




UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

June 24, 2020

MEMORANDUM TO: Docket: 040-08903
License: SUA-1471, Amendment 56
Licensee: Homestake Mining Company of California
Facility: Grants Reclamation Project, Grants, NM

FROM: Bill Von Till, Branch Chief

Uranium Recovery and Materials 
Decommissioning Branch
Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery
and Waste Programs
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

SUBJECT: NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION STAFF EXPLANATION FOR
WHY ACTIONS QUALIFIED FOR SELECTED CATEGORICAL
EXCLUSION: AMENDMENT 56 TO SOURCE AND BYPRODUCT
MATERIALS LICENSE NO. SUA-1471, HOMESTAKE MINING
COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA, GRANS RECLAMATION PROJECT,
GRANTS, NEW MEXICO

The purpose of this memorandum is to document the basis for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff's conclusion with respect to the satisfaction of the categorical exclusion criteria under paragraph Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 51.22(c)(11). This basis is also described in the Safety Evaluation Report for this amendment request. The staff has determined that Amendment 56 to License SUA-1471 qualifies for a categorical exclusion under 10 CFR 51.22(c)(11) because the license amendment pertaining to License Condition (LC) 32 is organizational in nature and the license amendment pertaining to LC 36 A. is administrative in nature that meets the four criteria in 10 CFR 51.22(c)(11), as explained below:

- There is no significant increase in the types or amounts of any effluents that may be released offsite;

The purpose of the LC 32 amendment is to approve the Homestake Mining Company of California (HMC), Grants Reclamation Project (GRP), proposed program for qualified Radiation Safety Technician (RST) designees to perform daily inspections recommended in Regulatory Guide (RG) 8.31 in the absence of the RST.

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The purpose of the LC 36 A. amendment is to reinsert language into the license that was removed in error during past license amendments.

Neither of these amendments relate to the release of effluents at the GRP. Therefore, this action will not result in a significant increase in the amounts of any effluents that may be released offsite.

- There is no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure;

The purpose of the LC 32 amendment is to approve the HMC, GRP, proposed program for qualified RST designees to perform daily inspections recommended in RG 8.31 in the absence of the RST.

The purpose of the LC 36 A. amendment is to reinsert language into the license that was removed in error during past license amendments.

Neither of these amendments will result in significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure at the GRP. The licensee is not requesting any changes to the radiation safety program at the GRP beyond the approval to allow HMC to train designees to perform limited inspections at the GRP during absences of the RST.

Therefore, this action will not result in a significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure.

- There is no significant construction impact;

The purpose of the LC 32 amendment is to approve the HMC, GRP, proposed program for qualified RST designees to perform daily inspections recommended in RG 8.31 in the absence of the RST.

The purpose of the LC 36 A. amendment is to reinsert language into the license that was removed in error during past license amendments.

Approving these amendments as described in this review will not involve construction activities. Therefore, this action will not result in a significant construction impact.

- There is no significant increase in the potential for or consequences from radiological accidents.

The purpose of the LC 32 amendment is to approve the HMC, GRP, proposed program for qualified RST designees to perform daily inspections recommended in RG 8.31 in the absence of the RST.

The purpose of the LC 36 A. amendment is to reinsert language into the license that was removed in error during past license amendments.

The licensee is not requesting any changes to the radiation safety program at the GRP beyond the approval to allow HMC to train designees to perform

limited inspections at the GRP during absences of the RST. Therefore, this action will not result in a significant increase in the potential for or consequences from radiological accidents.

Pursuant to staff memorandum dated February 28, 1984,¹ SECY-83-286, and guidance in NUREG-1748, as designee for the Division Director, this memorandum documents my concurrence with the staff's evaluation. This memorandum will be placed as a publicly available record in Agencywide Documents and Management System (ADAMS) under the above referenced docket and linked to the Amendment 56 package (ADAMS Accession No. ML20147A106)

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¹ ADAMS Accession No. ML20044G949.