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Docket File 40-8904

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4C-8904/SRG/88/01/28/0

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URFO: SRG

Docket No. 40-8904

04008904190E

MEMORANDUM FOR: Docket File No. 40-8904

FROM: Scott R. Grace, Project Manager
Licensing Branch 1
Uranium Recovery Field Office, Region IV

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF REPORT ENTITLED, GROUND-WATER MONITORING
NEAR THE L-BAR TAILINGS RESERVOIR, DATED OCTOBER 1987

The subject report is a semiannual submittal by the licensee to the New Mexico Environmental Improvement Division. A copy was also sent to NRC for informational purposes only. The subject report was received by NRC on October 23, 1987.

The report presented and reviewed ground-water monitoring data collected during the first 6 months of 1987, as well as the field results for July and August.

The seepage pumpback system (four first Tres Hermanos wells and the alluvial trench) produced an average 4 to 5 gpm during the first 9 months of 1987. Two new pumpback wells started pumping the first Tres Hermanos aquifer on September 26, 1987. Drawdowns induced by the collection system have marginally maintained the reversed hydraulic gradient between Wells 1A and 12A during the reporting period. Additionally, the cone of depression caused by the pumping is reported to be significantly less than previously developed. The report states that a collection rate of approximately 7 gpm is needed to return the gradient to previous levels. The pumping rate from the alluvial trench averaged approximately 2.5 gpm.

The report discusses the seven new wells drilled in January 1987. The new wells were monitored at the same frequency and for the same parameters as the other Tres Hermanos wells.

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The quality of the water from the monitoring wells has remained fairly stable, except for increases in Wells 14 and 27. A decrease of some parameters was also observed for monitoring wells closer to the tailings pond.

CONCLUSIONS

The staff has reviewed this report for information purposes only. The ground-water monitoring system is being reviewed under another casework number (04008904200E). Therefore, no further action is necessary at this time on this case.

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Scott R. Grace, Project Manager
Licensing Branch 1
Uranium Recovery Field Office
Region IV

Approved by:

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Edward F. Hawkins, Chief
Licensing Branch 1
Uranium Recovery Field Office, Region IV

Case Closed: 04008904190E

OFC : URFO SRG : URFO SRG

NAME : SGrace/lv : EHawkins

DATE : 88/01/28 : 1/29/88