

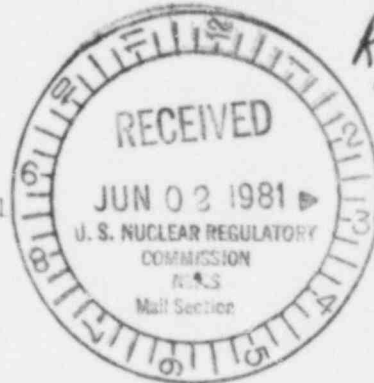


Docket WM-34
PDR

COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Richard D. Lamm
Governor

Frank A. Traylor, M.D.
Executive Director



Return to
D. Cramer
39655

May 15, 1981

Union Carbide Corporation
Metals Division
P.O. Box 1029
Grand Junction, Colorado 81502

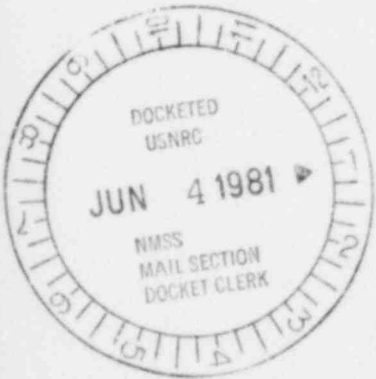
Attention: R.G. Beverly, Director of Environmental Control

RE: Radioactive Materials License No. Colo. SUA-673

Dear Mr. Beverly:

The Department requests that Union Carbide submit to the Department, prior to discussion of waste management options scheduled May 29, 1981, answers to the following key questions concerning Union Carbide's Uravan operations:

1. When precisely in March 1981 did temporary cessation of mill operations occur?
2. When precisely does Union Carbide expect to resume mill operations?
3. What has been the total volume of tailings disposed to impoundments 1, 2, and 3 from July 1, 1975 to the present?
4. What has been the annual average mill throughput of uranium ore for July 1, 1975 to December 31, 1975, and the full years of 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979 and 1980?
5. What is the present elevation of the embankment on Impoundment 2? on Impoundment 3?
6. What increases in embankment elevation will be made prior to September 30, 1981 on Impoundment 2? on Impoundment 3?
7. What is the highest embankment elevation which is to be permitted within the design parameters of the existing Phase II (stabilization berm and buttress on Impoundment 2? on Impoundment 3?



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PDR WASTE PDR
WM-34

FEE EXEMPT

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Add'l info

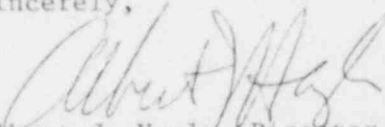
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Union Carbide Corporation
May 15, 1981
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8. What capacity (by volume, i.e. X tons of tailings of average bulk density Y) remains, within the design parameters of the Phase II stabilization berm and buttress, for tailings disposal in Impoundment 2? in Impoundment 3?
9. How does the current estimate of remaining capacity for tailings disposal differ from the estimate provided by Union Carbide Corporation in the Dames and Moore Environmental Report of August 1978.
10. What, if any, recalculations are underway by Union Carbide consultants concerning the stability of Impoundment 2? of Impoundment 3?
11. What, if any, modifications to the existing Phase II stabilization berm and buttress are contemplated by Union Carbide for Impoundment 2? for Impoundment 3?
12. Has any change occurred in the relative weighting given by Union Carbide May 30, 1980 to it's five options for continued operation at Uravan?
13. Has Union Carbide completed its revised timetable for continued operation at Uravan, as projected in the letter of April 27, 1981 from P. Rekemeyer to F. Traylor?

Thank you in advance for your attention to these questions. Feel free to contact Ken Weaver of this Division concerning them.

Sincerely,


Albert J. Hazle, Director
Radiation and Hazardous
Wastes Control

AJH:KLW:p