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Department of Energy

Grand Junction Projects Office
Post Office Box 2567
Grand Junction, Colorado 81502-2567

June 1, 1992

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Mr. Hall, Manager
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Uraville Recovery Field Office
Post Office Box 25025
Denver, Colorado 80223

SUBJECT: Approval of Remedial Action Design Package Utilizing Supplemental Standards for Cliff/Hillside at 3010 & 3012 C Road in Grand Junction, Colorado

Dear Mr. Hall:

Enclosed is one copy of the Radiologic and Engineering Assessment (REA) for the following location:

GJ-07332-MR	3010 C Road, Cliff/Hillside
1-4001-VL	3012 C Road, Cliff/Hillside

The REA has been reviewed and approved by the Department of Energy and is being forwarded to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for their review and approval. The engineering assessment does propose utilization of EPA supplemental standards for approximately a four acre area located along the north facing bank of a steep cliff/hillside above the Colorado River containing trees, shrubs, grass and barren soil. Remediation and assessment of the tailings deposit was performed to the maximum extent possible by excavating the deposit as close to the edge of the cliff as possible without endangering the workers or destabilizing the slope. The depth and amount of contamination is unknown because of the risk to the workers associated with obtaining the assessment data on the steep slope. Because of the steep, unstable nature of this area, no structures can be constructed, and if the land use were changed, buildings still could not be constructed.

There is a separate application that applies to the adjacent floodplain area that was submitted separately because of a property line dispute between the owners of the cliff and floodplain areas. The outcome may result in both areas and in turn both supplemental standards applications belonging to the same owner.

The DOE has evaluated three possible remedial action alternatives and the associated health risks, and has determined that no remediation is the best alternative. The Health Risk Analysis suggests that there are no identifiable significant health risks if supplemental standards were applied to this strip of land.

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Approved By *Gregory C. Hood*
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Mr. Ramon Hall

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June 1, 1992

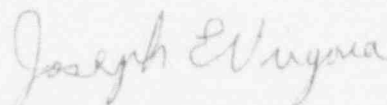
This proposed course of action has been discussed with G. A. Franz, Colorado Department of Health, Grand Junction Office, and the property owners. One of the owners concurs with the application of supplemental standards, but only under certain conditions that the DOE can not accept, and the other opposes it. As part of the Governor Romer (CO)/Bruce Twining (Albuquerque Field Office Manager) Agreement, a long-term tailings control and management plan is being developed. Public input meetings are tentatively scheduled for June 1992 in Grand Junction.

The justification checklist, property condition description, considerations, cost applications breakdown, justification and the property owner comments are included in the REA. The supplemental standards application is being requested because remedial action would pose a clear and present risk of injury to the workers and directly cause excessive environmental harm (criteria a & b).

After NRC has reviewed this document, and if you agree with the planned remedial action, please forward a letter concurring with this course of action by June 20, 1992.

If you have any questions or require additional information, do not hesitate to contact me at 303/248-6006.

Sincerely,



Joseph E. Virgona
Supervisory General Engineer

w/o Encl

Enclosure

cc: J Deckler - CDH/Denver, w/o enc.
G Franz - CDH/GJ, w/o enc.
S Arp - UMTRAPO/AL, w/o enc.
J Elmer - Geotech, w/o enc.