

Mr. Roger L. Kroodsmas
 Environmental Assessment Group
 Oak Ridge National Laboratory
 Bldg. 1505, MS-6038, Rm 388
 P.O. Box 2008
 Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831-6038

FEB 14 1994

Dear Roger:

Thank you for the information you faxed to me today on the makeup of the review team and the list of environmental information which you need to accomplish the environmental review of the Atlas Moab project. Much of the information you requested is in transition between the Denver office, which is being closed, and here. It will be provided as soon as possible. As you are aware, some of the information you identified may need to be provided by the licensee and will come at a later date.

I am enclosing a map of the two alternative disposal sites and a copy of a letter from the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission response. If we determine that the reclamation of the site "will not affect" the endangered species listed in the letter, is there any other action needed with the FWS?

Feel free to call me at 301-504-2578 if you have questions or comments.

Sincerely,

~~Original Signed By~~

Allan T. Mullins
 Project Manager/Technical Monitor
 Uranium Recovery Branch
 Division of Low-Level Waste Management
 and Decommissioning
 Office of Nuclear Material Safety
 and Safeguards

Enclosures: As stated

cc: D. Gillen
 D. DeMarco

180058

TICKET:

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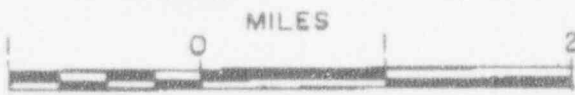
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Y
 (2) SURFACE SAMPLE LOCATION AND NUMBER



REFERENCE: U.S.G.S. MAPS TITLED 'CRESCENT JUNCTION, UTAH 1908', H. THOMPSON, UTAH 1950R,



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
FISH AND WILDLIFE ENHANCEMENT
UTAH STATE OFFICE

2078 ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
1745 WEST 1700 SOUTH
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84104-5110



In Reply Refer To

(FWE)

August 28, 1992

David L. Meyer, Chief, Rules and Directives Review Branch
Office of Administration, P-223
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Meyer:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has reviewed the Notice of Intent to amend Source Material License SUA-917, Atlas Corporation, Moab Mill to Incorporate Reclamation Schedules, published in the Federal Register July 2, 1992 (ER #92/0722).

The Utah State Office of the Service provides the following comments as technical assistance. These comments represent the views of the Fish and Wildlife Service, and are not necessarily those of the Department of Interior.

The Service does not have specific comments regarding the published reclamation schedules. However, the discussion of a portion of the reclamation plan for the Moab Mill (mill) raises questions about other issues involved in site reclamation which are of interest to the Service.

The Service is particularly concerned with reclamation plans for the mill tailings pile, which is situated directly adjacent to the Colorado River. During the high water years of the middle 1980s the river level was up to the base of the tailings pile. Equipment operators were barely able to keep the pile from sloughing into the river. The Service is concerned that plans for reclamation of the tailings ensure that tailings material will never enter the Colorado River system, particularly over the long term when there may not be personnel or equipment available to deal with problem situations.

There are four listed endangered fishes which inhabit the Colorado River:

Humpback chub	<i>Gila cypha</i>
Bonytail chub	<i>Gila elegans</i>
Colorado squawfish	<i>Prychocheilus lucius</i>
Razorback sucker	<i>Xyrauchen texanus</i>

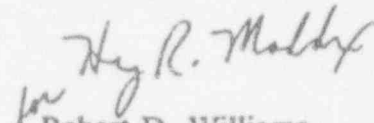
The Nuclear Regulatory Commission, as the federal agency permitting this project, must evaluate the entire reclamation plan to determine whether or not any action would affect any listed species or their critical habitat. If the determination is "may affect" for listed species, you must request in writing formal consultation from the State Supervisor, at the address

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given above. At that time you should provide this office a copy of the Biological Assessment and any other relevant information that assisted you in reaching your conclusion. Please note that any depletion of water from the Colorado River system, including water used in dust suppression, is considered a "may affect" on the four endangered Colorado River fish.

If we can provide any assistance in addressing these concerns, please contact Susan Linner, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, at (801) 524-5630.

Sincerely,


for Robert D. Williams
State Supervisor

cc: Uranium Recovery Field Office, Denver, CO
ARD, FWE, Region 6, Denver, CO



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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

OCT 06 1992

Docket No. 40-3453

United States Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
ATTN: Robert D. Williams, State Supervisor
2078 Administration Building
1745 West 1700 South
Salt Lake City, Utah 84104-5110

Dear Mr. Williams:

Thank you for your letter dated August 28, 1992, concerning the incorporation of a Reclamation Schedule within the Source Material License for the Moab Mill, located at Moab, Utah. In that letter, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service did not voice any comments concerning the proposed reclamation schedule; however, you did express concern over the reclamation of the mill tailings pile and its possible effects on four endangered fishes which inhabit the Colorado River. We have forwarded a copy of your letter to Atlas Corporation for their review. Atlas will be required to address your concerns prior to our approval of their reclamation plan. The Moab Mill reclamation plan is scheduled for review by September 1993. There will be a public comment period during which time the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service may provide any additional comments they believe necessary concerning the reclamation plan.

If you should have any questions regarding the reclamation plan for the Moab Mill please contact Dawn Jacoby or Dana Ward of my staff at (303) 231-5800.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ramon E. Hall".

Ramon E. Hall
Director

cc:
R. E. Blubaugh, Atlas
L. Anderson, RCPD, UT

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