



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

February 3, 2025

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 agreed 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 engaged with DOE, EPA, NMED to ascertain the interest of the agencies in participating in the proposed audit ([ML24183A096](#), [ML24183A068](#), [ML24183A114](#)). Those agencies accepted the offer to participate in the audit.

The NRC developed a draft groundwater model audit plan consistent with NRC's guidance in Licensing Process (LIC) 111, Revision 1, Regulatory Audits ([ML19226A274](#)) that was shared with the agencies and HMC in a letter dated October 28, 2024 ([ML24176A247](#)). After responses by the agencies and HMC, the NRC has developed the final audit plan. The audit plan is enclosed.

An audit kickoff meeting was conducted on December 2, 2024. Two technical meetings are scheduled beginning in February and April of 2025 in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

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 02/03/25

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 - Multi-Agency Groundwater Fate and Transport Model Audit Plan DATE
February 3, 2025

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