

#40-8820

POPHAM HAIK

2400 ONE TARDOR CENTER
1200 SEVENTEENTH STREET
DENVER, COLORADO 80202
TELEPHONE 303-898-1200
TELECOPIER 303-898-2194

SCHNOBRICH & KAUFMAN, LTD.

DENVER, COLORADO

3300 PAPER JAFFRAY TOWER
222 SOUTH NINTH STREET
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55402
TELEPHONE 612-333-4800
TELECOPIER 612-334-2713

4100 CENTRUST FINANCIAL CENTER
100 S. E. SECOND STREET
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33131
TELEPHONE 305-530-0050
TELECOPIER 305-530-0055

PETER KEPPLER
SPECIAL COUNSEL
DIRECT DIAL (303) 595-1327

1300 I STREET, N.W.
SUITE 500 EAST
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005
TELEPHONE 202-962-8700
TELECOPIER 202-962-8799

February 12, 1993

Mr. John Austin
Chief, Decommissioning and
Regulatory Issues Branch
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
White Flint Building/Mailstop 5E2
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, Maryland 20854

Re: AMAX Inc. Site - Parkersburg, West Virginia
Our File No. 14457-003

Dear Mr. Austin:

AMAX Inc. has NRC License No. SMB-1418 covering the storage of low-level radioactive waste in a segregated stabilization area at an industrial site near Parkersburg, West Virginia. This storage license will expire on March 31, 1993.

For several years, AMAX has been working with NRC and DOE to convey and transfer the stabilization area to DOE under Section 151(c) of the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982. After AMAX satisfies all NRC requirements, DOE contracted with the Army Corps of Engineers (COE) to perform a title search and survey of the site, as well as related activities necessary to complete the site transfer. In a letter dated November 3, 1992, from David Mathes of DOE to you, it is stated that COE will complete the real estate transaction activities by February 27, 1993, and that AMAX was to have been advised on procedures for making payment of the long-term maintenance and monitoring costs for the stabilization site by January 31, 1993. The objective was to complete all required documentation in order to transfer title and possession of the stabilization area from AMAX to DOE no later than March 31, 1993.

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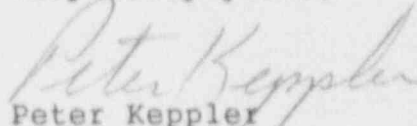
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It has now become apparent that the transfer will not be completed by March 31, 1993, when License SMB-1418 expires. AMAX hereby requests renewal of License SMB-1418 on the stabilization area at the Parkersburg site for a period of six months from April 1, 1993, through September 30, 1993. You indicated in our telephone conversation on February 10, 1993, that a letter requesting this six-month renewal of the license would suffice, and that no formal renewal application would be necessary.

Obviously, AMAX would prefer to have this transfer completed on or before March 31, 1993, so a license renewal would not be required. However, since we now have reason to believe that the documentation and title work for this transfer will not be completed to enable transfer by March 31, 1993, we request that License SMB-1418 be renewed for a six-month period. We hope that this matter can be concluded within the next 60 to 90 days. Please advise if you need further information or documentation of the request for the six-month license renewal.

Very truly yours,


Peter Keppler

524ZPK/pjb

cc: David E. Mathes, Director
Division of Off-Site Remediation
Office of Southwestern Area Programs
Environmental Restoration
Department of Energy
Washington, D.C. 20585

Jim Kerrigan
AMAX Resource Conservation Company
1626 Cole Boulevard
Golden, CO 80401-3293