



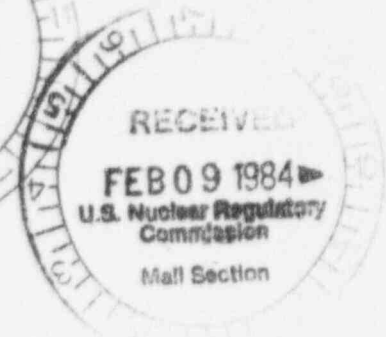
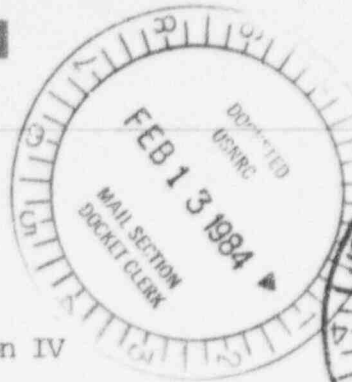
**ROCKY MOUNTAIN
ENERGY**

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S subsidiary of
Union Pacific Corporation

40-8697

Mr. R. Dale Smith
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Uranium Recovery Field Office, Region IV
Box 25325
Denver, CO 80225



Dear Mr. Smith:

Re: License SUA-1338, Docket No. 40-8697 (Reno Creek)
Quarterly Report: Fourth Quarter, 1983

Pursuant to license condition 29, a quarterly environmental monitoring report is hereby submitted summarizing activities at the Reno Creek in-situ uranium R & D project. The report covers the period October 1, 1983 through December 31, 1983.

OPERATIONS

All uranium leaching and groundwater restoration circuits were again inactive during the fourth quarter. Environmental surveillance and project maintenance and security were the only major activities.

ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

Groundwater

The carbonate leaching test, Pattern 2, was effectively mined and the groundwater restored. During 1983, the NRC and the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality concluded restoration was complete, subsequently further restorations and monitoring efforts were ceased and preparations for well abandonment were made.

Table 1 presents groundwater data from Pattern 1, the acid-leach test. The restoration circuit was shut down June 3, 1981. Since that time monthly samples have been collected which support groundwater stability. Samples were not taken during December due to blizzard conditions which prevented access to the wells.

Reservoir

A quarterly analysis of the reservoir solution is shown in Table 2. Between three and four million gallons remain in the twelve million gallon reservoir. The spray system used to enhance evaporation was inoperative during the quarter.

Radon Gas

Radon gas samples are collected at the upwind and downwind boundaries and within the process building. Table 3 lists fourth quarter data.

Air Particulates

Third quarter radionuclide particulate data is displayed in Table 4. The samples are a composite of high-volume filters collected every

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six days. All values are considerably below 10 CFR 20 limits. Fourth quarter results will be included in the next report.

Area Dosimetry

Results for the fourth quarter area dosimetry are shown in Table 5. All sites approximate the upwind control.

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES

Groundwater sampling will continue on Pattern 1 until regulatory release from further restoration efforts is obtained, which is expected in early 1984. Once release is obtained, both Pattern 1 and Pattern 2 will be abandoned in accordance with State of Wyoming regulations.

Monitoring for radon gas, air particulates and the use of area dosimetry will continue through decommissioning, which is tentatively scheduled for 1984 and 1985.

At this time, no further test work to develop leaching and restoration technology is planned for the Reno Creek project. If you have questions, call me or Mike Neumann. Mike is located in our Broomfield, Colorado office at (303) 469-8844.

Very Truly Yours,

Pat Spieles

Patrick Spieles
Facility Superintendent

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