



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

PDR

WM-28

AUG 1 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR: G. Wayne Kerr, Assistant Director  
State Agreements Program  
Office of State Programs

FROM: Ross A. Scarano, Chief  
Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch  
Division of Waste Management

SUBJECT: CHURCH ROCK DAM STABILITY ISSUES

This is in response to your request for our technical assessment of New Mexico's actions related to the Church Rock dam stability issues raised in my December 10, 1979 letter to New Mexico Environmental Improvement Division (NMEID). We are in receipt of Dr. John Nelson's review of New Mexico's actions as reflected in the information package you forwarded to me on June 23, 1980.

In conformance with our agreement by telecon on July 22, 1980, we will await input from Joseph Kane, NRR before finalizing our assessment. In addition, I received on July 25, 1980 from United Nuclear Corporation (UNC) a copy of recent transmittals between the New Mexico State Engineers Office and UNC that are associated with one of the issues raised in my December, 1979 issue. We will incorporate this new information in our assessment. Depending on the availability of Joe Kane, who will be on vacation until August 18, 1980, we will try to complete the assessment by September 15, 1980.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Ross A. Scarano".

Ross A. Scarano, Chief  
Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch  
Division of Waste Management