

Belcher, Aaron

From: Jonathan Block <jblock@nmelc.org>
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2014 1:29 PM
To: Parrott, Jack
Subject: Re: Structural stability of large tailings pile (LTP) at the Homestake-Barrick Gold superfund site in Milan, NM

Thanks for getting back to me on this, Jack. I hope some careful consideration is given to that report. As I pointed out, it will be difficult to assess the stability of the large tailings pile given the effects of pumping and injecting on the levels in the wells on which one would want to review monitoring records. Also, so far as I know, seismic stability and the potential effects of flooding given the relation of the LTP to the flood plain have never been assessed.

I suggest that it would be a good idea to have those assessments as part of the decommissioning plan.

Would you kindly forward these messages to Brian and Larry.

Thanks.

Jon

Sent from my iPhone

> On Mar 31, 2014, at 9:02 AM, "Parrott, Jack" <Jack.Parrott@nrc.gov> wrote:

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> Jon,

>

> Thank you for providing a copy of the State of NM report and comments. NRC does have a copy of the report, it in NRC's Agency-wide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) at accession # ML13309A558. The comments listed in the report were submitted to NRC by the State of New Mexico as comments on the Homestake Decommissioning and Reclamation Plan (DRP). Therefore, all the comments in the report will be addressed by NRC including the comments on the water level fluctuations in the large tailings pile, the seismic qualification of the LTP, and the relation of the LTP to the flood plain, as part of NRC's overall comment response on the DRP.

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> Jack

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> Jack D. Parrott

> Senior Project Manager

> US Nuclear Regulatory Commission

> 301-415-6634

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> -----Original Message-----

> From: Jon Block [<mailto:jblock@nmelc.org>]

> Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2014 6:29 PM

> To: Parrott, Jack; Head-Dylla, Candace; Jonnie Head; Jon Block

> Subject: Structural stability of large tailings pile (LTP) at the Homestake-Barrick Gold superfund site in Milan, NM

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> Hello, Jack:

> Last week, my clients, BVDA/MASE provided me with a copy of the attached cover letter and report concerning the structural stability of the large tailings pile at the Homestake-Barrick Gold (HMC-Barrick)

> uranium mill superfund site in Milan, NM. As it
> does not appear to have been filed with the NRC, I though you, Larry and Brian ought to be aware of it.
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> Of significance in the cover letter is the need to examine data on surface elevations within the wells to make
a determination of slope stability. However, as there is continuous pumping and injection taking place, such
data could be subject to shifts that would be difficult to account for in calculations. In addition, there are two
more unaddressed issues: seismic qualification and the relation of the pile to the flood plain.
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> I pass this onto you all and hope it proves helpful in your continued regulation and oversight of this facility.
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> BVDA/MASE looks forward to having the NRC's response to this additional information.
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> Regards,
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> Jon Block
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> --
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