

JAN 15 1991

URFO:GRK
Docket No.: 40-8903/90-03
License No. SUA-1471

Homestake Mining Company
ATTN: Mr. Mark Hiles
P.O. Box 98
Grants, New Mexico 87020

Dear Mr. Hiles,

This refers to the special announced radiation safety inspection conducted by Mr. Konwinski of this office on December 18, 1990, of the activities authorized by NRC Source Material License SUA-1471, and to the discussion of our findings held by the inspector with members of your staff at the conclusion of the inspection. The enclosed NRC Inspection Report 40-8903/90-03 documents this inspection.

The inspection was an examination of the activities conducted under the license as they relate to radiation safety and to compliance with the Commission's rules and regulations, and the conditions of the license. The inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews of personnel, independent measurements, and observations by the inspector.

During this inspection, it was found that certain of your activities appeared to deviate from commitments made to the NRC. This item and reference to the commitment are identified in the enclosed Notice of Deviation. You are requested to respond to this deviation in writing. Your response should be based on the specifics contained in the Notice of Deviation.

The inspector also reviewed the actions you had taken with respect to violations and open items identified during our previous inspections, which were conducted December 4-8, 1989, and March 27 and 28, 1990. The current status of these items is addressed in Section 2 of Inspection Report 40-8903/90-03.

The response directed by this letter and the accompanying Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, PL 96-511.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the Commission's regulations, a copy of this letter and the enclosed inspection report will be placed in the NRC's Public Document Room.

PM: URFO *GRK*
GRKonwinski/db
1/14/91

PM: URFO *EPH*
PJGarcia
1/14/91

OD: URFO *EPH*
EFHawkins
1/14/91

D: URFO: RIV *REH*
REHall
1/14/91

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Should you have any questions concerning this letter, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,
Original Signed By:
R. E. HALL

Ramon E. Hall, Director
Uranium Recovery Field Office

Enclosure:

Appendix A - Notice of Deviation
Appendix B - NRC Inspection Report
40-8903/90-03

bcc:

Docket File No. 40-8903
LFMB
PDR
Suspense File
*URFO r/f
*ABBeach, RIV
GSanborn, RIV
*RSTS Operator
*RITS Operator
*NMIS
*MIS System
*LYandell
RDMartin
Rwise
LShea, RM/ALF (AR-2015)
DMB (IE-07)
LLO Branch, LLWM

* w/766
GRKonwinski
PJGarcia
BGarcia, RCPD,
EMontoya, NM
8903/gri/90/12/19/insp