



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 30, 2017

Mr. Richard Bush, Program Manager  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Office of Legacy Management  
2597 Legacy Way  
Grand Junction, CO 81503

SUBJECT: U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION STAFF REVIEW OF 2016  
ANNUAL INSPECTION REPORT FOR URANIUM MILL TAILINGS RADIATION  
CONTROL ACT TITLE II SITES

Dear Mr. Bush:

I am writing in response to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) report entitled "2016 Annual Site Inspection and Monitoring Report for Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act Title II Sites" dated November 2016 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System [ADAMS] Accession No. ML16327A459). The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has reviewed the report and has the following comment:

1. For the Maybell West, Colorado site, the report indicates that boundary markers BM-3 and BM-6 could not be located and that a follow up investigation would be conducted. Suggest that the results of the investigation, and any actions taken by the DOE to re-install boundary markers be included in the 2017 inspection report.
2. For the Sherwood, Washington, disposal site, in the NRC staff comments on the 2015 inspection report the NRC staff questioned whether the un-compacted cover continues to settle (ADAMS Accession Number 16013A301). In response, the DOE stated that a survey of the disposal cell cover would be conducted in 2016 and the results would be compared to the 1999 data to determine the amount of settlement (ADAMS Accession Number ML16083A221). The 2016 inspection report states that the survey was conducted and that the results of the evaluation will be provided to the NRC. We look forward to reviewing the survey report and closing this issue. Please provide the report to the NRC when it is available.
3. For the Edgemont site, the DOE plans to study the effects of the July 2016 wildfire on the vegetative cover of the cell and surrounding areas. Please provide the NRC staff with the results of the study when it is available.

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 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 ADAMS. ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

R. Bush

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If you have any questions concerning the NRC review of the report, please contact me at 301-415-6749 or by email at [Dominick.Orlando@nrc.gov](mailto:Dominick.Orlando@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Dominick A. Orlando, Senior Project Manager  
Materials Decommissioning Branch  
Division of Uranium Recovery, Waste  
Management and Environmental Protection  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

R. Bush

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If you have any questions concerning the NRC review of the report, please contact me at 301-415-6749 or by email at [Dominick.Orlando@nrc.gov](mailto:Dominick.Orlando@nrc.gov).

Sincerely,  
**/RA/**

Dominick A. Orlando, Senior Project Manager  
Materials Decommissioning Branch  
Division of Uranium Recovery, Waste  
Management and Environmental Protection  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

Docket No.: NA

R. Evans, RIV   L.Gersey, RIV

**ML17012A366**

**\*by email**

<b>OFC</b>	DUWP	DUWP	DUWP	DUWP
<b>NAME</b>	DOrlando	CHolston	JWhited	VKurian
<b>DATE</b>	01/19/17	01/23/17	01/23/17	01/13/17

<b>OFC</b>	RIV	DUWP	DUWP	
<b>NAME</b>	R. Evans	TSmith	DOrlando	
<b>DATE</b>	01/18/17	01/26/17	01/30/17	

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