



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

November 12, 2019

David Pierce
Closure Manager
Grants Reclamation Project
Homestake Mining Co. of CA
P.O. Box 98/Highway 605
Grants, NM 87020

SUBJECT: U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION REVIEW OF
GROUNDWATER MONITORING PLAN LICENSE AMENDMENT
REQUEST, HOMESTAKE MINING COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA, GRANTS
RECLAMATION PROJECT, AMENDMENT NUMBER 54 TO MATERIALS
LICENSE SUA-1471, EA-16-114, DOCKET NUMBER 040-08903

Dear Mr. Pierce:

Enclosed, please find Amendment 54 to Materials License SUA-1471 and supporting Safety Evaluation Report (SER) for the Homestake Mining Company of California (HMC) groundwater monitoring plan license amendment request for the Grants Reclamation Project (Grants) site in Grants, NM. This amendment revises license condition 35A.

By letter dated November 20, 2017,¹ HMC submitted a license amendment request to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff for review and approval. Specifically, HMC proposed an update to the groundwater monitoring plan listed in Materials License SUA-1471, license condition 35A, to adjust the compliance monitoring for the groundwater restoration areas at the Grants site. The NRC staff published a notice and opportunity to request a hearing and petition for leave to intervene in the *Federal Register* on August 9, 2018.² No hearing requests were received. On September 28, 2018,³ the NRC staff requested additional information related to the review. On October 18, 2018,⁴ HMC responded to the request for additional information. The licensee provided updated tables for the proposed groundwater monitoring program by correspondence dated October 8, 2019.⁵

The NRC staff has completed its review of the proposed license amendment request and additional information and found it acceptable for approval. An environmental review was performed for the proposed action. The NRC staff determined that this action falls into a category of actions that may be excluded under 10 CFR 51.22(c)(11). The basis for the categorical exclusion is provided in the SER.

¹ Agencywide Documents and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML18018A102.

² *Federal Register* [83 FR 39476].

³ ADAMS Accession No. ML18214A218.

⁴ ADAMS Accession No. ML18298A019.

⁵ ADAMS Accession No. ML19281C055.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "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 document system ADAMS. ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

If you have any questions regarding this letter or the enclosures, please contact Mr. Ron C. Linton at (301) 415-7777 or by e-mail to Ron.Linton@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

//RA//

Bill Von Till, Chief
Uranium Recovery and Materials
Decommissioning Branch
Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery
and Waste Programs
Office of Nuclear Materials Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No.: 04008903
License No.: SUA-1471

Enclosures:

1. Safety Evaluation Report
2. License Amendment No. 54

cc: K. Vollbrecht (NMED) (via ListServ)
C. Burrus (OSE) (via ListServ)
M. Purcell (EPA) (via ListServ)
B. Tsosie (DOE) (via ListServ)

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