Ketum to URFO 467-55

CHEYENNE, WYOMING 82002

THE STATE

OF WYOMING

ED HERSCHLER GOVERNOR

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Department of Environmental Quality

LAND QUALITY DIVISION

401 WEST 19TH STREET

TELEPHONE 307 777 7756 October 13, 1982

Niles J. Andrus Acting Project Manager Federal-American Partners Gas Hills Star Route Riverton, WY 82501

RE: TFN 1 3/142

Dear Niles:

I appreciate the cost estimates for backfilling of the Sagebrush-Tablestake Pit as I requested and you provided in your letter of September 24th. Also in your letter you provided additional information and opinions on the continued use of Tailings ponds 1 and 2 for evaporation purposes. I appreciate this information. This office discussed this issue with officials of the NRC, and we indicated that we would not be opposed to the continued use of these ponds for evaporation as long as it can be established that no further degradation at these two sites should occur, with or without additional mitigative measures. It is my understanding that the NRC is presently working on this analysis. I share your concern with <u>new</u> ponds on <u>spoil</u> and the seepage problems that may occur without proper engineering.

Sincerely,

H. C. a.koma

Walter C. Ackerman Land Quality Administrator

WCA:cp

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rue

PDR

cc: R. D. Smith

