



## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV

URANIUM RECOVERY FIELD OFFICE BOX 25325 DENVER, COLORADO 80225

NOV 22 1989

URFO: GRK Docket No. 40-8943

Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Moore P.O. Box 352 Crawford, Nebraska 69339

Mr. Moore:

As indicated in Mr. V. Stello's letter to Congresswoman Virginia Smith dated July 3, 1989, we agreed to inform you of the results of our evaluation of additional data provided to us by Mr. Peterson. We have completed that review and have concluded that it does not alter previous licensing decisions.

Our office has reviewed the data associated with the operation of the Crow Butte Research and Development project as well as the supporting data supplied by Ferret in support of the commercial application. In addition to this information, we have reviewed Mr. Peterson's concerns in detail. It is our conclusion that Ferret has supplied sufficient data to support issuance of a commercial license to operate the Crow Butte project.

As you are aware, there have been several public meetings which, among other things, have raised the concern of ground-water pollution due to loss of control of mining solutions. Our technical analysis indicates that this situation is highly unlikely. We have, however, included several license requirements that will implement programs to monitor for such loss of control. These programs will supply data on all the environs potentially affected by the project. Consequently, if there is any loss of control of operations, it will be detected quickly and appropriate corrective actions can be taken.

Sincerely.

Ramon E. Hall

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Docket File 40-8943
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CONCURRENCE:

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DATE:

11-20-89

11/22/89

11/24/89