

LPDR 40-8034

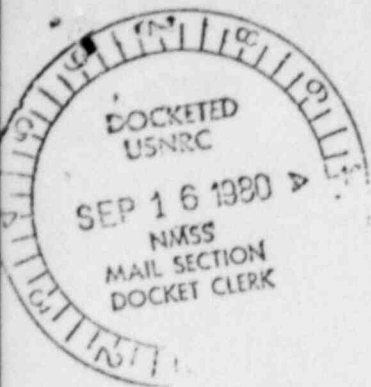
RIO ALGOM CORPORATION

Lisbon Mine

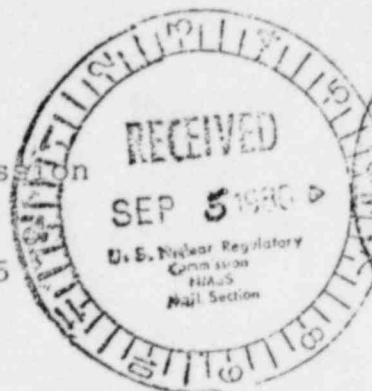
LaSal Route
MOAB, UTAH 84532

Phone: (801) 259-5904

August 27, 1980



Mr. John Linehan
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
7915 Willste Building
Eastern Avenue
Washington, D. C. 20555



Dear Mr. Linehan:

Today I received a copy of the Dames and Moore report titled, "Report of Geotechnical Evaluation to Support the Request for a Five Foot Dam Raise."

I contacted Dames and Moore and they informed me that they had sent two copies to your consultant, Dr. John Nelson at Colorado State and ten copies to you.

Our calculations agree with those of Dames and Moore with respect to the ability of the upper tailings pond to contain the runoff from a 100 year storm. If the operating water level was as high as the mentioned level of five feet below the crest elevation, the 100 year storm of 50 acre-feet would only raise the water level, 1.4 feet.

In actual fact, we are currently holding the water level ten feet below the proposed crest elevation. With this amount of freeboard, the 21 inches of rainfall that Dames and Moore have determined for a P.M.F. Series, will still allow for a minimum freeboard of two feet.

We are still busy working on increasing the size of the diversion ditch to ensure that all the runoff upstream from the tailings ponds will be diverted in the event of a P.M.F. Series. The Dames and Moore estimated design peak P.M.F. discharge for this channel is 3220 cubic feet per second. The diversion channel will be completed within the next few weeks and will have at least an average width of 17 feet and an average depth of 9 feet.

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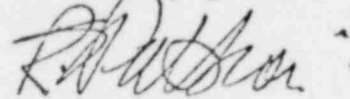
FEE EXEMPT

John Linehan

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We trust the information supplied to Dr. Nelson and yourself will enable us to have early approval for commencing construction of the five foot dam raise.

Sincerely yours,



M. D. Lawton
Manager

(R. S. Pattison, Plant
Superintendent for
M. D. Lawton)

MDL:jem

cc. File