

40-8084



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

APR 18 1994

Rio Algom Mining Corporation
ATTN: Bill Ferdinand, Manager
Radiation Safety, Licensing
and Regulatory Affairs
6305 Waterford Blvd., Suite 523
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73118

Dear Mr. Ferdinand:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission has completed its review of your revised settlement monitoring program submitted by letter dated December 13, 1994. As a result of this review, the staff has identified three issues related to the settlement monument staff and the ability to insure the integrity of the settlement measurements. Therefore, Rio Algom Mining Corporation (Rio Algom) should modify the proposed program to address the following issues or provide additional justification of the proposed program's ability to maintain the integrity of the measurements:

1. The program should provide the provisions to be used in the field to assure that the steel staff remains vertical and that construction activities do not affect the integrity of the system.
2. The program should assure that the steel pipe which makes up the staff has a closed top.
3. The program should assure that the steel pipe has a suitable wall thickness that will withstand environmental insult.

Rio Algom can submit page changes to its December 13, 1994 program to address these issues. In addition, although the staff finds the survey frequency in the proposed program to be acceptable, the licensee should consider conducting surveys more frequently than semiannually during the first few years, because documentation of 90% consolidation settlement may be achieved sooner.

In order to support our review schedule, please provide your response to the enclosed comments within 30 days of the date of this letter. If you are unable to meet that date, please provide your schedule for responding within

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10-days of the date of this letter. Should you have any questions regarding the above information, please contact the NRC Project Manager, Sandra L. Wastler at (301) 504-2582.

Sincerely,

for Original Signed by *Daniel M. Gillen*

Joseph J. Holonich, Chief
High-Level Waste and Uranium Recovery
Projects Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

cc: W. Sinclair, Utah

Docket Number: 40-8084

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SUBJECT ABSTRACT: RIO ALGOM SETTLEMENT MONITORING PROGRAM

OFC	HLUR	H	HLUR	H	HLUR	H	HLUR	H
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DATE	04/18/94		04/18/94		04/18/94		04/18/94	

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