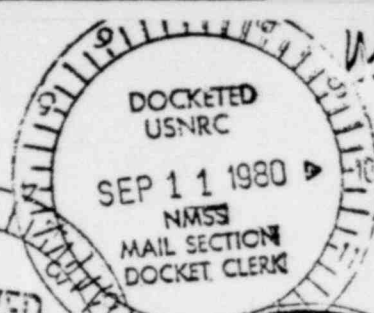
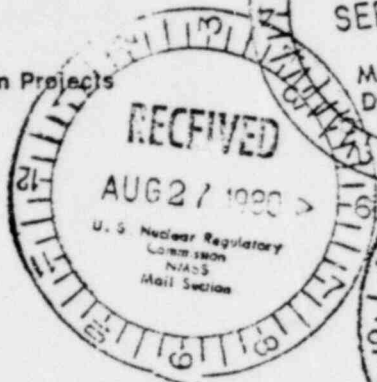


ANACONDA Copper Company
1400 Bank & Trust Tower
Corpus Christi, Texas 78477
Telephone 512 883-0901
G.R. Davis
Manager-South Texas Uranium Projects

PDR



August 20, 1980



Mr. George Wu
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop 483SS
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Mr. Wu:

In response to your telephone request concerning the characteristics of our uranium mill tailings and their transportation to the pit from the mill at Rhode Ranch, we submit the following:

1. How will the tailings be transported to the pit?

ANSWER: Our first option is to return tailings to the pit in a slurry where they will be dewatered. Underdrains and decantation will be employed as necessary to recover for return to the mill circuit. The dewatered tailings will be buried at less than saturation. If return of tailings as a slurry turns out to be impractical in the field, we will install filters or centrifuges to remove the water prior to transporting tailings to the pit.

2. What are the radiometrics in the tailings?

ANSWER: Attached is a copy of a laboratory report by Controls for Environmental Pollutions, Inc. (CEP) of Santa Fe, New Mexico. This describes the radiometrics in the tailings from the Rhode Ranch exploratory pit.

These data should complete the requested information. We look forward to an early permit from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Very truly yours,

G. R. Davis

G. R. Davis

GRD/pd

Attachment

cc: Ed Bailey - Tex. Dept. Health

FEE EXEMPT.

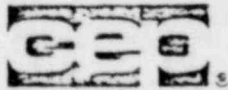
CUSTOMER Anaconda Copper Company
ADDRESS P. O. Box 27007
CITY Tucson, AZ 85726
ATTENTION
INVOICE NO 007180

REPORT OF ANALYSIS

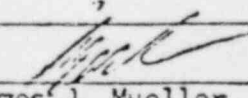
SAMPLES RECEIVED 5-5-80 CUSTOMER ORDER NUMBER P.O. # 5603

TYPE OF ANALYSIS Uranium Ore Leach Tails (Date Collected 4-24-80) "CORRECTED REPORT"

<u>Analysis</u>	<u>pCi/gm</u>	<u>mg/g</u>
Radium-226	0.4 ± 0.1	
Radium-228	< 0.2	
Polonium-210	13 ± 2	
Lead-210	3.3 ± 0.4	
Thorium-232	< 0.06	
Thorium-230	< 0.06	
Thorium-232	< 0.06	
Total Uranium		0.22
Gamma Spec.:		
Lead-210	0.05 ± 0.02	
Lead-214	0.36 ± 0.05	
Bismuth-214	0.40 ± 0.05	



Controls for Environmental Pollution, Inc.
P.O. Box 5351 • 1925 Rosina • Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502
Telephone 505/982-9841

APPROVED BY 
James J. Mueller, President
7-23-80 PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGE

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