

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
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June 5, 1980

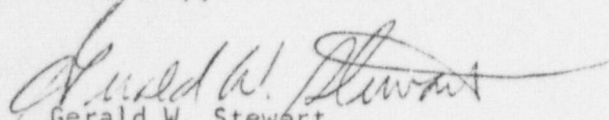
G. Wayne Kerr, Assistant Director
for State Agreements Program
Office of State Programs
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Kerr:

In response to your letter of April 24, 1980 concerning the raise of the UNC Church Rock Uranium Mill Tailings Dam, we requested comments from the New Mexico State Engineer's office (EID letter dated May 2, 1980). Pending their response we are forwarding copies of the orders and approvals issued as a result of New Mexico's review of UNC's proposed raise of their dam. Due to UNC's seepage investigation under and around their existing tailings impoundment, EID has not considered any liquid level raises for UNC. Currently UNC is operating at about one-half of their licensed ore throughput (4000TPD) and recycling treated tailings decant liquid in order to remain below the present authorized liquid level elevation of 6963 feet.

When additional comments are provided by the New Mexico State Engineers Office, they will be forwarded to your office.

Sincerely,


Gerald W. Stewart
Program Manager

C.C. D. LOPEZ, S.E.O.

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