



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

May 9, 2019

Mr. Paul Kerl, Environmental Team Leader  
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 2018  
ANNUAL INSPECTION REPORT FOR URANIUM MILL TAILINGS RADIATION  
CONTROL ACT TITLE I SITES

Dear Mr. Kerl:

I am writing in response to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) report entitled "2018 Annual Site Inspection and Monitoring Report for Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act Title I Sites" dated March 2018 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Package Accession No. ML19066A152). The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff reviewed the DOE site inspection reports and has the following comments or questions:

1. For the Canonsburg site, the groundwater sampling indicates that the uranium concentrations in wells 412 and 413 are below the Alternate Concentration Limit, but above the Maximum Concentration Limit. It appears that the uranium concentration in these wells has remained relatively constant or has increased from 1996 to the present. However, the 2000 Groundwater Compliance Action Plan states that the natural groundwater movement and geochemical attenuation processes will reduce uranium concentrations in groundwater to less than the MCL or background within 30 years. As this reduction does not appear to be occurring in these wells, is DOE considering revising the GCAP for the site.

2. As noted in the NRC's Lakeview observational site visit (OSV) report (ADAMS Accession Number ML17303A827), domestic well 0543 was not being sampled as required (ADAMS Accession Numbers ML13137A377 and ML12334A175). The OSV report states that the DOE site manager agreed to sample the well in 2018. However, the 2018 Title I inspection report states that sampling will occur in 2019. DOE should ensure that well 0543 or a suitable alternative well is sampled during the 2019 sampling activity.

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Section 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>.

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 Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery  
and Waste Programs  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket Numbers:

WM-67, WM-42, WM-48  
WM-65, WM-54, WM-68  
WM-61, WM-64, WM-43  
WM-69, WM-63, WM-66  
WM-62, WM-41, WM-58  
WM-86, WM-72, WM-73

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**DISTRIBUTION:**

M. Posten-Brown, RIV,

H. Gepford, RIV

**ADAMS Accession No.: ML 19129A072****\*via e-mail**

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