



STATE OF NEW MEXICO

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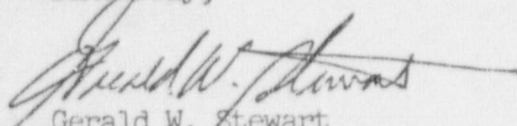
May 12, 1980

Thomas H. Hill, Director
Tailings Management
UNC Mining and Milling
P.O. Box 3951
Albuquerque, N.M. 87190

Dear Mr. Hill:

I have reviewed the ORILOFF Minerals Service Corporation report dated April 10, 1980 submitted to our office by letter from Mr. T. Miller (UNC) dated April 16, 1980. My first impression of this report is that the concept is out of phase with your current operations and alternative site investigations. In addition, the complexity of operating satellite cycloning stations and tailings solids/liquid transfer lines would appear to present serious problems that must be solved. My primary concerns with proposed concept are related to line ruptures, monitoring for radioactivity, temporary storage at the mines of cycloned sands, in advertent discharge of tailings slurry into the mine stopes and potential seepage from cycloned sands. A significant amount of additional analyses, engineering, evaluation of potential problems and environmental impact analyses are required prior to giving serious consideration to this concept.

Sincerely,


Gerald W. Stewart
Program Manager

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