



UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION

METALS DIVISION

P. O. BOX 5100 • GAS HILLS STATION • RIVERTON, WYOMING 82501

TELEPHONE: GAS HILLS 457-2311-12 - CASPER 234-7284

December 22, 1980

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Division of Waste Management
Nuclear Regulatory License Branch
Attention: John Linehan
7915 Eastern Avenue
Silver Springs, MD 20910

Docket No. 40-299
Source Material License No. SUA-648

Dear Mr. Linehan:

Since early this year members of our staff and consultants have been working with the USNRC to insure full environmental compliance with our proposed West Gas Hills (WGH) Heap Leach Facility. In a conversation a few days ago between our consultant, Mr. J. K. Deuel and your Mr. J. Kotsch, it was determined that submittal of the basic application, now, would be both timely and appropriate.

We use the term "basic application" because the reclamation plan is not included with the documents being transmitted. We expect to have these details ready for you early in 1981. We believe the rest of the geotechnical, environmental, and other permitting information forwarded is complete, pertinent and the basis for commencing a review of the application.

Accordingly, please find enclosed nine (9) copies of our WGH geotechnical report (F. M. Fox & Associates) plus specifications and drawings (Acres American and Union Carbide-Niagara Falls Engineering) for the project. We hereby formally submit this information as an application and request that a Source Material License be issued to operate at the WGH Heap Leach Facility as soon as convenient.

As discussed between Messrs. Deuel and Kotsch we will contact your office in mid-January to schedule a post-submittal, review conference to assist with the initial evaluation of this license application. We would like to start construction phase of the project by June of 1981 if it proves feasible.

Sincerely,

Tom Wong...

Tom Wong
Environmental Coordinator

xc: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Management Branch

8107210175 80:222
PDR ADOCK 04008788
C PD.

18380

40-8788