe it advisable to maintain a fallback position and leave open the option of selecting our second choice of operating plans; namely, tolling. These business reasons include 1) the current uncertainty in the uranium market and 2) possible problems of financing the large capital investment at Uravan.

We propose to proceed with the plan to stay at Uravan. This will entail 1) completing the Phase II work on the existing tailings, 2) proceeding with work required to construct new tailings and effluent disposal areas on Spring Creek Mesa, and 3) relocating the town of Uravan if radiation regulations cannot be met.

Documentation

The following attached documents are in support of the above and include those documents requested in your December 20, 1979, letter.

1. Proposed Timetable for New Tailings and Effluent Area.
2. International Engineering Co., Inc., Report, Preliminary Geotechnical Investigation of the Proposed Spring Creek Mesa Tailings and Effluent Disposal Site Near Uravan, Colorado.
3. International Engineering Co., Inc., Cost Estimate for Item 2 above.
4. Dames and Moore Report, Tailings Storage and Evaporation Pond Evaluation, Long Park and Paradox Valley Sites, Montrose County, Colorado.
5. Dames and Moore Cost Report for Item 4 above.
- *6. NUS Corporation Report, 40 CFR 190 Related Radiological Doses Due to the Operation of the Uravan Uranium Mill.
7. NUS Corporation Report, Facilities Stack Audit, Uravan, Colorado.
8. NUS Corporation Report, A Correlation Analysis of Variables Affecting Airborne Radioactive Particulate Concentration Near the Uravan Uranium Mill.
9. NUS Corporation Report, A Review of Meteorological Data Representative of the Uravan Uranium Mill Site Vicinity.
10. 1979 Annual Summary Environmental and Health Physics Monitoring, Uravan, Colorado.
11. 1st Quarter, 1980 Summary Environmental and Health Physics Monitoring, Uravan, Colorado.
12. Report, Proposed Plans and Estimated Costs for Tailings Reclamation, Mill Decommissioning and Pond Reclamation at the Uravan Mill - For Surety Purposes.
13. Memorandum on Meeting Requirements Under Section 505, Article 8, Title 25, CRS, 1973, as Amended.

Additional copies of the above can be supplied as needed.

Very truly yours,

L. P. Twichell

L. P. Twichell
Director - Operations Analysis

LPT:gt

Encls.

*This report not available for May 30 meeting. Will be submitted to CDH by June 6, 1980.

PROPOSED TIMFTABLE FOR NEW TAILINGS AND EFFLUENT AREA

May 30, 1980	Submit plan to CDH
May 31-July 31, 1980	Review by CDH
Aug. 1-Dec. 31, 1980	Land acquisition
Jan. 1-Dec. 31, 1981	Base line study, Finalize engineering, Get license agreement.
Jan. 1-Dec. 31, 1982	Start construction: Tailings area, effluent ponds, pipeline, road.
Jan. 1-Dec. 31, 1983	Finish construction
Jan. 1, 1984	Operation of new tailings and effluent area.