Kennecott Energy Company 505 South Gillette Avenue Caller Box 3009 Gillette, Wyoming 82717 (307) 687-6000 Fax: (307) 687-6010

> Kennecott Energy

July 23, 1997

Mr. James E. Dyer Deputy Regional Administrator United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region IV 611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 400 Arlington, TX 76011-8064



Subject: Sohio Western Mining Company, L-Bar NM Site, License SUA-1472, Docket 40-8904, Response to Notice of Violation 97-01

Dear Mr. Dyer:

This letter is in response to your letter dated July 10, 1997 regarding Notice of Violation 97-01. As instructed in your letter, Sohio Western Mining Company (Sohio) is providing the following information: (1) the corrective steps that have been taken and the results achieved, (2) the corrective steps that will be taken to avoid further violations, and (3) the date when full compliance will be achieved. As you indicated in your letter, our May 2, 1997 response adequately addressed the reason for the violation.

1. Corrective steps taken and results achieved: The reporting format for groundwater monitoring has been revised to include the lower limits of detection and error estimates. The results achieved are that the reports will now contain the information requested by the NRC.

2. Corrective steps taken to avoid further violations: Future groundwater reports will include the lower limits of detection and error estimates.

3. Date when full compliance will be achieved: Sohio's June 10, 1997 letter to the NRC included revised groundwater monitoring reports for 1996 which included the lower limits of detection and error estimates. With the submittal of the revised reports and the commitment to include the requested information in future reports, it is Sohio's view that full compliance has been achieved as of the date of this letter (July 23, 1997).

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Kecheloot Energy Company provides marketing and other services on behalf of Colowyo Coal Company, L.P., Cordero Mining Company, Anterope Coal Company, Spring Creek Coal Company and Kennecott Uranium Company Mr. J. E. Dyer July 23, 1997 Page Two

Should you have any questions concerning this letter or Sohio's response, please contact me at (307)-687-6003.

eary Afill Sincerely,

Jeane L. Hull, PE Director, HSEQ On behalf of Sohio Western Mining Company

cc: Cebolieta Land Grant Board of Trustees P.O. Box 307 Cebolleta, NM 87055

Mr. Edward J. Michael Edward J. Michael Construction, Inc. P.O. Box 2 Paguate, NM 87040

Mr. Thomas G. Osborn, Ph.D. Intera, Inc. 9111 Research Boulevard Austin, TX 78758

Mr. J. Virgona, Project Manager U.S. Department of Energy Grand Junction Project Office P.O. Box 2567 6425 S. Highway 191 Gand Junction, CO 81502

Mr. Pat Mackin, Assistant Director Systems Engineering & Integration Center for Nuclear Waste Regulation 6220 Culebra Road San Antonio, TX 78238-5166

New Mexico Radiation Control Program Director