

THE STATE



OF WYOMING

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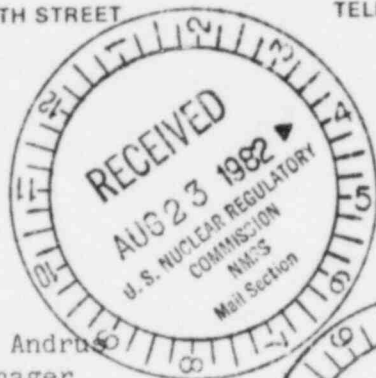
# Department of Environmental Quality

## LAND QUALITY DIVISION

401 WEST 19TH STREET

TELEPHONE 307-777-7756

CHEYENNE, WYOMING 82002



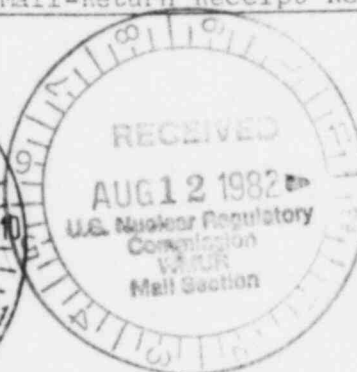
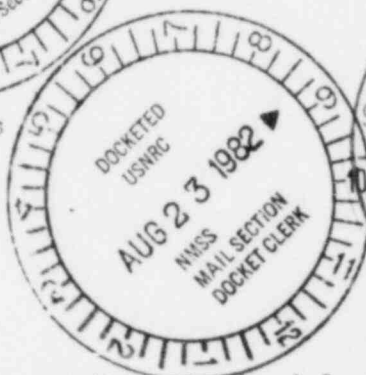
July 30, 1982

Certified Mail-Return Receipt Requested

Mr. Niles Andrus  
Acting Manager  
Federal American Partners  
Gas Hills Star Route  
Riverton, WY 82501

RE: TFN 15/261

Dear Mr. Andrus:



This letter notifies you that the Land Quality Division approves with certain conditions, listed below, your application for in place reclamation of the old above-grade tailings area known as Tailings Pond #2.

References: Assessment of Groundwater Impacts Tailings Pond No. 2, Dames & Moore, Received LQD 3-5-82.

The Development of Hydraulic Designs to Reroute Willow Springs Draw Near FEDERAL AMERICAN PARTNERS URANIUM MINING FACILITIES at West Gas Hills, Wyoming; Dames & Moore, Received LQD 5-27-82.

Interim Stabilization, Operational, Decommissioning & Reclamation of the Federal American Partners Mill & Tailings Facilities, Gas Hills, Wyoming. Received LQD 5-27-82.

Conditions Accompanying Approval of the plan contained in above materials:

1. RE: Topsoil (or substitute) suitability.

The material to be used as a cover will apparently also be the rooting medium for vegetation. Please clarify or acknowledge this. If this is the case, it must be tested for suitability per the parameters outlined in Guideline No. 1 to assure it will function as a suitable plant growth medium.

2. RE: Revegetation Practices

FAP must clearly and concisely present the following for approval:

Certified No. 63995

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Mr. Niles Andrus  
Federal American Partners  
July 30, 1982  
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Page Two

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- A. methods for preparation of the seedbed material;
  - B. proposed seed mix (or mixes), their rates of applications and methods of application considering prevailing topographic and environmental features of the site;
  - C. proposed use of cover crop or mulch for immediate site stabilization;
  - D. methods of protecting newly revegetated areas;
  - E. criteria and methods for assessing the success of reclamation and bond release request;
  - F. a proposed time schedule for reclamation activities.
3. Source of material to achieve final contours must be disclosed and approved by this office.
  4. The road proposed at the toe of the tailings as part of final reclamation must be eliminated because a non-maintained road will enhance erosion by impacting vegetation.
  5. Three meters of cover is required over the tailings to minimize erosion hazard for further contamination of groundwater.
  6. Reclaimed tailings pond slopes must not be steeper than 10:1.
  7. Impact of the reclamation plan on surface and groundwaters of the state must be analyzed and contamination must be mitigated.
  8. Revisions which are required to meet the above conditions must be submitted by October 1, 1982, as part of a total properly cross-referenced coherent package.
  9. If after reviewing the information submitted per conditions 1 and 2, it is determined that vegetation shall likely not stabilize and minimize erosion on the waste pile and margins thereof all or portions of the pile shall be covered with unsorted durable rocks to assure stabilization.

By copy of this conditional approval, the NRC is informed of my final decision on this revision. Acceptance of these conditions must be made within 30 days of receipt of this approval.

Sincerely,

*W. C. Ackerman*

W. C. Ackerman  
Administrator

WCA:EF:rjc

cc: Ross Scarano  
Ed Francis

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