American Citizens Together P.O. Box 3046 Taos, New Mexico 87571 June 2, 1981

LID I Tice

Thomas E. Baca, Director Environmental Improvement Division P.O. Box 968 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503

Dear Mr. Baca:

I am formally requesting a public hearing on United Nuclear's proposed expansion of tailings tonnage at the Church Rock uranium mill.

For the past two years United Nuclear has been seriously, massively polluting the water. The state EID has ample documentation of ongoing violation of state water quality standards. For two years United Nuclear has been promising to stop the contamination and to clean up Church Rock; the contamination continues.

United Nuclear now wants to greatly expand its tailings production and disposal. Since it is the people who will bear the brunt of increased water and land contamination from such an expansion, the people should have input into the decision-making.

For too long, state decisions about the water pollution at Church Rock have been made strictly from United Nuclear data. It is time that the human and health aspects are heard and responded to appropriately.

I have two questions about EID public hearings:

- 1. What are the regulations mandating/affecting such hearings?
- 2. How are the public hearings announced/advertised? I would hope that each person/organization who has contacted your office regarding Churcl Rock would receive notice of the hearing, as well as there being visible media notices.

May I offer a suggestion to facilitate public involvement. Can you have at least two public hearings, one in the Church Rock area and one at the seat of government, Santa Fe? That will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

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Erika Dew/A.C.T. coordinator

cc: Albuquerque Journal, David Steinberg
Rio Grande Magazine, Judith Ritter

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