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METALS DIVISION

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December 22, 1980

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Division of Waste Management Nuclear Regulatory License Bra. 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.

Applicant. .

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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 specification, 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 Mssrs. 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 the construction phase of the project by June of 1981 if it proves feasible.

Sincerely,

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

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Tom Wong Environmental Coordinator 8107210175 PDR