

DETAILS**1 SITE STATUS**

The current license for the site was issued by the State of New Mexico on March 5, 1976. The New Mexico license authorized activities at three sites: Site 1, an in situ leach operation (ISL) located near the community of Church Rock; Site 2, an ISL is located near the community of Bibo; and Site 3, a heap leach located near the community of Magdalena. By license amendment dated December 6, 1982, the expiration date of the license was extended until reclamation was complete, and the licensee was notified that if reclamation was not complete by December 31, 1982, legal action would be taken. On January 7, 1983, a Complaint for Injunctive Relief and Civil Penalties was filed by the State of New Mexico against the licensee.

The NRC assumed authority for the New Mexico program in 1986. At that time, the status of the reclamation at the sites was unclear. Although the licensee or his representatives have indicated that all three of the sites were reclaimed, no documentation was provided to substantiate the reclamation process. In order to terminate the license, it was necessary to determine if final reclamation activities were performed properly and that all appropriate closure criteria were met.

This was the first inspection of Site 2 by the NRC. The site was located with the assistance of a local landowner.

2 RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT (88035)

Directions to Site: To reach the site, the inspectors traveled a total of about 14.7 miles in an easterly and northerly direction from the gate of the L-Bar Mill site. A power line crossed over the good gravel road and a small substation was observed on the right about 7.3 miles from the L-Bar Mill. Another power line crossed over the road and the road turned northward to follow a third power line. At about 10.1 miles from the L-Bar site, a smaller dirt road took off to the right and crossed under the power line. This road was followed in an easterly direction for about 2.5 miles. At this point, a smaller dirt road took off to the left. It was posted with a "Private Road" sign. This road was followed for about another two miles. The site was located to the right of the road, in sight of, but before reaching a steel post gated entrance. The inspectors parked on the edge of the road and walked up a small incline. The site was located across the fence which is on top of the ridge line.

Observations: The site was found abandoned but not reclaimed. The inspectors observed at least 15 wells, some capped but most open; four barrels, two of which still contained unknown fluids; and surface debris consisting of wood and metal scraps, a small amount of pond liner, piping, and a large battery along with other trash. The wells have a variety of diameters, casings, and heights above the ground surface. Several of the uncapped wells are at or below the ground surface, allowing surface waters to enter the wells. The two plastic 55 gallon barrels that contained fluid were intact except for lids and the paper insulation/covering. The other two barrels were not complete. A

APPENDIX

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
URANIUM RECOVERY FIELD OFFICE
REGION IV

Inspector Report: 40-8912/92-01

Operating License: SUA-1480

Licensee: Grace Energy Company
1101 Oceanfront Walk
Suite 4
Venice, California 90291


Facility Name: Site 2 ISL

Inspection At: Near Bibo, New Mexico

Inspection Conducted: November 19, 1992

Inspectors: Dawn L. Jacoby, Project Manager
Raymond O. Gonzales, Project Manager

Approved:


Ramon E. Hall, Director
Uranium Recovery Field Office
Region IV

12/4/92
Date

Inspection Summary

Areas Inspected: Special, unannounced inspection of reclamation and cleanup status at the Site 2 ISL.

Results:

- The site was located with the assistance of a local landowner who was aware of the operation (paragraph 2).
- The site has not been reclaimed. Additional cleanup will be required before the license can be terminated (paragraph 2).

Summary of Inspection Findings:

Within the scope of the inspection no apparent violations or deviations were identified.

Persons Contacted and Exit Meeting:

No licensee personnel were available.

1983 report by Grace consultants indicated that there were six drums at the site which contained hydrogen peroxide, a fluid routinely used in the leaching process. It was assumed that two of these barrels have been taken off site for other uses. There are three large depressions (ponds), two of which are in series, and several small trenches. It appeared that the ponds had been lined with a synthetic liner at one time as pieces of liner material were observed in the area. It was not possible to determine if the liners had been removed or had just weathered to the condition they were in.

The site has not been reclaimed to appropriate closure standards. Therefore, termination of the license cannot be recommended until additional reclamation activities are performed.

IFS Data Entry Form

Reviewed By: [Signature]Date: 12/4/92Site/Name: Site 2/GraceReport Transmittal Date: 12/04/92Lead Inspector: [Signature]Responsible Org. Code: 4302Report End Date: 11/19/92Region: 4Report NBR
A 92-021Docket NBR
40-8912B C

Reactor/Vendor Inspection (IFS Option 1)

Docket Related/P21 Items (IFS Option 4)

Items Opened (Y/N): Enter Log Number: ☒ Material Inspection (IFS Option 2)

LER Items (IFS Option 5)

SER (Y/N): Enter LER Number: Letter (Y/N): YClear (Y/N): Y

Non-Docket Related Items (IFS Option 6)

Materials Only
License NBR

*Docket Name

Update? (Y/N): Opened IR/LER/P21 LOG/IFS Number: ***Sequence NBR: 01 Item Type: **Severity: **Supplement:

Status	*UPD I/R	*Proj. Closeout	*Actual Closeout
A	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
B	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
C	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

10 CFR

Materials Only
License Cond.

Tie Down

Title: (55 character width)*Closeout Org: *Closeout EMP: *Contact EMP: *Procedure: *Function Area: *Cause CD: **EA Number: **NOV/NCC Issue Date: Text:

 Update? (Y/N): Opened IR/LER/P21 LOG/IFS Number: ***Sequence NBR: 02 Item Type: **Severity: **Supplement:

Status	*UPD I/R	*Proj. Closeout	*Actual Closeout
A	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
B	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
C	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

10 CFR

Materials Only
License Cond.

Tie Down

Title: (55 character width)*Closeout Org: *Closeout EMP: *Contact EMP: *Procedure: *Function Area: *Cause CD: **EA Number: **NOV/NCC Issue Date: Text:

* Optional Fields.

** Severity, Supplement, and NOV/NCC only applicable for Violations; EA Number only applicable for Apparent Violations.

*** Sequence NBR is not applicable for docket related/P21, LER, or non-docket related items.

ITEMS CONTINUED? (Y/N): N