



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

DCS

JUL 10 1980

Docket No. 40-8585
SUA-1315

MEMORANDUM FOR: Ross A. Scarano, Chief
Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch (WMUR)

THRU: John J. Linehan, Section Leader (WMUR) JJL

FROM: Ralph S. Heyer (WMUR)

SUBJECT: REVISION OF CONDITION NO. 11 OF LICENSE NO. SUA-1315,
WYOMING MINERAL CORPORATION (WMC), COPPERTON FACILITY,
DOCKET NO. 40-8585

By letter from Karl R. Schendel, WMC, to John Linehan, NRC, dated May 27, 1980, WMC has requested amendment of Condition No. 11 of SUA-1315.

The proposed action is the amendment of Source Material License SUA-1315 to alter flow rates from 6666 gpm to 10,000 gpm IX feed and 6710 gpm to 10,070 gpm IX tails. The proposed increases in flow rates for the ion exchange (IX) column, 3334 gpm for feed and 3360 gpm for tails, are needed to provide suitable downstream flow into the succeeding solvent extraction (SX) equipment. The proposed increase of flow rates would require installation of additional IX columns. Since the IX feed is bled from the Kennecott waste stream and since the "stripped solution" is pumped back into this waste stream, the proposed increase in flow rates will not result in any increase in effluents. The necessity to increase the flow rates is to support the uranium production rate already authorized by this license. No increase in yellowcake production would be allowed without further amendment to the license.

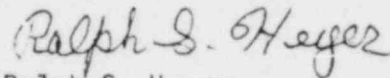
The additional IX columns would be located adjacent to the existing IX columns. The Environmental Impact Appraisal concluded that the plant "will be located within or contiguous to Bingham Canyon Mine property and the incremental environmental impact due to these activities, in this heavy industrial zone, will be negligible" (Part 4.1, page 21). Therefore, installation of these additional columns is not expected to result in any significant incremental impacts.

Issuance of Amendment No. 1, as concluded by staff and as described above, will not result in any significant incremental environmental impacts above those assessed in the Environmental Appraisal, dated September 15, 1977, prepared in support of the issuance of SUA-1315. Approval of this amendment with Condition No. 11 revised to read as follows is recommended:

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JUL 10 1980

11. The plant throughput, averaged over one year, shall not exceed 600 pounds of U_3O_8 per day. Modifications to the basic process presented in Figure 3.2-1 of the licensee's application dated November 2, 1976, and application of May 27, 1980, changing the flow rate from 6666 gpm to 10,000 gpm IX feed and 6710 gpm to 10,070 gpm IX tails shall require NRC approval through amendment of this license prior to use of the modified system. Liquid process wastes shall be released from the plant through the copper leach system.



Ralph S. Heyer
Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch
Division of Waste Management

Approved by:



John J. Linehan, Section Leader
Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch