

Department of Energy

Albuquerque Operations Office P.O. Box 5400 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87115

JAN 2 4 1991

Mr. John J. Surmeier
Chief, Uranium Recovery
Branch
Division of Low-Level Waste
Management & Decommissioning
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop 5-E-2
Washington, DC 20355

Dear Mr. Surmeier:

Below are action items resulting from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)/Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action (UMTRA) Project management meeting of December 11, 1990. These action items have been reviewed by our respective staffs.

The DOE action items are as follows:

- Submit written response to NRC's letter dated December 7, 1990, regarding the inconsistencies in the Grand Junction, Colorado, preliminary final Remedial Action Plan (RAP).
- Prepare a list of areas for discussion to be used in a future meeting regarding details of the land transfer/licensing/longterm care procedures.
- 3. When requesting NRC's concurrence to proceed with the tailings embankment construction at the Grand Junction, Colorado, Cheney Reservoir disposal site, ensure that 1) all NRC draft TER issues are thoroughly addressed and clear justification is provided for deferring resolution of any particular issue, and 2) the sequence of material placement is well defined. Independently, the DOE will make sure that SPMP material is properly identified in the RAP as to content and quantity.
- 4. Clarify the meaning of language contained in the third paragraph of the letter dated November 16, 1990, from Mr. R. P. Whitfield to Mr. Richard L. Bangart to indicate the DOE position for the disposal of other types of radioactive waste in Title II impoundments will also apply to current disposal facilities. In addition, clarify whether NRC needs to obtain DOE approval of NRC findings relative to the criteria specified in the letter.

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The NRC action items are as follows:

- Contribute to the list identified in DOE Action Item 2 above, and plan a working group meeting with DOE to discuss details of generic procedures for handling the post-remediation aspects of the project.
- 2. Provide guidance on wat DOE needs to submit for 1) LTSP requirements cited in 0 CFR Part 40.27 for "documentation on whether land and interests are owned by the United States or Indian tribe", and 2) the written notice of proposed transfer of title required in Section 4.5 of the DOE/NRC MOU.
- 3. Determine the level of NRC participation in cover design and groundwater protection strategy technical working groups proposed by DOE.

As agreed, we are making arrangements for the next management meeting to be held on March 8, 1990, in Las Vegas, Nevada, to coincide with the annual states/tribes meeting.

Please indicate your concurrence with the above action items by signing this letter in the space provided below and return one signed copy to this office.

Sincerely,

Mark L. Matthews

Project Manager

Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action

Project Office

John J. Surmeier, Chief

Uranium Recovery Branch

Division of Low-Level Waste Management

and Decommissioning

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