



Homestake Mining Company of California

Jesse R. Toepfer
Closure Manager

13 April 2016

ATTN: Document Control Desk

Director, Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Programs
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission,
Washington, DC 20555-0001

ATTN: Mr. Jack Parrott, Sr. Project Manager

Reactor Decommissioning Branch (Mailstop T-8F5)
Division of Waste Management and Environmental Protection
Office of Federal and State Materials and Environmental Management Program
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

ATTN: Messrs. Kurt Vollbrecht and Jeff Lewellin

Ground Water Quality Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
PO Box 5469
Santa Fe, NM 87502-5469

RE: 2015 Monitoring of Former Irrigation Areas; December 2015 San Andres Well Integrity Report; March 2016 San Andres Well Integrity Report

Messrs. Parrott, Vollbrecht, and Lewellin:

Enclosed with this cover letter you will find the following three reports:

- 2015 Monitoring of Former Irrigation Areas
- December 2015 San Andres Well Integrity Report
- March 2016 San Andres Well Integrity Report

The San Andres Well Integrity Reports are being sent in accordance with the conditions of Homestake Mining Company's Discharge Permit DP-200, which was approved on 25 September 2014 by the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED). Through additional correspondence spanning a period of several months, agreement was reached between Homestake and NMED with regard to the scheduling of the integrity tests of various San Andres wells.

Beginning in the year 2000, Homestake, on its own volition, began submitting irrigation reports similar to the one enclosed. These reports were submitted to document and aver that the use of off-site waters (*i.e.*, waters that contained low concentrations of uranium, but at levels slightly above the approved Site Standards) for irrigation purposes posed little to no threat to human health and the environment.

NM5520

Via the renewed Discharge Permit, DP-200, Homestake submitted a Land Application Closure Plan to NMED in 2015. This plan was approved in April 2015. The sampling and monitoring performed for the irrigation report was done in accordance with that approved plan.

Thank you for your time and attention on this matter. If you or anyone on your staff has any questions, please contact me at the Grants office at 505.287.4456, extension 34, or call me directly on my cell phone at 505.290.3067.

Respectfully,



Jesse R. Toepfer

Closure Manager
Homestake Mining Company of California
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Copy To:

D. Barr, DOE, Grand Junction, Colorado (w/encl.)
S. Appaji, Region VI EPA, Dallas, Texas (w/encl.)
C. Thompson, NMSEO, Albuquerque, New Mexico (w/encl.)
C. Burrus, NMSEO, Albuquerque, New Mexico (electronic copy)
L. Petronis, NMSEO, Santa Fe, New Mexico (electronic copy)
P. Webster, Barrick, Salt Lake City, Utah (electronic copy)
B. Ferdinand, Barrick, Salt Lake City, Utah (electronic copy)
G. Hoffman, Hydro-Engineering, Casper, Wyoming (electronic copy)