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Mr. James A. Morley
Uranium Mill Tailings Project Office
Albuquerque Operations Office
U.S. Department of Energy
P. O. Box 5400
Albuquerque, NM 87115

Dear Mr. Morley:

I am writing to provide comments on the draft Notices of Intent to prepare environmental impact statements on the Grand Junction and Rifle UMTRA Project sites transmitted to us by letter dated December 21, 1982. It is our understanding that one option presently under consideration is consolidation of the Grand Junction and Rifle tailings at the Lucas Mesa site. If it is your intention to pursue an evaluation of this option, it is recommended that the Lucas Mesa site be added as a third sub-option to the list of Alternative 3 new disposal sites for the Grand Junction tailings. Further, it is considered appropriate that if consolidation of the tailings is to be evaluated, at least one of the environmental impact statements ought to evaluate the cumulative impacts from movement of both the Grand Junction and Rifle tailings.

These comments have been coordinated with the DOE Headquarters Office of Environmental Compliance and we understand were informally transmitted to you last week. If you have any questions concerning these comments, please contact Kathleen Hamill of my staff at FTS 427-4115.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by:
R. A. Scarano

Ross A. Scarano, Chief
Low-Level Waste Licensing Branch
Division of Waste Management

cc: Steve Woodbury

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DFC	:WMLL	:WMLL <i>EPH</i>	:WMLL <i>KJH</i>	:	:	:	:
NAME	:KJHamill:mb	:EFHawkins	:RAScarano	:	:	:	:
DATE	: 1/3/83	: 1/3/83	: 1/2/83	:	:	:	:

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