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Department of Energy
Grand Junction Projects Office
Post Office Box 2567
Grand Junction, Colorado 81502-2567

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Mr. Ramon Hall, Manager
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Uranium Recovery Field Office
Post Office Box 25325
Denver, CO 80223

SUBJECT: Approval of Remedial Action Design Package Utilizing Supplemental Standards for Riverfront Dike Area in Grand Junction, Colorado

Dear Mr. Hall:

Enclosed is one copy of the revised Radiologic and Engineering Assessment (REA) for the following locations:

GJ-97015-OT	1350 S. 5th Street
GJ-43848-CC	1350 S. 5th Street
GJ-43850-CC	1360 S. 5th Street
GJ-09471-CC	1360 S. 5th Street
GJ-09472-CC	533 Struthers Avenue
GJ-09473-CC	535 Struthers Avenue
GJ-09474-CC	537 Struthers Avenue
GJ-09476-CC	601 Struthers Avenue
GJ-00694-CC	655 Struthers Avenue

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The REA, which reflects the comments made by both the Colorado Department of Health and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission on the prior SSA submittal, has been reviewed and approved by the Department of Energy and is being forwarded to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for their review and approval. The engineering assessment does propose utilization of EPA supplemental standards for approximately a three-acre area between the North Channel of the Colorado River and ten feet south of the south toe of the proposed Corps of Engineers dike. The tailings range in depth from 6 to 147 inches, and this supplemental standards application will apply, in general, to the tailings with depths greater than 24 inches. The top 24 inches of contamination, selected portions of the river banks, and two retention pond drain line corridors associated with the dike, will be removed and backfilled. Full remediation is either planned or has been completed for all contaminated areas beneath the footprint of the dike and to the north of the dike. The demarcation line was located ten feet south of the dike to provide some leeway should minor changes in the dike alignment occur. No habitable structures exist in this 100 year floodplain. The only existing structures are the one outdoor sign, two dilapidated sheds and one small bridge. Because of the floodplain status, institutional controls are applicable through the City of Grand Junction's floodplain permit process. There is little potential for future migration because the tailings will be buried and institutional controls will be applied.

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Mr. Ramon Hall

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The DOE has evaluated three possible remedial action alternatives and the associated health risks, and has determined that partial remediation is the best alternative. The Health Risk Analysis suggests that there are no identifiable significant health risks if supplemental standards were applied to this strip of land.

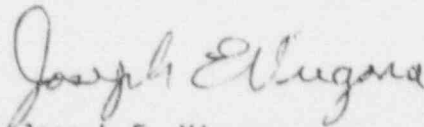
This proposed course of action has been previously discussed with Colorado Department of Health, City of Grand Junction and Riverfront Commission representatives, and the Owner of the outdoor sign at meetings and a site inspection. The City and Owner have expressed concern over the application of supplemental standards. As part of the Governor Romer (CO)/Bruce Twining (Albuquerque Field Office Manager) Agreement, a long-term tailings control and management plan is being developed.

The justification checklist, property condition description, considerations, cost applications breakdown, justification and the property owner comments were provided in the prior submittal. The supplemental standards application is being requested because remedial action would result in an estimated cost which is unreasonably high, relative to the long-term health benefits (criteria c).

Please review and provide your concurrence to me by January 15, 1993. This short turnaround time is necessary in order to provide sufficient time for the areas designated for remedial action to be completed prior to the June 30, 1993 deadline for transport of tailings to the state temporary tailings repository.

If you have any questions or require additional information, do not hesitate to contact me at 303-248-6006.

Sincerely,



Joseph E. Virgona
Supervisory General Engineer

Enclosure

cc w/o enclosure:
J. Deckler, CDH/Denver
G. Franz, CDH/GJ
D. Leske, UMTRAPO/GJ
J. Elmer, Geotech