



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
REGION IV  
1600 EAST LAMAR BOULEVARD  
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4511

August 19, 2019

David Pierce  
Closure Manager  
Homestake Mining Company of California  
P.O. Box 98, Hwy 605  
Grants, NM 87020

**SUBJECT: HOMESTAKE MINING COMPANY, RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF VIOLATION  
AND NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION INSPECTION  
REPORT 040-08903/2019-001**

Dear Mr. Pierce:

Thank you for your replies to the Notice of Violation letter, dated July 12, and July 23, 2019 (Agencywide Documents Access Management System [ADAMS] Accessions ML19198A064 and ML19211B180, respectively), in response to the Notice of Violation sent to you on June 12, 2019, concerning the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) Inspection Report 040-08903/2019-001 (ADAMS Accession ML19129A405).

As discussed during a telephone call on August 13, 2019, between you; Brad Bingham, Site Compliance Manager; Randy Whicker, Radiation Protection Administrator; and NRC staff members Robert Evans, Senior Health Physicist; Ron Linton, Project Manager; Ron Burrows, Senior Health Physicist; George Alexander, Hydrogeologist; and Stephanie Anderson, Health Physicist, we reviewed your replies and noted some weaknesses in your responses. Specifically, we found that neither of your responses addressed the causes of the three violations. In addition, the response to the second violation did not provide corrective actions that would restore compliance with the training requirements for radiation safety technicians.

In the discussion of our concerns with your staff, a commitment was made to resubmit the response to the NOV to address these concerns. We look forward to receiving your updated response. We request this response no later than August 28, 2019.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice and Procedure," a copy of this letter and your response will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access Management System (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC's website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. The NRC also includes significant enforcement actions on its website at <https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/enforcement/actions/>.

Sincerely,

**/RA/**

Heather J. Gepford, Ph.D., CHP  
Chief, Materials Licensing and  
Decommissioning Branch  
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

Docket No. 40-08903  
License No. SUA-1471

cc: Electronic Distribution for Homestake

HOMESTAKE MINING COMPANY, RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF VIOLATION AND NUCLEAR  
REGULATORY COMMISSION INSPECTION REPORT 040-08903/2019-001 – August 19, 2019

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ADAMS ACCESSION NUMBER: ML192332A075

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SUNSI Review by: HJG		ADAMS: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Sensitive <input type="checkbox"/> Sensitive		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Publicly Available <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Publicly Available		Keyword: NRC-002
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