



STATE OF NEW MEXICO

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November 4, 1982

Mr. Thomas M. Hill
Director of Environmental Affairs
UNC Mining and Milling
P.O. Drawer QQ
Gallup, NM 87301

Dear Mr. Hill:

During review of technical information submitted by United Nuclear Corporation, it has become evident that there are several facts that should be brought to your attention. It is my opinion that there are 2 faults in the sandstones in the 400 series area. One fault exists between 402 and 422, and the other is between wells 401 and 504A. The fault between 402 and 422 appears to have nearly 15 to 20 feet of offset. In my opinion, data shows this structural feature also affected the aquifer response during the pumping of the 400 series wells. I request that UNC and its consultants review the stratigraphy in the 400 series area and respond as to whether it is agreed that faults exist in these areas.

I also would like to offer the conclusion that the reason why well 401 could only sustain approximately 1 gpm during operation of the barrier system, is that only 10 feet of the screened portion was open to Zone 3 of the Upper Gallup Sandstone.

Well 504B shows that there is over 25 feet of saturation in Zone 3 of the Upper Gallup Sandstone in that area. This is an indication that there is an extensive area to the east of well 504B where Zone 3 has saturation. In a recent technical meeting with the EID staff, you have admitted that contamination exists at well 401 which is adjacent to 504B. The EID is concerned that ground water in Zone 3 to the east and north of wells 401 and 504B is contaminated. UNC has not determined the extent of contamination in this area. Could you please inform the EID when and if UNC plans to address the extent of contamination in this area?

Finally, well 504A shows a water level which is not typical of Zone 1 of the Upper Gallup Sandstone. Note the following water levels:

9804200222 821104
PDR ADOCK 04008907
C PDR

| | |
|------|----------------|
| 504A | 6802 (ft. msl) |
| 147 | 6777 (ft. msl) |
| 146 | 6770 (ft. msl) |
| 502A | 6813 (ft. msl) |

It appears there is leakage from saturated formations above Zone 1 at well 504A. The water quality of this well should be checked to insure that leakage is not causing cross contamination of Zone 1. If contamination is present, the well should be plugged.

Sincerely,

Richard Raymondi

Richard Raymondi
Water Resource Specialist
Ground Water Section

RR:egr