



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

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

THRU: John J. Linehan, Section Leader
Operating Facilities Section
Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch *JJL*

FROM: Daniel M. Gillen
Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch

SUBJECT: TRIP REPORT

Place and Date

February 13, 1980; Federal-American Partners Uranium Mill, Gas Hills, WY

Purpose

Tour of site and mill facilities for Oak Ridge personnel, discussion of preliminary environmental report review concerns and scoping meeting.

Site Visit Attendees (see Enclosure 1)

Summary

A preliminary meeting was held at the FAP village to discuss review of the environmental report. A presentation of preliminary concerns and requests for additional information was made by Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) personnel. The subject areas of review addressed at the meeting were aquatic ecology, terrestrial ecology, socio-economy, geology and hydrology. No new commitments were made during this meeting (see Enclosure 2). The questions and requests for additional information will be documented in a formal letter sent to FAP following submission of their detailed tailings management report (report was received March 10, 1980).

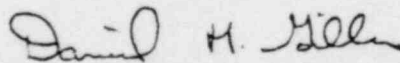
Following the meeting, NRC and ORNL personnel were conducted on a tour of the proposed subsurface tailings disposal area, the existing tailings ponds, and the mill facilities. Union Carbide backfilling operations adjacent to FAP's below grade disposal area were in progress. During the tour of the mill it was noted that the dust control system in the crushing and grinding circuit was down for repair. Upon seeing this, Brad Thurman, the FAP Mill Superintendent who was conducting the tour, immediately had the circuit shut down. The existing crushing and grinding circuit is to be replaced in the proposed expansion by a semi-autogenous grind circuit.

A brief exit meeting was convened to discuss the site tour and the environmental report review schedule. It was concluded that a meeting will be held (in Silver Spring) following NRC's receipt and review of the tailings management report.

Following the site visit, at 7:00 p.m., a scoping meeting was held in Riverton, Wyoming at the Elks Lodge. The meeting was held to brief interested parties on details of FAP's license renewal and expansion plans and to provide opportunity for comment on the scope of the proposed Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Following descriptions by NRC of the proposed actions, NRC's environmental review process, and NRC's proposed scope of review, and a description of the existing project and proposed modifications by FAP, a comment period was held. Four (4) commentors were heard and their comments documented and responded to. No presentation or comments were offered by the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality.

A detailed summary of the scoping process will be written following the closure date for comments. The closure date given in the Federal Register Notice has been extended to three weeks following the date of submittal or FAP's tailings management report.



Daniel M. Gillen
Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch
Division of Waste Management

Enclosure:

1. Site Visit Attendees List
2. Site Visit Meeting Summary

cc: H. Fontecillo, OCM
John C. Guibert, OCM
Hugh L. Thompson, OCM
George D. Sauter, OCM

SITE VISIT ATTENDEES

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Larry LaMonica	Chemical Engineer	Science Applications
M. J. Kelly	ORNL Manager	ORNL
J. S. Baldwin	Geologist-Hydrogeology	ORNL
Mark Haisfield	Ur. Rec. Syst. Proj. Mgt	NRC
Daniel M. Gillen	Project Manager	NRC
John Linehan	Section Leader	NRC
Warren Webb	Terrestrial Ecologist	ORNL
Jay Weinstein	Social Scientist	ORNL
Don Powers	Aquatic Ecologist	ORNL
Floyde D. Jackson	Director of Safety & Personnel	FAP
Donald R. Clark	Division Manager	F.M. Fox & Assoc.
J. F. Templeton	Chief, Civil Eng.	Kaiser Eng.
Dana P. Adams	Project Manager	Kaiser Eng.
Bob Schenker	Environ. Control Engineer	K.E., Inc.
David J. Nicolarsen	Project Manager-Gas Hills	TVA
Rick Powers	Geologist-Gas Hills	TVA
Ray Moore	Supervisor Environmental Assess.	TVA
Emmerson Kemp	Consultant-Metallurgical Engineer	Emmerson Kemp & Assoc.
John F. Spisak	Chief, Metallurgist	Fed. Am. Part.
Webb Garey	Construction Manager	Fed. Am. Part.

Federal-American Partners Site Visit Gas Hills, Wyoming

Wednesday February 13, 1980

Attendees: See attached list

Meeting Subject: Preliminary presentation of ORNL reviewer concerns

A meeting was held at the FAP site to discuss preliminary environmental report reviewer concerns in the areas of socio-economy, terrestrial and aquatic ecology, and geology-hydrology. The concerns were presented and noted by FAP personnel. No new commitments were made during this meeting. These concerns will be documented in a formal letter sent to FAP following submission of their detailed tailings management report (Report due in late February).

Daniel M. Gillen) NRC
John Jindler)
John F. Johnson FAP

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