



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6

1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200  
DALLAS, TX 75202-2733

JAN 24 2001

40-8903

Mr. Roy Cellan, Corporate Manager  
Homestake Mining Company of California  
Highway 605  
P.O. Box 98  
Grants, New Mexico 87020

Dear Mr. Cellan:

This letter serves as a follow-up to conversations concerning the deletion of the Homestake Mining Company of California (HMC) Superfund Site in Grants, New Mexico from the National Priorities List (NPL). My staff discussed with you and the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) our mutual interest in deleting the site from the NPL at a meeting last Spring 2000. At the meeting, EPA stated that we found it appropriate to conduct a non-statutory Five Year Review to determine if the selected remedy for the Site has been effective, and is complying with the objectives of the Corrective Action Plan (CAP) for the Site.

Our correspondence to you dated May 4, 2000, documents the purpose for performing a Five Year Review is to determine if the decision made for the site remedy continues to be protective of human health and the environment. It is not intended to reconsider decisions made during the selection of the remedy.

We are offering to you an opportunity to perform this Five Year Review. We request a response from you in writing within 30 days upon receipt of this letter, with a schedule for developing and finalizing such a report if you elect to perform this review. If you decide not to perform the review, EPA will perform the necessary investigation and data collection in order to develop the document.

I have enclosed a sample outline you may use should you choose to develop the report. I have also enclosed a copy of our guidance document for performing the Five Year Review for your information. The outline has been discussed with NMED and takes into consideration the feedback they provided through their letter dated July 13, 2000.

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Please feel free to contact me at your earliest convenience to discuss the outline or any other issues related to this action at (214) 665-2197 or you may contact Petra Sanchez at (214) 665-6686. We are confident that we can find a mutually beneficial approach toward accomplishing our shared goals for the site.

Enclosures

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Don Williams", with a stylized, cursive script.

Don Williams  
Team Leader, 6SF-LT  
US EPA Region 6

cc: Ken Hooks, Nuclear Regulatory Commission (w/o attachments)  
George Schuman, New Mexico Environment Department (checklist only)