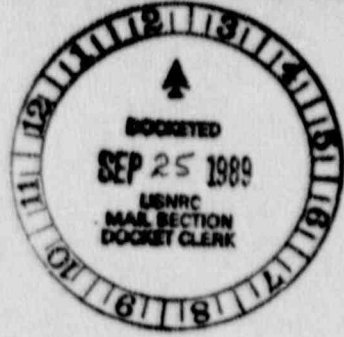


RETURN ORIGINAL TO PDR, HQ

DENNIS BOYD  
Secretary  
MICHAEL J. BURKHART  
Deputy Secretary  
RICHARD MITZELFELT  
Director

September 12, 1989



Allyn M. Davis, Director  
Hazardous Waste Management Division  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1445 Ross Ave.  
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

RE: Proposed Record of Decision for Homestake Mining Company,  
Radon Operable Unit

Dear Mr. Davis:

The Environmental Improvement Division (EID) has reviewed the draft Record of Decision (ROD) for the Radon Operable Unit of the Homestake Mining Company (HMC) Superfund site.

The EID agrees that the results of the remedial investigation indicate that the uranium mill and tailings embankments at the HMC site are not contributing significantly to radon concentrations in the subdivisions near the site. Therefore, the EID concurs with the selected remedy of no further action for the Radon Operable Unit as proposed by EPA.

It is understood that this action is only one part of a more comprehensive response action for the HMC site which includes three operable units: radon, groundwater, and source control. As you are aware, EID currently requires HMC to have an approved ground water protection and restoration program as authorized by the facility's Ground Water Discharge Plan (DP 200). Remedial activities addressing source control, onsite surface reclamation, and contaminated ground water are regulated by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), pursuant to the facility's NRC license. The EID in conjunction with the NRC will continue to require HMC to implement a ground water remediation program after closure of the mill.

The uranium mill and tailings embankments are potential sources of radon in the area. As we discussed at a meeting with your staff on August 29, 1989, a provision will be included in the ROD for continued review of outdoor radon monitoring and particulate data by EPA, and the monitoring of radon in the subdivisions if warranted by future data.

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PDR ADOCK 04008903  
PDC

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- ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT DIVISION -  
Herold Runnels Building  
1180 St. Francis Dr.  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503

DESIGNATED ORIGINAL

Certified By *Mary C. Hood*

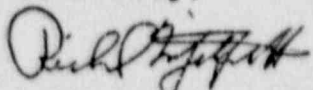
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Allyn M. Davis  
September 13, 1989  
page 2

The EID is in agreement with the evaluation of applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements (ARARs) in Appendix A of the ROD.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Record of Decision on HMC and for keeping us involved.

Sincerely,



Richard Mitzelfelt  
Director

RM:DMD:dmd

cc: Steve Cary, NMEID  
William Rowe, USEPA  
Gary Konwinski, NRC