



Bluewater Mill
 Post Office Box 638
 Grants, New Mexico 87020
 Telephone 505 876 2211
 Facsimile 505 876 2772

40-8902

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October 12, 1993

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Mr. Ramon Hall
 Unites States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
 Uranium Recovery Field Office, Region IV
 730 Simms Street
 Suite 100
 Golden, Colorado 80401

Re: License No. SUA-1470
 Docket No. 40-8902

Dear Mr. Hall:

By letter dated September 01, 1993, Atlantic Richfield Company (ARCO) notified you of its plans for decommissioning and reclamation of the remaining three evaporation ponds (IIIA, IIIB, and IIIC) under Discharge Plan DP-21 at the Bluewater Mill Site (Site). The plan was to decommission and reclaim Evaporation Ponds IIIA and IIIC, and retain Evaporation Pond IIIB for continued water collection and evaporation during the remainder of reclamation activities at the Site. Since that time we have removed the residue from Evaporation Ponds IIIB and IIIC, and inspected the pond liners. Our inspection has shown that the liners have been damaged by the heavy equipment used for residue removal and are not cost effective to repair.

For the above reasons, ARCO has reevaluated plans for decommissioning and reclamation of the evaporation ponds, and has decided to decommission and reclaim Evaporation Ponds IIIB and IIIC, and retain Evaporation Pond IIIA for continued use. The anticipated completion date for Evaporation Ponds IIIB and IIIC remains December 31, 1993. Decommissioning and reclamation of Evaporation Pond IIIA will be completed during the final phase of Site reclamation. We will notify your office prior to commencing the decommissioning of Evaporation Pond IIIA.

All evaporation pond decommissioning is being done in accordance with our NRC approved reclamation plan. The residue and any contamination beneath the liners is being removed and disposed of on the tailings pile. The liners will be placed in Material Disposal Area No. 1.

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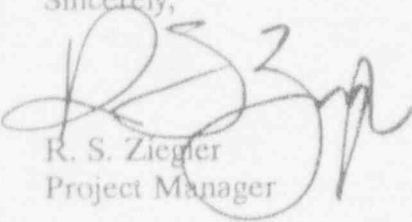
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Certified By *Mary C. Hood*
 Atlantic Richfield Company

Mr. Ramon Hall
October 12, 1993
Page 2

I hope this provides you with adequate information regarding these changes in plans and schedule. Please advise me or Mr. Natver Patel if you need additional information.

Sincerely,



R. S. Ziegler
Project Manager

/jmn

pc: N. Patel
C. Sanchez