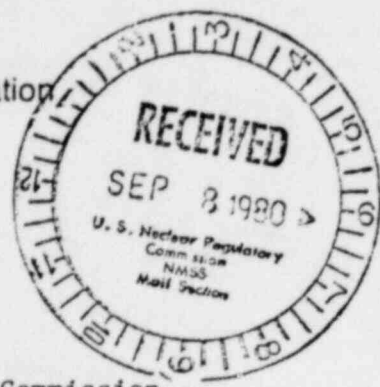


PDR WM-24

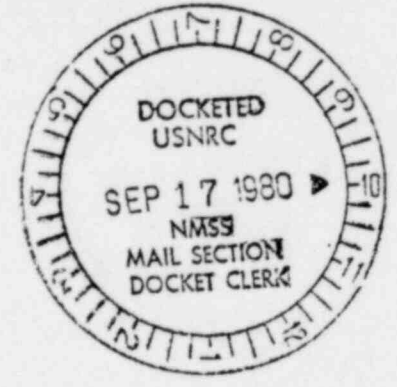
Cyprus Mines Corporation
Uranium Division

1790 30th Street
Suite 200
Boulder, Colorado 80301
Telephone 303) 447-0781



August 20, 1980
80-20.17-859

Mr. Eugene Trager
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch
Washington, D.C. 20555



Dear Mr. Trager:

Re: Hansen Project -
Cottonwood River Ranch
Summary of 8-15-80 Meeting

Enclosed per your request is a copy of a map showing the current land ownership in Cottonwood River Ranch subdivision near the Hansen Project tailings disposal area.

Also enclosed is a copy of a memo sent to Wahler Associates summarizing the meeting of August 15, 1980 and instructing them to complete the additional analysis requested by the NRC. If this memo does not accurately reflect the position and requirements of the NRC, please notify me immediately.

Very truly yours,
M. A. Thompson
M. A. Thompson
Principal Licensing Engineer

Encls. - retained by P.M.
MAT:ms

cc: Mr. Richard Gamewell
Colorado Dept. of Health
Radiation & Hazardous Wastes
Control Division
4210 E. 11th Ave
Denver, CO 80220

FREE EXEMPT

17376

8010030192

CYPRUS

To

Wahler Associates

Date

August 18, 1980

From

R. N. McDaniel

2.6.5.4.4

Subject Work Scope - Supplement for NRC

BACKGROUND:

At a meeting in Silver Springs, Maryland August 15, 1980 with Messrs. Scarano and Miller, it was determined that NRC would not approve a single cell dam configuration for the Hansen Project mill tailings disposal. They were advised that a three cell, nominal fifty percent below grade configuration was acceptable to the Project. This seemed to greatly relieve Mr. Scarano and he advised that his people would proceed to complete their analysis and report by mid-October. However, additional data from Wahler would be required by August 29, 1980 to maintain this schedule.

PROBLEM STATEMENT:

Mr. Miller concludes that our previous evaluation submittal, particularly December 1979 and July 1980 hypothesize that the multi-cell configuration is technically infeasible due to reactivation of ancient landslides and groundwater heaving. They and their consultants believe that this is not true or at least sufficient technical data had not been presented to substantiate. (Of course, we do not believe it true either.)

Nonetheless, to provide technical assurance that multi-cell design can or cannot be successfully constructed, Wahler & Associates is hereby requested to perform the following analysis:

- Parameter study of slope stability for one or more potential landslide areas. Variables such as pore pressure, soil strengths, failure planes, etc. should be considered.
- Upon identification of a failure plane(s) a sensitivity analysis should be made to determine the variation in safety factor as a function of the construction angle of cut.

NRC consultant, Terry Howard, believes that the foregoing problem analysis can be completed by accomplishing about 20 iterations over a four day work period.

A technical feasibility statement will be made regarding handling of groundwater during excavation of cells.

LIMITATIONS:

The response to the NRC must be mailed to them no later than August 29, 1980. Consistent with this date the number of potential landslide areas inspected must be limited. Wahler's judgment in this selection will be final.

17076

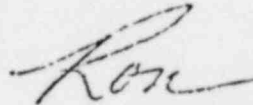
CYPRUS

Wahler Associates
August 18, 1980
Page 2

Emphasis will be placed on analysis relating to an Alternative 2, three cell disposal configuration, but if possible, Alternative 1 (three cell) will also be inspected for one potential landslide area and a statement regarding groundwater blowout.

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Wahler will be provided a purchase order as soon as a dollar estimate is provided to the Project.



R. N. McDaniel
Administrative Manager

RNM:kms

cc: K. E. Dyas
M. A. Thompson

CYPRUS