



STATE OF WASHINGTON

Dixy Lee Ray
Governor

PDR WM-33
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES

Olympia, Washington 98504

8005090277

March 26, 1980



Mr. Ross Scarano
Uranium Mill Licensing
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Silver Springs, Maryland 20910

Dear Mr. Scarano:

The State of Washington requests specific technical assistance from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission in those areas of uranium mill licensing outlined in Wayne Kerr's letter of December 31, 1979, and as described in the attached Draft Agreement Between the State of Washington and NRC Mill Licensing staff, February 29, 1980. I have signed the attached Draft Agreement to signify acceptance of Washington's commitments outlined in the Agreement.

By this letter Washington also officially submits a copy of the Dawn Mining Company response to EPA's questions on the previously submitted Environmental Report to the NRC.

Sincerely,

T. R. Strong, Head
Radiation Control Section

TRS/mh

Attachment

cc: Wayne Kerr

15951

Received umur
APR 2 1980

FEE EXEMPT

State agrees

Draft Agreement Between the State of Washington
and NRC Mill Licensing Staff

February 29, 1980

It is mutually agreed that the NRC will provide the State of Washington with technical assistance in its review of Dawn's renewal application and proposed below grade tailings management plan. Technical assistance will be rendered in the following areas:

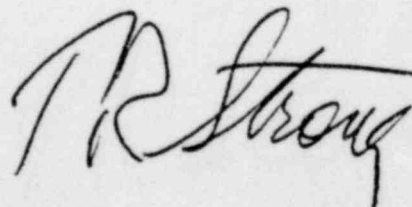
1. Tailings Management Alternatives
2. Potential long-term impacts
 - a. long-term stability of tailings retention system
 - b. reclamation of tailings disposal area
3. Impacts to surface and ground water
4. Radiological assessment
5. Environmental impacts of accidents

The renewal review and the review of the below grade tailings management plan will be performed separately. The technical assistance evaluations will follow the general outline in Enclose 1 to the December 31, 1979 letter from Wayne Kerr, NRC, to the State of Washington on technical assistance. The review of the below grade tailings management plan will be performed first due to the preference of both Dawn and the State for Dawn to go to a new below grade tailings disposal facility rather than raise the existing dam. The NRC estimates that the review of the below grade tailings management plan and the renewal can be completed within six and nine months, respectively.

It is agreed that the State of Washington will take no licensing action on either the below grade tailings management plan or the renewal until NRC has completed its review of the action.

The NRC and State of Washington will attempt to use their best efforts to complete the environmental assessment on the new tailings disposal area by September 1, 1980, and the renewal by December 1, 1980.

It is agreed that work in the environmental assessment will receive appropriate attention of the NRC and state and that each agency will fund its own activities.



Meeting between the State of Washington, NRC, EPA, and Dawn Mining to discuss licensing reviews on Dawn's license renewal requests and requests for authorization to use a new proposed below grade disposal bit.

Dates: February 28 & 29, 1980

2/28 -- An afternoon meeting was held with all parties present to discuss EPA's comments on Dawn's submittals and Dawn's response to these comments.

A meeting was then held between the State and NRC to discuss NRC's involvement in the independent environmental assessments that must be done. NRC at the state's request will perform the reviews outlined in the attached Draft Agreement.

2/29 -- Site visit to Dawn

Afternoon meeting between State and NRC to review the draft agreement. The state staff will review this agreement with their management and get back to NRC by March 13, 1980 with any comments or proposed changes. A final agreement resolving comments or proposed changes by NRC and the state will then be signed by NRC and the State prior to the initiation of NRC's review.

15951

15951