



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV
URANIUM RECOVERY FIELD OFFICE
BOX 25325
DENVER, COLORADO 80225

APR 07 1994

URFO:DCW
Docket No. 40-8681
X61289

MEMORANDUM FOR: Docket File No. 40-8681
FROM: Dana C. Ward, Project Manager
SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING REPORT FOR UMETCO WHITE MESA MILL,
SECOND HALF OF 1993

By letter dated March 4, 1994, Umetco Minerals Corporation (Umetco) submitted a semiannual environmental monitoring report for the White Mesa Mill. The report covers the period July through December 1993. The submittal was in accordance with License Condition No. 31 of Source Material License SUA-1358.

Environmental monitoring requirements for the White Mesa Mill are specified in License Condition No. 24 of SUA-1358. The staff review of the environmental monitoring program implemented by the licensee indicates the program is in accordance with license requirements. The staff review of the data is discussed below.

BACKGROUND

Umetco operates five environmental monitoring stations. Three stations, BHV-1, BHV-4, and BHV-5 are located near the unrestricted area boundary. A background station, BHV-3, is located 3.5 miles directly west of the facility. The remaining station, BHV-2, is the nearest residence monitor located about 3 miles north of the mill. The predominate wind direction for the area is out of the north-northwest with a subordinate direction out of the south-southwest.

Airborne Particulates

All results were less than 1 percent of the maximum permissible concentration (MPC) for unrestricted areas. The highest value reported was 0.293 percent of the MPC for lead-210 for the fourth quarter of 1993.

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Radon

The highest net value reported was during the fourth quarter of 1993 at BHV-5 at 1.4 pCi/l, which is 47 percent of the MPC. All other net results were less than 25 percent of the MPC.

Direct Radiation

The highest gross result reported was 35.75 mRem for the fourth quarter of 1993 at BHV-5 which is located near the east tailings area. The highest reading recorded for the third quarter was 29.25 mRem at the same monitoring location.

Surface Water

Surface water samples were collected from Cottonwood Creek and Ruin Springs (background) in October 1993. Results indicate no trends and parameters were within expected ranges.

Ground Water

Ground-water results are reviewed separately by the staff to insure compliance.

Soil Samples

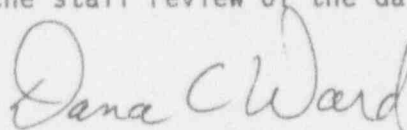
The values were within expected ranges for all monitoring sites. BHV-5 had a slightly elevated result for Ra-226 from previous data submitted.

Vegetation

The value range for the forage samples was comparable with previous data. No high readings were observed.

CONCLUSION

The staff concludes that Umetco has implemented an environmental monitoring program and submitted all results in accordance with license requirements. No areas of concern were noted during the staff review of the data.



Dana C. Ward
Project Manager

Case Closed: X61289

APR 07 1994

bcc:
Docket No. 40-8681
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