



COGEMA

Mining, Inc.

August 17, 2000

LICENSE SUA-1341
DOCKET NO. 40-8502

Mr. Phillip Ting, Chief
Fuel Cycle Licensing Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards, NMSS
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop 8A33
Washington, D. C. 20555

Subject: Excursion Status Report of Monitor Well M2 (Event # 37220)

Dear Mr. Ting:

As per license Section 11.2, this letter is to confirm my telephone notification to the NRC Operations Center on August 10, 2000, regarding the excursion status of monitor well M2.

A routine quarterly (every 3 months) water sample collected on August 7, 2000 from monitor well M2, exceeded 2 of its 3 upper control limits (UCLs). A confirmation sample was collected on August 9, which also exceeded 2 of its 3 UCLs. Monitor well M2 was then placed on excursion status as per license Section 11.2 and its sampling frequency increased to weekly. This will continue until 3 consecutive weekly samples indicate that not more than one UCL is exceeded.

M2 is a perimeter ore zone monitor well located approximately 440 feet west of the Production Unit 2 boundary, at the Irigaray Project. Mining and groundwater restoration have been completed in Production Unit 2. The following table gives the sample analysis data and the water level elevations for the two sample analysis which confirmed the excursion for M2 and the initial weekly sample. The bold values exceed their designated UCLs.

Sample Date	Chloride mg/l UCL 18.0	Conductivity umhos/cm UCL 685	Alkalinity mg/l UCL 131.1	Uranium mg/l as U3O8	pH	Water Level Elevation
8-07-00	18.2	733	105.5	< 0.4	8.3	4239.0
8-09-00	19.0	779	98.8	< 0.4	8.5	4241.5
8-14-00	19.0	751	106.5	< 0.4	8.3	4235.6

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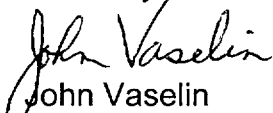
Corrective recovery pumping is being conducted in ore zone trend well T10, located approximately 260 north of M2. Well T10 served as a trend well for the restored E Field and is located 98 west of the E field. It is believed that since the E field was restored to an average chloride concentration of 40.2 mg/l, some of the restored water may have migrated from this field to the M2 area. Recovery pumping of T10 was successful in correcting the excursion of M2 during May 2000.

A sample was collected on 8-16-00 from T10 with the following analysis results.

<u>Well</u>	<u>Chloride mg/l</u>	<u>Conductivity umhos/cm</u>	<u>Alkalinity mg/l</u>
T10	29.5	994	94.2

Written progress reports describing the status of all monitor wells on excursion status will be submitted on a quarterly basis, as per license Section 11.2. Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this report.

Sincerely,



John Vaselein
Radiation Safety Officer

cc: Division Director/NRC, Arlington, TX
Wayne Heili/COGEMA