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MEMORANDUM FOR: Files

THRU: Hubert J. Miller, Section Leader  
 Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch

FROM: George Wu  
 Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch

SUBJECT: MEETING SUMMARY FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH TEXAS  
 ON ANACONDA TAILINGS MANAGEMENT

Date: February 14, 1980

Place: Corpus Christi, Texas

Participants: Meeting between Texas State organizations  
 and HRC

Texas:

Edgar Bailey, Texas Department of Health (TDH)  
 John Haygood, TDH  
 Joseph Gorrel, TDH  
 William Hellums, TDH  
 Donald Spraggins, Texas Rail Road Commission (TRRC)  
 Kenneth Launius, TRRC  
 Barbara Stanton, Texas General Land Office (TGLO)  
 Mark Thompson, TGLO

HRC:

Hubert Miller, WMUR  
 George Wu, WMUR  
 Frank Young, OSP  
 Robert Fonner, OELD  
 Roy Williams (Consultant)

Purpose:

Under the Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act of 1978 (UMTRCA), ownership of sites used for permanent tailings disposal is required to be transferred to the Federal Government. Anaconda has proposed to dispose of tailings in underground mined out pits at the Corpus Christi

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mill site. Anaconda states the tailings will be essentially dry and the mines are at least sixty feet deep. Anaconda has requested to be exempt from the UMTRCA requirement for transfer of ownership based upon the claim that this transfer is not necessary to assure tailings impoundment stability and a need for continued monitoring. The State of Texas has requested NRC assistance in evaluating the proposed project and making a determination on the necessity of Government ownership of the site. Under UMTRCA, only NRC can make a determination that the land ownership requirements of the Act can be dispensed with.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the scope of NRC review and associated schedules, and to arrive at a mutually agreeable approach for involving Texas in the NRC evaluation and determination.

Summary:

In addition to the points summarized in the meeting summary for the meeting between Anaconda, Texas, and NRC (Attachment), the following was discussed between Texas and NRC:

1. NRC will consult with Texas in making its determination on land ownership. Texas will provide comments and make its recommendation on the determination to NRC after consultation on the technical issues between persons at NRC and the State who will be reviewing the case. Texas will identify within about a week the geologist/hydrologist in the State who will be reviewing the case to work with R. Williams and G. Hu (NRC Project Manager).
2. The three month NRC assessment schedule (described on the attached memorandum), in addition to being subject to timely provision of information from Anaconda, will require comments from Texas within about one to one and a half months after receipt of information from Anaconda. E. Dailey (Texas Department of Health) agreed to this time frame for the Health Department, although he could not commit to this time period for the Texas Rail Road Commission.
3. The Texas Department of Health (point of contact between NRC and Texas State concerning this Anaconda request) will seek comments from other Texas agencies that have interest in the determination being made by NRC.

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The contents of this summary were read and agreed to by E. Bailey for the State of Texas and by H. Miller for NRC prior to departure.

Original Signed by

George Wu  
Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch  
Division of Waste Management

Attachment:  
As stated

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