



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

AUG 01 1994

#7 Central
File

Mr. Albert R. Chernoff, Project Manager
Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action
Project Office
U.S. Department of Energy
Albuquerque Operations Office
P.O. Box 5400
Albuquerque, NM 87115

Dear Mr. Chernoff:

SUBJECT: CO-LOCATION OF NATURITA, COLORADO, SITE'S RESIDUAL RADIOACTIVE
MATERIAL TO URAVAN, COLORADO

Thank you for your letter of July 1, 1994, advising the Nuclear Regulatory Commission that the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action (UMTRA) Project Office is considering the feasibility of co-locating the Naturita, Colorado, site's residual radioactive material to the Umetco Minerals Corporation facility at Uravan, Colorado. Based on the information provided, the NRC will suspend any further review of the Naturita Remedial Action Plan (RAP) related to the Dry Flats disposal cell option until a final decision on the disposal site is made.

As you know, the State of Colorado, as an Agreement State under the Atomic Energy Act, has the authority to regulate radioactive material within that state. Therefore, if DOE chooses the Uravan option, the NRC's authority will be to ensure that the remediation and restoration of the Naturita processing site meets the appropriate standards promulgated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Although the NRC would not review information relative to any design and construction for the Naturita tailings at the Uravan site, the staff believes that any outstanding issues related to that site should be resolved prior to the finalization of any RAP utilizing the Uravan option. Specifically, the staff is concerned about the resolution of issues raised in a DOE draft technical report on the Uravan site and presented at a DOE/NRC meeting of January 12, 1993. As previously stated at the January 12 meeting and in our letter of June 29, 1993 (D. Gillen, NRC, to A. Chernoff, DOE), we recommend that DOE finalize the draft report and provide some documentation that previous technical issues raised, regarding the Uravan site, are resolved.

000000

A15
L-11-66
81



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

AUG 01 1994

#7 Central
File

Mr. Albert R. Chernoff, Project Manager
Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action
Project Office
U.S. Department of Energy
Albuquerque Operations Office
P.O. Box 5400
Albuquerque, NM 87115

Dear Mr. Chernoff:

SUBJECT: CO-LOCATION OF NATURITA, COLORADO, SITE'S RESIDUAL RADIOACTIVE
MATERIAL TO URAVAN, COLORADO

Thank you for your letter of July 1, 1994, advising the Nuclear Regulatory Commission that the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action (UMTRA) Project Office is considering the feasibility of co-locating the Naturita, Colorado, site's residual radioactive material to the Umetco Minerals Corporation facility at Uravan, Colorado. Based on the information provided, the NRC will suspend any further review of the Naturita Remedial Action Plan (RAP) related to the Dry Flats disposal cell option until a final decision on the disposal site is made.

As you know, the State of Colorado, as an Agreement State under the Atomic Energy Act, has the authority to regulate radioactive material within that state. Therefore, if DOE chooses the Uravan option, the NRC's authority will be to ensure that the remediation and restoration of the Naturita processing site meets the appropriate standards promulgated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Although the NRC would not review information relative to any design and construction for the Naturita tailings at the Uravan site, the staff believes that any outstanding issues related to that site should be resolved prior to the finalization of any RAP utilizing the Uravan option. Specifically, the staff is concerned about the resolution of issues raised in a DOE draft technical report on the Uravan site and presented at a DOE/NRC meeting of January 12, 1993. As previously stated at the January 12 meeting and in our letter of June 29, 1993 (D. Gillen, NRC, to A. Chernoff, DOE), we recommend that DOE finalize the draft report and provide some documentation that previous technical issues raised, regarding the Uravan site, are resolved.

650070

A/S
L.M. 66
xi

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Ms. Charlotte Abrams of my staff at (301) 415-5808.

Sincerely,

Joseph J. Holonich, Chief
High-Level Waste and Uranium
Recovery Projects Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

cc: C. Smythe, DOE Alb
D. Bierley, TAC Alb
W. Woodworth, DOE Alb
J. Deckler, CDH

DISTRIBUTION:

Central File	DWM r/f	MKnapp	JGreeves	MBell
JAustin	JSurmeier	JHolonich	MFederline	DSollenberger,OSP
NMSS r/f	HLUR r/f	LSS	LPDR	ACNW
PDR	On-Site reps	CNWRA		

Mark Small Boxes in Concurrence Block to Define Distribution Copy Preference.
In small Box on "OFC:" line enter: C = Cover E = Cover & Enclosure M = No Copy

OFC	HLUR <i>JA</i>	C	HLUR <i>DMG</i>	C	HLUR <i>JA</i>	<i>U</i>			
NAME	CAbrams/ebw		DGillen		JHolonich				
DATE	07/27/94	H	07/28/94	H	07/27/94				

Path & File Name: S:\DWM\HLUR\CEA\NATLEY

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

In small Box on "DATE:" line enter: M = E-Mail Distribution Copy H = Hard Copy
Delete file after distribution: Yes ___ No ___