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Mr. David Ball, Project Manager
 Uranium Mill Tailings Project Office
 U. S. Department of Energy
 Albuquerque Operations Office
 P. O. Box 5400
 Albuquerque, NM 87115

Dear Mr. Ball:

We have reviewed the major aspects of the proposed changes in the RAP for Canonsburg described in the DOE letters dated December 10 and 17, 1984. These changes were:

1. Complete decontamination of Area C,
2. Deletion of a portion of the buried riprap wall,
3. An increase in the size of the encapsulation cell,
4. A change in the erosion protection design, and
5. Allowing the inclusion of some organic material in the encapsulation cell.

Based on the results of our review, we conditionally concur in Changes 1 through 4. Full concurrence will be given after:

1. DOE provides written assurance that the riprap durability criteria approved as part of our review of the original Canonsburg RAP will be used in the modified design. This problem was discussed between our Mr. Dan Gillen and Mr. T. R. Wethen of IECO.
2. Our review of the erosion protection design is not complete. This review will be completed about mid March 1985. We do not expect further work on this review to change our conclusions on the suitability of the revised design.

In regard to Change 5, our review of the possible effects of organics on groundwater contamination will not be complete until about February 15, 1985. We have determined that the increased organic material in the cell will not adversely impact the ability of the plan to meet long-term stability standards if the material is spread in a manner which will assure horizontal uniformity. We believe DOE should provide a written commitment to include in the RAP a requirement for uniform horizontal placement of organics in the cell.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:
 W. T. Crow

W. T. Crow, Acting Chief
 Uranium Fuel Licensing Branch
 Division of Fuel Cycle and
 Material Safety, NMSS

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