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Docket File 40-8511 IE Region IV

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WMUR: KBW

Docket No. 40-8511

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WM r/f

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Ross A. Scarano, Chief

NMSS r/f JJLinehan

Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch

DEMartin

Division of Waste Management

TLJohnson HJPettengil1

FROM:

Kristin B. Westbrook, Project Manager

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Operating Facilities Section I

Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch

JBMartin

SUBJECT:

MEETING MINUTES WITH COTTER CORPORATION REGARDING

LICENSE RENEWAL

Background

The Cotter Corporation In Situ Leach Mining R&D site is located in Johnson County, Wyoming. Source Material License SUA-1273, dated August 1976, was originally issued to Uranerz U.S.A., Inc. Cotter Corporation purchased the property from Uranerz and by letter dated March 25, 1977, applied to the NRC for transfer of the license. This tranfer was completed on July 12, 1977.

No operations were ever conducted under the license by either Uranerz or Cotter. The licensee applied for renewal of the license which was due to expire August 31, 1981, and the license is now on a timely renewal basis. Cotter Corporation explained that they would resubmit an up-todate environmental report as soon as possible. It was also understood that no operations were planned for approximately one year or longer.

Purpose of Meeting

Cotter Corporation requested a meeting with NRC to explain the background, size, and scope of their proposed R&D project. In addition, Cotter Corporation wanted an explanation of current WMUR licensing procedures and informational needs.

Discussion

A meeting was held on October 13, 1981 at the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Willste Building, Silver Spring, Maryland. Attendees were:

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NRC

Kristin Westbrook Ted Johnson Roger Woolsey

Cotter Corporation

Dave Munger John Reiss Tim Smith

The following items were discussed:

- 1) Cotter Corporation presented current proposals for a five to seven well pattern in an area designated Cell I in the northern section of the permit area. Cotter also has a Cell II area in the southern section of the permit area which may be mined at a later date.
- 2) Cotter plans to conduct pump tests in both cells this fall using existing wells which will be pressure-tested for integrity. Modified Hantush methods will be applied to the pump test results unless unforeseen circumstances make them invalid. All open wells, not used for testing, which are located in the pump test areas and may affect the tests, will be plugged in accordance with Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (WDEQ) requirements.
- 3) Proposals for restoration after mining were discussed and the goals are to restore groundwater quality to baseline conditions, as determined on a site and parameter specific basis.
- The NRC staff explained that our licensing procedures and informational needs have changed since the original application dated February, 1976. Originally, it was determined that an Environmental Impact Appraisal would not be needed for the project. In accordance with current NRC practices, an Environmental Impact Appraisal and a Safety Evaluation Report are prepared by the NRC staff, for all licensed R&D facilities. Cotter Corporation's representatives were provided with copies of the Environmental Impact Appraisal. Safety Evaluation Report, and Source Material License for the Kerr-McGee "Q" Sand Project. It was explained that these documents were developed in the most recent R&D licensing action and would provide current guidance regarding the general topics and level of detail that should be included in application documents.

During the meeting, Cotter Corporation committed to the following actions:

1) An environmental report will be submitted in December, 1981.

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- Baseline water quality testing will be completed by the summer of 1982.
- Baseline water level monitoring will be completed by the summer of 1982.
- 4) The results of the hydrologic monitoring and testing will be included as a supplement to the December report.

No committments were made by the NRC staff.

Notes, outlining the specifics of our discussions, were taken during the meeting and were initialed by Cotter Corporation's representatives.

Original Signed By:

Kristin B. Westbrook, Project Manager Operating Facilities Section I Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch Division of Waste Management

Attachment: Meeting Notes

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Totter - Pre-licensing Meeting Section 36 Township 45 N Range 77 W Johnson Co. Myoning, Reviewed boring plat plan for Cell I + II i Cell one This to be the R+D. site Five spot to seven spot pattern subject to modification depending on pump test Tell I & II pump that this fall using existing wells which will be pressure tested for intenity. Modified Nantush methods, will be applied to the pump test results unless for unforeseen reasons it is not applicable any open wells in the pump test vicinity not used for the test which might be affected will be plugged in excordance with W. D. E. Q. Doseline water quality will be completed Water levels will be monitored and lasching established by summer of 1982,

generally Restoration goals will be to hashed, but will be determined on a site and parameter specific hasis, Cotter will be submitting an application genewal, report on Dec. 1, 1981. This will be supplemented in the Spring of 1982. Cotter lass indicated that they have no pressing timetable for construction and operation. ATTENDEES N.R.C. COTTER KRISTIN WESTBROOK DAVE MUNGER JOHN REISS TIM J.O.A. TED JOHNSON ROGER WOOLSEY