



PDR

WM-20

March 13, 1980

Colorado Department of Health
Radiation and Hazardous Wastes Control Division
4210 East 11th Ave.
Denver, Colorado 80220



Attn: Albert J. Hazle, Director
Kenneth K. Weaver, Health Physicist

Dear Sirs:

The Uranium Mill Planning Committee (UMPC) was formed in September, 1979 to assess, promulgate and act on local area impacts of the proposed Pioneer Uranium San Miguel Project uranium mill. The Committee consists of volunteer civic leaders representing two county commissions and the four towns that would be most affected by the mill.

Throughout the life of the UMPC and during its deliberations an invited representative of Pioneer Uranium has been present to provide necessary planning information. The Committee has now followed the progress of the project, especially the licensing phase, in very close detail for almost half a year. It is the unanimous consensus of the UMPC that the San Miguel Project will have generally positive impacts on Colorado's West End, will provide the nation valuable mineral resources and is being approached in a responsible and professional manner by Pioneer Uranium.

Therefore, on behalf of the full Committee we urge the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Colorado Department of Health (CDH) to proceed with all necessary licensing steps as expeditiously as possible. We are currently concerned that the BLM right-of-way approval action relating to Pioneer Uranium's accepted water procurement plan may be needlessly extended instead of approved in a timely fashion. We are aware that the CDH and other regulatory agencies have already required 15 months for the review process and there are several more months still to go. We do not believe these extended licensing periods are fair, necessary or in the best interests of either the nation's environment or its economy. We urge both the BLM and CDH to avoid any more delays and allow others to get on with the necessary actions that run a great country like ours.

Dan Woodard
Chairman
Uranium Mill Planning Committee

cc: ✓ Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Bureau of Land Management

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FEE EXEMPT

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add info