



LPDR

40-3453

Atlas Minerals

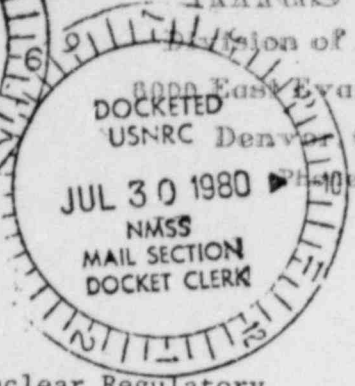
Division of Atlas Corporation

3000 East Evans Avenue, Suite 401

USNRC Denver, Colorado 80222

Phone (303) 757-1759

July 17, 1980



Gordon T. Swanby
Vice President

Mr. Pete Garcia
United States Nuclear Regulatory
Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Re: License No. SUA-917

Dear Mr. Garcia:

Confirming our discussions of today, I understand that you and Mr. Lorenzo Wilborn have discussed the suggested citations and that there will be no violations assessed against Atlas resulting from the June 23 and 24 inspection.

The one open item from that inspection is the need for a background (remote from site) ambient air monitor to sample airborne, particulates. I understand you will send us a letter suggesting that this additional monitoring device is needed and that you will recommend a direction and distance for the location of this device. When we receive the letter, our next step will be to see what we can do about locating this device in accordance with your suggestions.

With regard to water balance in the plant--as you know from our discussions, we are investigating every possible avenue to assure that we will continue to maintain and, if possible, increase the beach area in the tailing pond. A suggestion was made by the inspectors in June that Atlas spray tailing pond water on the beaches to ameliorate blowing dust. We are going to follow this suggestion and install as quickly as possible a new spray system to spray the raffinate liquors in the air above the beaches.

The idea of spraying raffinate onto the borrow area for the soil that is to be used for the next lift was also discussed. We believe this will be an efficient use of the water resources in the area because this raffinate will merely replace water that would need to be pumped from the river to wet down the soil, and will also evaporate additional water. Any residual salts that might possibly be deposited on the surface of the soil during the wetting operation will, of course, be picked up and placed back into the dike when it is constructed. As we discussed, neither you or I could see any particular problem with this approach; however, if you can think of any reason why this should not be done at the proper time, I would appreciate hearing from you. If not, we will plan to proceed with this if and when the next lift is approved.

Very truly yours,

Gordon T. Swanby
Gordon T. Swanby

GTS/lks
cc: Mr. Richard Weaver, Mr. Wayne Jensen
Mr. Larry Jacobs
Atlas Minerals

8008080

438

C

16890

add'l info