



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

PDR

FEB 20 1981



WMUR:PJG
Docket No. 40-3453

MEMORANDUM FOR: Docket File No. 40-3453
FROM: Peter J. Garcia, Jr.
Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch
SUBJECT: AMENDMENT NO. 4 TO SOURCE MATERIAL LICENSE SUA-917
FOR ATLAS MINERALS' MOAB URANIUM MILL

The purpose of this amendment to the Atlas Mineral's Moab Mill license is twofold:

- 1) To establish a final installation date for a new scrubber unit on the yellowcake hearth dryer exhaust.
- 2) To require operational checks of the new scrubber unit performance during periods when the dryer is in operation.

Atlas Minerals has committed, by letter dated January 7, 1981, to installing a new scrubber unit on the hearth dryer exhaust. The old scrubber, which was damaged during a fire on January 2, 1981, has been repaired and will remain operational until the new scrubber unit is installed. The replacement scrubber will be identical to the existing scrubber in terms of design and performance specifications.

Further, we are requiring Atlas to assure the new scrubber is operating at minimal manufacturer's specifications during periods of yellowcake dryer operations. The licensee is given the option of physically checking the scrubber on an hourly basis or providing remote instrumentation that will signal an audible alarm if water flow or the air pressure differential drops below minimal levels required for the scrubber to meet design performance. If an audible alarm is used, the licensee will be required to check it daily to ensure it is functioning properly. All hourly checks of the scrubber unit or daily alarm system checks will be documented. These requirements are in conformance with Technical Criteria 8 of the recently implemented final regulations on uranium milling.

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Therefore, it is recommended that Source Material License SUA-917 be amended by adding Condition No. 46 to read as follows:

46. The licensee shall install, by April 1, 1981, a new scrubber unit for the yellowcake hearth dryer exhaust. The replacement scrubber shall have a design efficiency of at least 99% removal of particulates in the 1 to 2 μ m particle size range.

The licensee shall, during all periods of yellowcake dryer operations, assure that the scrubber is operating within the manufacturer's recommended ranges for water flow and air pressure differential necessary to achieve design performance. These operational checks may be accomplished by either performing hourly checks on the scrubber unit or installing remote instrumentation that will signal an audible alarm in an occupied area of the mill or offices. If an audible alarm is used, its function shall be checked daily. All hourly checks of the scrubber unit or daily checks of the alarm system shall be documented. Drying operations shall be immediately suspended if the water flow or air pressure differential fall below specified levels.

Pete J. Garcia Jr.

Peter J. Garcia, Jr.
Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch
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Approved by:

H. J. Pettengill
H. J. Pettengill, Section Leader
Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch

Case Completed (04003453M02S)