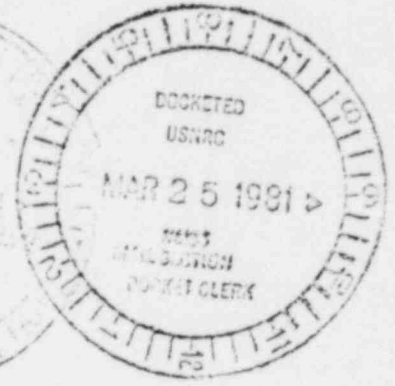
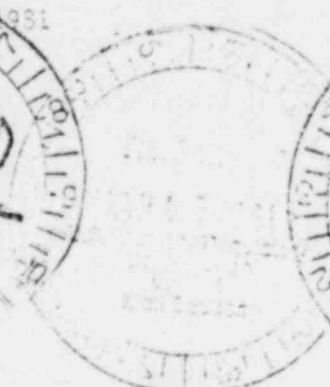
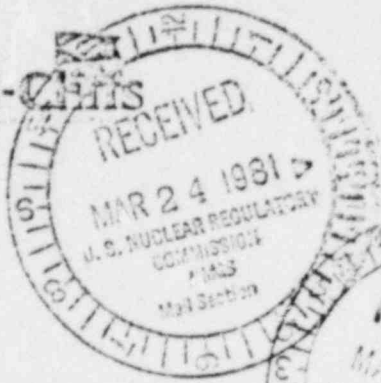


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PDR

Cleveland-Cliffs

R. M. Tuthill
Manager - Uranium



Mr. John Linehan
Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch
Division of Waste Management
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D C. 20555

Dear Mr. Linehan:

Re Source Material License No. SUA-1352,
Docket No. 040-03714

The purpose of this letter is to provide a record of our telephone conversation on March 5, 1981, in regard to the sampling procedure of well field Monitor Well 238. This monitor well has been indicating sulfate concentrations in excess of the upper control limits. These higher concentrations were reported to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission in a letter dated February 9, 1981, per Source Material License No. SUA-1352. As licensed, we have been sampling this well daily for analyses of excursion indicators. The sampling method requires the pumping of one well casing volume of water prior to sample collection.

The purpose of the March 5 phone call was to request a variance in the sampling procedure. The removal of one casing volume of water from the well prior to sampling appears to aggravate the problem of elevated concentrations of excursion indicators in the well. The pumping draws water with chemicals from the well field area toward the monitor well. A request was made to postpone the the daily monitoring requirement until after our meeting in Washington on March 10, 1981, at which time the current problem could be further discussed.

During the phone conversation, it was agreed that daily sampling of the monitor well would continue. However, in the interim period, instead of pumping, the sampling method would be changed to grab sampling. Results of the grab sampling, monitor well distance, excursion indicator concentrations, etc., are planned to be discussed during our March 10 meeting.

At your earliest convenience, please contact me personally if you disagree, or have any comments in regard to this letter.

Sincerely,

THE CLEVELAND-CLIFFS IRON COMPANY

Truman E. Louderback
Truman E. Louderback
Director of Environmental Affairs

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copy

The Cleveland-Cliffs Iron Co.

300 Country Club Road - P.O. Box 3140 - Casper, WY 82602 - 307/234-9133

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J. Linehan
March 11, 1981
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TEL:alm

cc: Region IV Office of Inspection
and Enforcement
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
611 Ryan Plaza Drive
Suite 100
Arlington Texas 76012

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