



FREEPORT-McMoRAN

Phoenix Corporate Office
333 North Central Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85004

40-1162

CERTIFIED MAIL—RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

March 30, 2016

Dominick Orlando, Senior Project Manager
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mailstop T-8 F-5
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Document Control Desk
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

**Re: Financial Assurance Update for Western Nuclear, Inc.'s Split Rock Facility
Located in Jeffery City, Wyoming – NRC License # SUA-56**

Dear Mr. Orlando:

In accordance with 10 C.F.R. Part 40, Western Nuclear, Inc. currently has in place a Guarantee issued by its parent company, Freeport-McMoRan Inc. ("FCX"), covering the decommissioning cost estimate for the above facility in the amount of \$1,132,374. In accordance with the terms of the Guarantee and 10 C.F.R. Part 30, Appendix A, FCX hereby notifies the Nuclear Regulatory Commission ("NRC") that WNI intends to provide alternative financial assurance as specified in 10 C.F.R. Part 40 within 120 days after the end of FCX's fiscal year ended December 31, 2015. In accordance with the terms of the Guarantee, if WNI fails to obtain written approval of such assurance from the NRC within 120 days after the end of the fiscal year, FCX shall establish such financial assurance in the name of WNI or make full payment under the guarantee to the standby trust.

Please contact the undersigned if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Lawrence J. Corte
Senior Counsel
Freeport-McMoRan Inc.

NM3501