



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

October 28, 2024

Mr. Brad Bingham, Closure Manager
Grants Reclamation Project
Homestake Mining Company of California
P.O. Box 98/Highway 605
Grants, NM 87020

SUBJECT: HOMESTAKE MINING COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA, GRANTS RECLAMATION PROJECT, NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION MULTI-AGENCY AUDIT PLAN FOR THE GROUNDWATER FLOW AND CONTAMINANT TRANSPORT MODEL, LICENSE NO. SUA-1471, DOCKET 040-08903

Dear Mr. Bingham,

In a letter to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) dated June 10, 2024 ([ML24164A317](#)), the Homestake Mining Company of California (HMC) requested that the NRC staff conduct an audit of the HMC Grants Reclamation Project (GRP) groundwater flow and contaminant transport model. Additionally, HMC proposed inviting and including representatives from the Department of Energy (DOE), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) in the audit discussions. The NRC staff agrees that a detailed audit of the HMC GRP groundwater flow and contaminant transport model would assist in the understanding of the groundwater model and GRP site. The NRC staff has engaged with DOE, EPA, NMED to ascertain the interest of the agencies in participating in the proposed audit ([ML24183A096](#), [ML24183A068](#), [ML24183A114](#)).

The NRC staff invited representatives from the EPA, NMED, and DOE to participate in an audit of HMC's GRP groundwater fate and transport model. The NRC has developed a draft groundwater audit plan consistent with NRC's guidance in Licensing Process (LIC) 111, Revision 1, Regulatory Audits ([ML19226A274](#)). The draft audit plan is enclosed for HMC review and comment.

The NRC staff has scheduled the audit to begin on December 2, 2024.

Please provide any comments to the NRC staff by November 13, 2024. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at 301-415-7777, or via e-mail at Ron.Linton@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,



Signed by Linton, Ron
on 10/28/24

Ron C. Linton, Project Manager
Uranium Recovery and Materials
Decommissioning Branch
Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery
and Waste Programs
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No.: 040-08903
License No.: SUA-1471

Enclosure: As stated.

cc: Homestake ListServ
S. Appaji (EPA) (via ListServ)
C. Dimond (NMED) (via ListServ)
N. Olin (DOE) (via ListServ)
G. Swanson (OSE) (via ListServ)

Homestake Mining Co. of CA - NRC Multi-Agency Audit Plan for the Groundwater Model, Grants Reclamation Project DATE October 28, 2024

DISTRIBUTION:

ADAMS Accession No.: ML24176A247; Ltr ML24176A252

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