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# Department of Energy

Albuquerque Operations Office

P. O. Box 5400

Albuquerque, New Mexico 87115

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JUL 17 1987

Paul H. Lohaus  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
7915 Eastern Avenue  
Silver Springs, MD 20910

Dear Mr. Lohaus:

The enclosed report was prepared based on two studies (Williams et. al., 1986; Gilbert et. al., 1987) investigating the errors associated with preparing different types of composite soil samples. These samples are used to verify clean-up of contaminated soils around Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action processing sites and vicinity properties.

Information from these studies is utilized as the basis for a change in the UMTRA Project verification procedures currently being implemented to assure compliance with EPA standards for Title I sites (40-CFR-192). The UMTRA Project Office proposes that the procedure be modified to allow 9-plug composite samples to be utilized for verification purposes instead of the current 21-plug samples. Details for this modification and a discussion of its impact on the UMTRA Project are given in the report.

The DOE UMTRA Project Office will host a meeting in mid-August 1987 to provide a thorough briefing on this report and also to demonstrate RTRAK, our gamma-scanning tractor currently under construction. We will advise you of the exact details of this meeting in the near future.

Your review of this report is appreciated, and if you should have any questions, please call Richard Richey of my staff at FTS 846-1210.

Sincerely,

*James R. Anderson*

James R. Anderson

Project Manager

Uranium Mill Tailings Project Office

Enclosure

cc w/enclosure:  
G. Gnugnoli, NRC

WM Record File

WM Project

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Docket No.

PDR

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Distribution:

*Plchous et al. Spugnoli, W. et al.  
F. et al. et al.  
(Return to WM, 023-SS) D. Smith et al. et al.  
Enclosure already went to PDR.*



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