

December 14, 2004

Mr. Ray Cherniske  
Manager, Remediation Sites  
Molycorp, Inc.  
Molybdenum Operations  
P.O. Box 469  
Questa, NM 87556-0469

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE REVIEW OF REQUEST FOR AN AMENDMENT TO LICENSE  
SMB-1393 (DOCKET NO. 040-08778) PROPOSING AN ALTERNATE  
DECOMMISSIONING SCHEDULE (TAC L52054)

Dear Mr. Cherniske:

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has received your application for an amendment to license SMB-1393 dated October 22, 2004 (and received November 1, 2004), for the Molycorp Washington site. We have completed the initial processing, which is an administrative review, and have accepted your application for a more detailed technical review. The more detailed technical review may identify omissions in the submitted information or technical issues that require additional information (RAI). These will be forwarded to you under separate cover in the future. The staff expects to complete its review by January 31, 2005. This schedule assumes one RAI and one month for you to respond to the RAI.

Please contact me at (301) 415-5869 if you have any questions related to our review.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Tom McLaughlin, Project Manager  
Materials Decommissioning Section  
Decommissioning Directorate  
Division of Waste Management  
and Environmental Protection  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No.: 040-08778  
License No.: SMB-1393  
cc: Molycorp, Washington Distribution List

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\*See previous concurrence

OFC	DWMEP: PM*	DWMEP:SC*	OGC*	DWMEP:D(A)
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DATE	11/30/2004	11/30/2004	12/10/2004	12/14/2004

**OFFICIAL RECORD COPY**

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