

SUBJECT:

TRANSMITTAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL APPRAISAL ON LAND

OWNERSHIP REQUIREMENT FOR ANACONDA COPPER COMPANY'S

RHODE RANCH PROJECT

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission is issuing in the Federal Register a determination on a request for exemption from the land ownership transfer requirement of the Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act of 1978 (Public Law 95-604) made by the Anaconda Copper Company for their proposed Rhode Ranch project in McMul County, Texas

The determination, which is supported by an environmental appraisal, will take effect 30 days from the date of the Federal Register notice, and during the interim the NRC will accept comments on the proposed action. Attached for your files are copies of the environmental appraisal, NRC responses to Texas Department of Health comments on the proposed action with subsequent correspondence and a copy of the Federal Register Notice. These documents should be filed in PDR File Level WASTE WM-38. Because of the issue involved, we anticipate public interest in these documents.

If your staff needs further information, please call Frank Anastasi of my staff at 427-4393.

Ross A. Scarano, Chief Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch Division of Waste Management

Attachments: as stated

SURNAME FAMAStasi Jinehan RScarano
DATE 562/81 5/0/81 5/0/81