



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
REGION IV  
1600 E. LAMAR BLVD  
ARLINGTON TX 76011-4511

September 25, 2023

Haitao Dong, PhD  
Radiation Safety Officer  
Colorado School of Mines  
1500 Illinois Street  
Golden, CO 80401

**SUBJECT: SUSPENSION OF REVIEW OF NEW LICENSE APPLICATION DATED  
OCTOBER 17, 2022, FOR COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES**

Dear Dr. Dong:

We have reviewed Colorado School of Mines application for a U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) license requesting to conduct research and development activities at the Denver Federal Center in Denver, Colorado. Our office has determined that we need additional time to evaluate your decommissioning financial assurance documents. We will notify you if additional information is needed regarding these documents.

The decommissioning funding plan, decommissioning cost estimate, and statement of intent letter submitted by Colorado School of Mines are currently under review by specialist staff and have not been approved by the NRC. These reviews are expected to extend the completion time, but not be the limiting factor.

When we became aware that your intended facility to conduct licensed activities has not been completed, we requested a timeline of activities needed to support construction. Since design approval and start of construction are still some months away, we have decided to suspend the review until construction of the facility is sufficiently complete to the point where safety equipment is installed and operational to enable a health and safety site visit to be performed.

Therefore, please inform the NRC in writing when construction of the facility is sufficiently complete to enable the NRC to finalize its review. Based on the timeline that you provided for construction, it appears that construction may be sufficiently complete by the fall of 2024 to perform a health and safety visit.

H. Dong

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In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) 2.390 of NRC's "Rules of Practice and Procedure," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from ADAMS, accessible from the NRC Web site at <https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

Sincerely,

Roberto J. Torres, M.S., Senior Health Physicist  
Materials Licensing Branch

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Control No.: 633717