

From: Whited, Jeffrey
To: ["Ballaine, Theresa"](#)
Cc: [Meyer, Matthew](#)
Subject: Rio Algom Ambrosia Lake Site - NRC Request Re: Section 4 Pond License Termination
Date: Wednesday, November 09, 2016 2:16:00 PM

Theresa Ballaine, Site Manager
Rio Algom Mining LLC
P.O. Box 218
Grants, NM 87020

SUBJECT: NRC Request Re: Request for Termination of Section 4 Ponds at the Ambrosia Lake Facility

Dear Ms. Ballaine:

On August 16, 2016 (ADAMS Accession No. ML16242A301), Rio Algom Mining, LLC (the licensee) submitted a letter to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) requesting that the Section 4 Ponds at the Ambrosia Lake Facility be terminated from NRC License Number SUA-1473. The purpose of this e-mail is to follow-up with you on the current status of the NRC staff's review of this document.

The NRC staff has completed its initial review of this document and believes (as previously discussed with you and your staff) that the document should be resubmitted in its entirety to formally request an amendment to NRC License Number SUA-1473.

Specifically, the NRC staff believes the request should be formatted as a license amendment in accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Section 40.44 and should include the following:

1. A a copy of the current SUA-1473 license with markings indicating the changes that are being requested as part of the license amendment process. Specifically, the NRC staff is suggesting that License Condition 32 be amended to include the date of a newly approved soil decommissioning plan.
2. An updated soil decommissioning plan for SUA-1473.
 - a. The submittal should include a copy of the soil decommissioning plan marked-up to remove all references to Section 4. These references would then be able to be removed if the license amendment request is approved.
 - b. The submittal should also include a clean copy of the soil decommissioning plan with the references to Section 4 removed.
3. A discussion on the applicable criteria for Section 4 as outlined in the current soil decommissioning plan referenced in License Condition 32.
 - a. This discussion should include how the criteria in the soil decommissioning plan for Section 4 are being met in order to release Section 4 as is being requested by the licensee.
 - b. This discussion should also include any alternatives that are being used rather than the criteria outlined in the soil decommissioning plan.
4. The median and the mean survey value data as was previously discussed.

5. Final information. The current document has the marking, "Draft Final Radiological Condition and Dose Assessment for the Section 4 Ponds," please be sure that the "Final Radiological Condition and Dose Assessment for the Section 4 Ponds" is submitted and that no DRAFT information is included in the request.
6. A discussion of whether or not your current sampling methods deviate from any and all applicable procedures. Specifically discussing why it is acceptable to use the data provided by the ORAU soil sampling that was completed in 2015.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Agency Rules of Practice and Procedure," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Jeffrey Whited

Project Manager
Materials Decommissioning Branch
Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery
and Waste Programs
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
(301)415-4090
jeffrey.whited@nrc.gov

NRC License Number SUA-1473.
Docket Number: 40-8905