

# UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20656

OCT 27 1992

Docket No. 40-8778 License No. SMB-1393

Molycorp Inc. ATTN: Ms. Barbara K. Dankmyer Resident Manager 300 Caldwell Avenue Washington, Pennsylvania 15301

Dear Ms. Dankmyer:

SUBJECT: MOLYCORP, INC. - RENEWAL OF SOURCE MAILRIAL LICENSE NO. SMB-1393

In your letter dated August 19, 1992, Molycorp, Inc. requested the renewal of License No. SMB-1393 for storage (possession only) of source material at your Washington, Pennsylvania facility.

This renewal also involves certain changes to Molycorp's license. These changes include: 1) a new street address for the license; 2) a new expiration date for the license; 3) a change in the description of the form of natural thorium; 4) an increase in the possession limit; 5) a change in the authorized use; and 6) the incorporation of a schedule for decommissioning. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has reviewed the renewal request and has found these changes acceptable. All other conditions of your license shall remain the same.

This renewal incorporates the following changes to Molycorp . license:

Item 2 - Licensee Address

The street address for Molycorp's corporate office has changed. This change incorporates the correct street address of Molycorp's corporate office based on the information you provided by telephone on September 9, 1992.

Item 4 - Expiration Date

The expiration date of the license is changed to September 1, 1997. This change is consistent with the 5 year period normally allotted for license renerals. This expiration date is well after Molycorp's current schedule for completing all decommissioning work at this site. We anticipate, therefore, that Molycorp will request license termination well in advance of the new expiration date.

Item 7A - Physical Form

The physical form is changed to clarify that natural thorium is present both in the form of slag, and in soils contaminated with slag. At this site, slag is currently stored in a slag storage pile, however, surface and sub-surface soil across portions of the site is also contaminated with slag.

Item 8A - Possession Limit
The possession limit for natural thorium is changed from  $3.9 \times 10^6$  kg (88,000 lbs) to  $11 \times 10^6$  kg (242,508 lbs). The amount of source material stored on site has not changed since the most recent renewal. This change more accurately bounds the total quantity of source material possessed on site in the form of contaminated slag and soil and corrects an earlier transcription error in the units.

Item 9A - Authorized Use
The authorized use of licensed material is expanded to include storage, transfer, and decommissioning in accordance with an approved Site Decommissioning Plan. This change broadens the authorized use of licensed material from storage only.

License Condition 14 - Schedule for Decommissioning
This change incorporates Molycorp's schedule for decommissioning the
Washington, Pennsylvania facility as requested by the licensee. In response
to your September 25, 1992 letter, License Condition 14.D. also grants a
schedular exemption for the submittal of a decommissioning funding plan with
this renewal. This schedule is incorporated as a new license condition and
includes the following milestones:

- A. Submittal of Site Characterization Plan (SCP) Molycorp, Inc. will submit a SCP to the in by November 15, 1992.
- B. Submittal of Decommissioning Alternatives and Potential Costs -Molycorp, Inc. will provide the NRC with a list and analysis of potential decommissioning and disposal alternatives by March 1, 1993. The cost of each alternative will be estimated to the best of Molycorp's ability at the time of submittal. A revised version of the report will be included in the Site Decommissioning Plan.
- C. Submittal of Site Characterization Report (SCR) Molycorp, Inc. will provide a report detailing the site characterization results to the NRC no later than eight (8) months after the SCP has been approved in writing by the NRC staff.
- D. Submittal of Site Decommission rg Plan (SDP) Molycorp, Inc. will submit a SDP to the NRC no later than six (6) months after initial submittal of a SCk. The SDP will include a decommissioning funding plan, in accordance with 10 CFR 40.36(a), to cover the estimated cost for the preferred decommissioning approach. The licensee is hereby granted a schedular exemption from the requirement of 10 CFR 40.36(c)(2) for the submittal of a decommissioning funding plan until such time as the SDP is submitted or by September 30, 1994, whichever is sooner.
- E. Completion of Decommissioning Molycorp, Inc. will have completed site clean up and disposal of the source material in accordance with the approved SDP. Molycorp will have notified the NRC in writing of this completion of decommissioning activities prior to May 30, 1995.

This schedule of decommissioning milestones is premised on Molycorp's submittal of an adequate SCR and SDP and on NRC's timely review of those documents. NRC recognizes that the deadlines may be extended, if necessary, for delays caused by factors beyond the licensee's control.

The NRC staff has considered the potential for environmental impact of this renewal and has determined that the changes to the license will not result in any significant environmental impact. Having made this determination, we have further concluded that the renewal involves an action which is administrative and procedural in nature and, as provided by the categorical exclusion of 10 CFR 51.22(c)(11), an environmental assessment need not be prepared in connection with the issuance of this license renewal.

This license renewal does not involve significant new safety concerns, a significant increase in the probability or consequences of an accident, or a significant increase in radioactive effluents or potential radiation exposure. We have concluded that this license renewal will not be inimical to the common defense and security, or present an undue risk to the health and safety of the public.

The license renewal incorporating the above changes, along with the Safety Evaluation Report, and the finding justifying the categorical exclusion are enclosed.

A facsimile of the draft copy of the proposed license conditions was sent to you on October 16, 1992. Your facsimile response on October 19, 1992, indicated your agreement to the license conditions. Please carefully review the enclused document including the new license conditions. If you have any questions, immediately notify me at (301) 504-2560.

Sincerely,

John H. Austin, Chief Decommissioning and Regulatory Issues Branch Division of Low-Level Waste Management and Decommissioning Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

W. Dornsife, PA Bureau of

Radiation Protection

J. Kinneman, Region I

#### Enclosures:

- 1 Renewed License SMB-1393
- 2. Safety Evaluation Report
- 3. Categorical Exclusion

- R. Shoemaker, Molycorp
- G. Dawes, Molycorp
- B. Belanger, EPA Region III
- J. Yusko, PADER RP

SUBJECT ABSTRACT: MOLYCORP, INC. - RENEWAL OF SOURCE MATERIA!

\*SEE PREVIOUS CONCURRENCE

OFC	LLDR*	LLDR*	LLDR*	OGC ★	LLØR/
NAME	CGlenn/cv	JCopeland	MWeber	RFonner	JAustin
DATE	9/21/92	9/21/92	9/22/92	9/30/92	19/27/92

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OFC	LLDR*	LLDR*	LLDR*	ARC TOR	LLDR
NAME	CGlenn/cv	JCopeland	MWeber	Ronner	JAustin
DATE	9/21/92	9/21/92	9/22/92	9/30/92	9/ /92

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O.E.C.	LLDR*	LLDR*	LLDR*	1086 P. C. C.	LLDR	
OFC NAME	CGlenn/cv	JCopel and	MWeber	Redwiner	JAustin	
DATE	9/21/92	9/21/92	9/22/92	9/23/92	9/ /92	

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OFC	LLDR CA	LLDR yes	LLDR /W	OGC	LLDR
NAME	CGlenn/cv	JCopeland	MWeber	RFonner	JAustin
DATE	9/21/92	9/3//92	9/22/92	9/ /92	9/ /92

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Barbara K. Dankmyer Letter dated: 007 2 7 1992

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