



STATE OF NEW MEXICO

STATE ENGINEER OFFICE

SANTA FE

S. E. REYNOLDS
STATE ENGINEER

September 18, 1975

BATAAN MEMORIAL BUILDING
STATE CAPITOL
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501

Mr. Alphonso A. Topp Jr.
Environmental Improvement Agency
P. O. Box 2348
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503

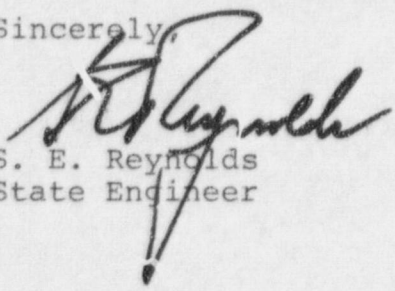
Dear Mr. Topp:

Thank you for your letter of September 9 advising me that your office has recently received an application for a Radioactive Material License from United Corporation for a proposed uranium mill near Church Rock and inviting examination of the application by my office.

It is my understanding that the license sought would regulate the radioactivity of water discharges passing the property line of the mill and the exposure of workers and others within the mill property to radioactivity, including such exposure as a result of drinking water furnished to such persons by the management. On the basis of this understanding I find no need to examine the application and offer any further comment.

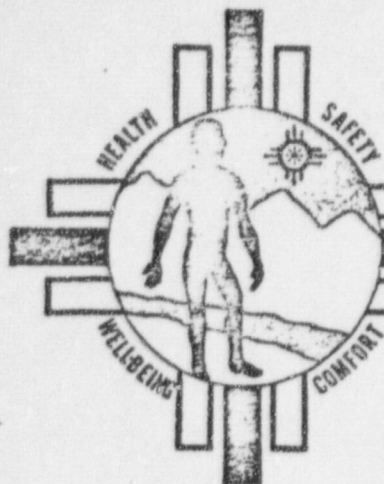
Please advise me if the understanding set out above is incorrect.

Sincerely,


S. E. Reynolds
State Engineer

SER:re

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PDR ADOCK 04008907
C PDR



STATE OF NEW MEXICO

Environmental
Improvement
Agency

WATER QUALITY DIVISION
Permits and Regulations
P.O. Box 2348
Santa Fe, NM 87503

(505) 827-3121

November 24, 1975

Mr. H. John Abbiss
Manager, Safety and Environmental Services
United Nuclear Corporation
Mining and Milling Division
P.O. Box 39501
Albuquerque, NM 87110

Dear Mr. Abbiss:

The Water Quality Division is in receipt of your letters dated September 12, 1975 and November 6, 1975 which include your formal notice of intent to discharge from the Churchrock Mill and the description of plans and construction specifications of all liquid waste disposal facilities at the mill.

Our preliminary review of these materials shows you have complied with Section 1-201 of the Water Quality Control Commission's Regulations. The Division's construction section is in the process of reviewing the materials you submitted relating to plans and specifications to assess compliance with Section 1-202. When this determination has been made they will notify you in writing.

Thank you for your cooperation on this matter.

Sincerely,

John G. Dudley
Environmental Scientist III

JGD:nr

cc; Joe Pierce, EIA, Regional Manager, Albuquerque



STATE OF NEW MEXICO

October 20, 1975

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

P. O. BOX 2348, SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Al Topp
827-2573

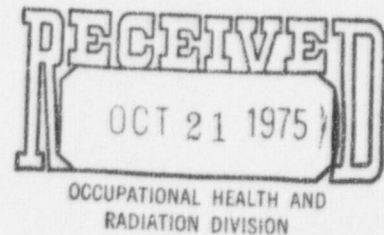
HEALTH and
SOCIAL
SERVICES
department

SANTA FE --- In response to a recent request to the New Mexico Environmental Improvement Agency, the Agency has placed a copy of the application for a Radioactive Materials License for the Church Rock uranium mill filed by United Nuclear Corporation in the Agency's Gallup Field Office.

The application and supporting papers are available for examination by interested persons during the period 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on working days in the Agency's office located in the Welfare Building, Gallup, New Mexico.

By making the application available in Gallup, the Agency will enable interested persons in the area of proposed construction of the mill to have access to the application without travel to Santa Fe.

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P. O. Box 2348, Lujan & Lujan Building
Santa Fe, NM 87503 - Phone: 827-25731

RADIATION PROTECTION SECTION

October 17, 1975

Mrs. Bernice Brewer
Gallup Environmental Field Office
P. O. Drawer 1300
Gallup, NM 87301

Dear Mrs. Brewer:

This concerns a telephone conversation between Mr. Joe Pierce and myself relative to the arrangements described below:

The Agency has been asked to place a copy of the application for a Radioactive Materials License made by United Nuclear Corporation for their proposed Church Rock uranium mill at a location in Gallup where it could be examined by interested persons.

Mr. Pierce agreed to have the application placed in your office for such examination. The application consists of four volumes enclosed herewith. I request that you do not allow any part of the application to be removed from your office. Please use the control sheet to give me an indication of persons examining the application. Persons wishing to copy a few pages of the application may do so, but should be prevented from copying large portions of the application.

We plan to issue a news release in the Gallup and Window Rock papers announcing the availability of the application in your office.

If anything is unclear about this, please call me at 827-2573. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Alphonso A. Topp, Jr.
Environmental Scientist III

cc: Harold Tso, The Navajo Nation, Environmental Protection Commission,
Window Rock, Arizona 86515
Joe Pierce, Env. Mgr, Region I & III, 4159 Montgomery Blvd., N.E.
Albuquerque, NM 87109
Edward O. Plummer, Superintendent, Department of Interior, Bureau of
Indian Affairs, Eastern Navajo Agency, P. O. Box 328, Crownpoint, NM 87313

OCT 7 - 1975



State of New Mexico

Environmental Improvement Agency

TO	NAME	County/District Or Mail Sta. & Rm. No.
	J. Daniel Torres, Program Manager	

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

DATE October 6, 1975

FROM G.A. Werner, Env. Sci. III

RE: SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL - UNITED NUCLEAR CORP.

The solid waste disposal specifications contained in the United Nuclear Corp. Application and Environmental Impact Study was reviewed and the following comments apply.

The tailings pond will receive the mill tailings. The particle size of the solids will be 80% on 200 mesh and 13% on 28 mesh screen. The larger particulate will be removed by cyclone and used for building up the tailings pond dam which will attain a height 64 ft. above original after the 15 yr. estimated life of the mine. If the fines are not removed, dusty conditions could result. United Nuclear proposes to spray to prevent this. Whether this will happen at all times is a matter for conjecture.

Before the ore is processed, tramp iron is removed. No mention is made about the amount expected nor where and how it will be disposed of. It would seem that the tramp iron should be acid cleaned before putting in a landfill lest radioactive hazard be produced by introduction of this material.

The major solid waste produced by United Nuclear Corp. on a day-to-day basis will be garbage, trash and packing materials. No estimate was made of the amount to be generated nor how it would be hauled to the NAVAJO Wingate Village landfill. (Gallup Quadrangle Map #25) T.15N and R.17W. The writer is not familiar with this landfill but I am sure someone in our section will be able to tell whether it is capable of receiving the waste from United Nuclear.

Construction debris is also destined for the above mentioned landfill. After the mill opens and the machinery wears out and for other reasons is no longer useful, United Nuclear proposed to acid clean the machinery prior to putting it on the landfill. No mention is made about the size of the machinery nor how frequently they estimate such machinery will be junked.

It is recommended that a representative from this section study the landfill, talk with or write a representative of United Nuclear so that the doubts above enumerated may be resolved.

GAW:dyw

cc: Byran Miller, Chief

✓Alphonso Topp, Radiology