



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

Docket # 40-6659
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NOV 1 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: L. C. Rouse, Chief, Fuel Processing and Fabrication Branch
Div. of Fuel Cycle and Material Safety, NMSS

FROM: J. Carl Stepp, Chief, Geosciences Branch, DSE

SUBJECT: SAFETY EVALUATION INPUT - GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING
(TAC NO. 4445)

PLANT NAME: Petrotomics - Getty Oil Company Tailings Dam
LICENSING STAGE: Application for construction
DOCKET NUMBER: 40-6659
RESPONSIBLE BRANCH: Fuel Processing and Fabrication Branch, J. Linehan
REVIEW STATUS: Continuing upon receipt of revised construction drawings
and specifications

We have enclosed the safety evaluation report for the Petrotomics uranium tailings retention system which was prepared by NRC consultant, the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Albuquerque District.

The report indicates all major safety review issues have been resolved through commitments by the Applicant to make additions and revisions to the construction drawings and specifications. We strongly support our Consultant's request that the revised information be provided for final review prior to the start of actual construction and recommend the Applicant indicate a schedule for submitting this information.

The Corps request for two construction inspections by them as recommended in the license conditions is good engineering practice that affords the opportunity to determine if site conditions do actually exist as envisioned in the design and permits the involvement of design personnel in making field adjustments should they be necessary. These inspections should be coordinated with appropriate Inspection and Enforcement personnel. We recommend that the Petrotomics Company now indicate the estimated dates for these construction activities to permit future scheduling.

for *Lynn W. Heller*
J. Carl Stepp, Chief
Geosciences Branch
Division of Site Safety and
Environmental Analysis

Enclosure:
As stated

cc: See next page

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L. C. Rouse

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cc: w/o enclosure

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