UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF MINES
HEALTH AND SAFETY ACTIVITY

HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

HEALTH AND SAFETY INSPECTION
FEDERAL MILL
FEDERAL AMERICAN PARTNERS
GAS HILLS, FREMONT COUNTY, WYOMING

October 21, 1971

By

William H. Donley
Mining Engineer

METAL AND NONMETAL MINE SAFETY
ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT

A. Z. Dimitroff
District Manager

Originating Office
1600 East First South
Salt Lake City, Utah 84112
R. G. Plimpton
Subdistrict Manager

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PDR ADOCK 04004492
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Inspection No. 1
Identification No. 22018-00-48-007

INTRODUCTION

This report is based on an inspection made pursuant to Section 4 of the Federal Metal and Nonmetallic Mine Safety Act (80 Stat. 772).

Health and safety standards referenced in the report were promulgated in the Federal Register, Vol. 34, No. 145, Thursday, July 31, 1969; Vol. 35, No. 38, Wednesday, February 25, 1970; and Vol. 35, No. 237, Tuesday, December 8, 1970. Notices are issued for observed violations of mandatory standards only.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Federal uranium mill is located in the Gas Hills mining district, Fremont County, Wyoming, about 50 miles east of Riverton, Wyoming.

The mill was owned and operated by Federal American Partners. Operating officials were: Thomas Hill, resident manager; and Don Ferguson, safety engineer.

Total employment at the mill was 48 men. Employees worked three 8-hour shifts a day, 5 days a week.

The plant operation consisted of the crushing, leaching, drying, and loading areas.

Uranium ore for the mill was obtained from company-operated mines located nearby.

Surface facilities consisted of main crusher building, mill, office, and several utility buildings. All buildings were of fire-resistant material.

Persons participating in the inspection were: Ralph Shimmin, mill superintendent; Don Ferguson, safety engineer, Federal American Partners; Clark Hartle, deputy mine inspector, State of Wyoming; and Rell W. Frederick, Bureau of Mines.

Firefighting equipment consisted of strategically placed hose houses with an automatic pump station centrally located to supply water for firefighting purposes.

A diesel-powered, rubber-tired front-end loader was used to transport uranium ore from the stockpile to the primary crusher building.

The uranium ore was transported from the primary crusher, through the secondary crusher, to the leaching baths by conveyor belts. Pumps were

used to circulate the uranium ore through the leaching process and into the dryers. The dried uranium oxide was packed into barrels for shipment.

Inclined walkways, platform, and travelways throughout the mill were well-equipped with handrails and toeboards. Openings were guarded to prevent falling. Stumbling hazards were not observed.

Electrical power was purchased from a commercial supplier. Transformer facilities reduced the power to 440, 220, and 110 volts alternating current for use in the mill.

Equipment in the mill appeared in good mechanical condition. Employees appeared familiar with their jobs and performed their work in a safe manner. Moving parts of equipment exposed to contact were guarded adequately.

First-aid supplies were available in the event of an injury.

Materials were stored in a neat and orderly manner. Compressed-gas bottles were secured.

Illumination was provided in all work areas and around walkways and travelways. All lighting observed appeared adequate.

The company maintained a safety program. Safety meetings were held once a month with the employees. Prior arrangements were made for medical assistance. The nearest hospital was at Riverton, Wyoming, about 50 miles from the mill.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The cooperation of officials of the Federal Mill and the representative of the State mine inspector, State of Wyoming, is gratefully acknowledged.

/s/ William H. Donley

William H. Donley
Mining Engineer

MEMO ROUTE SLIP

Form AEC-93 (Rev. May 14, 1947) AECM 0...

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TO (Name and unit)	INITIALS / DATE	REMARKS
Gen Roy Compt. Bethesda	GWR DATE 12/13	
JRM for info TWB	JRM 12-16 DATE	Tom — pls send a copy to Region IV Sent 12-14-71 TWB
	INITIALS DATE	

FROM (Name and unit)	REMARKS
VanBlarcom RM P11	Note: Bur. Mines safety inspection of a uranium mill - radiation not included. VanB
PHONE NO. 7506 / DATE 12/10	

USE OTHER SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL REMARKS

GPO : 1968 O—294-619