

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

SEP 1 7 1980

WMUR:JER WM-39

Mr. Richard H. Campbell, Project Manager Uranium Mill Tailings Project Officer Department of Energy Albuquerque Operations Office P. O. Box 5400 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87115

Dear Mr. Campbell:

The following is submitted in response to your letter of August 21, 1980 requesting input to be incorporated in the 1980 Annual Status Report to the Congress on the Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action Program covering period January 1, 1980 through September 30, 1980:

- The Commission met with the Department of Energy and agreed on detailed plans and procedures to be followed in implementing the NRC review and concurrence functions specified in Title I of the Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act (UMTRCA) of 1978. It was also agreed that the DOE as the lead agency would formally request NRC participation as a cooperating agency in the NEPA/EIS process. In this manner NRC will be involved in reviewing the development of remedial action programs from the beginning.
- The NRC coordinated with the Department of Energy in the identification and initiation of research programs to be conducted in providing the technical bases for the remedial action program.
- In compliance with Section 103 of UMTRCA, the Commission reviewed and concurred in Cooperative Agreements with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the State of Utah regarding remedial actions at the designated processing sites in Canonsburg and Salt Lake City.
- The Commission cooperated with EPA in reviewing and providing comments on the Interim Cleanu, Standards for Inactive Uranium Processing Sites which were promulgated and become effective on April 22, 1980.

If you have any questions on this matter, please call me or Mr. J. E. Rothfleisch of my staff at 301-427-4103.

Sincerely,

Ross A. Scarano, Chief

Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch Division of Waste Management