



Grants Reclamation Project

Homestake Mining Company of California

David W. Pierce
Closure Manager

April 17, 2020

ATTN: Document Control Desk
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Mr. Ron Linton, Project Manager
Project Manager, Materials Decommissioning Branch
Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery & Waste Programs
Office of Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
MS T-5A10, 11545 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852

RE: Homestake Mining Company of California, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Audit of the Regulatory Compliance Self-Assessment Submitted Pursuant to Condition 3 and 4 of Confirmatory Order EA-16-114, Docket 04008903, License SUA-1471: **Request for 60-Day Extension**

Dear Mr. Linton:

The current COVID-19 virus has represented a unique and unprecedented special circumstance with regards to operating the Homestake Mining Company of California (HMC) Grants Reclamation Project (GRP). On March 13, 2020, President Donald Trump declared the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic a national emergency. In addition, on March 11, 2020, Michelle Lujan Grisham, the Governor of the State of New Mexico, declared in Executive Order 2020-004 ("EO 2020-004") that a Public Health Emergency exists in New Mexico under the Public Health Emergency Response Act. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has issued recommendations advising "social distancing" to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 Virus.

In response to these declarations and the COVID-19 pandemic, HMC implemented mitigation strategies (e.g., self-isolation and social distancing) that serve the public interest during a pandemic by ensuring adequate staff is isolated from the pandemic and remains healthy to perform their job function. Even with these strategies and new procedures in place, it did not prevent the COVID-19 pandemic from directly impacting the site; shutting down operations, limiting access to files and materials, and affecting our ability to effectively communicate within HMC.

In recognition of this national emergency and the impact it will have on the ability of the licensee to conduct other routine business activities, HMC hereby requests extensions of certain regulatory required due dates included in the Self-Assessment. Specifically, HMC seeks to extend the due dates of the following items as shown in the table below.

Activity	Required Due Date	Requested Due Date
Compliance with 4.3.1 Proposed Corrective Actions to Implement Commitment to Safety and Regulatory Compliance Section 4.3.1.1 Point Person	04/19/2020	06/19/2020
Compliance with 4.3.1 Proposed Corrective Actions to Implement Commitment to Safety and Regulatory Compliance 4.3.1.6 Staffing	4/19/2020	6/19/2020

HMC has determined that the requested due date extensions are for administrative measures only, and therefore involve no increase in the amounts, or change in the types, of any effluents that may be released offsite, and that there will be no increase in individual or cumulative public or occupational radiation exposure. We are fully mindful of our obligations and license requirements to protect the health and safety of the public and our workers. None of these requests will compromise our ability to fulfill these obligations.

Thank you for your time and attention on this matter. If you have any questions, please contact me via e-mail at dpierce@barrick.com or phone at 505.238.9701.

Respectfully,



David W. Pierce

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Copy To:

- M. McCarthy, Barrick, Salt Lake City, Utah (electronic copy)
- G. George, Davis, Wright and Tremaine, San Francisco, California (electronic copy)
- D. Lattin, Barrick, Henderson, Nevada (electronic copy)
- R. Whicker, Environmental Restoration Group, Albuquerque, New Mexico (electronic copy)