



Department of Energy
Albuquerque Operations Office
P. O. Box 5400
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87115

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WM Project 39

Docket No.

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Mr. Leo Higginbotham
Chief, Low Level Waste and Uranium
Recovery
Recovery Projects Branch
U. S. NRC, Mail Stop 623-SS
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Mr. Higginbotham:

Enclosed is the monthly status report for August.

As I mentioned in the previous status report, our next project coordination meeting will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah, on October 16 and 17, 1985.

The hotel will be the Marriott, (801) 531-0800, located at 75 South West Temple. We have set aside rooms at a rate of \$48.00 single occupancy or \$58.00 double occupancy, beginning Tuesday, October 15. Please make your reservations as soon as possible, due to the large number of conventions which will be taking place in Salt Lake City that month. When making reservations, inform them of your attendance at the States/Tribes Meeting.

Enclosed is a draft agenda for the meeting, which will take place in the Immigration and Parleys Room at the Marriott. I would like to hear from you on any other suggested items within the next 10 days so that I can put together a final agenda. Please note that during the "Reports from States/Tribes" period, we would like to hear about the funding situation for the site(s) in your State.

Almost the entire second day of the meeting will consist of touring the remedial action operations for the Salt Lake City site. We have rented a bus to transport the entire group to the Vitro and Clive sites, so please do not plan to use your own vehicle that day.

You will be contacted in early October to verify your attendance and collect your ideas on agenda items. I look forward to another meaningful meeting in October.

Sincerely,

John G. Themelis, Project Manager
Uranium Mill Tailings Project Office

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Enclosures

DRAFT AGENDA
DOE/STATES/TRIBES MEETING
OCTOBER 16-17, 1985
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

October 16, 1985

8:00 am	Welcome and opening remarks	John Themelis, Project Manager
8:15 am	Cost and Schedule Update	John Themelis
9:45 am	BREAK - coffee and danish	
10:00 am	Technical Assistance Contractor Report - Site Characterization Management - Technical Approach Documents	Roger Williams, Project Manager
10:45 am	NRC Report	NRC Official
11:15 am	EPA Report - Recent Court Decision on Ground- Water Standards - Discussion	EPA Official
LUNCH		
1:15 pm	Morning Wrap Up	John Themelis
1:25 pm	Surveillance and Maintenance	Dave Lechel, TAC
2:00 pm	Construction Update - Canonsburg - Shiprock	Jack Hammond, Morrison-Knudsen Remedial Action- Contractor
2:45 pm	BREAK - coffee and soft drinks	
3:00 pm	States - Tribes Report	
5:00 pm	Afternoon Wrap-up and Questions and Answers	John Themelis

DRAFT AGENDA

DOE/STATES/TRIBES MEETING
OCTOBER 16-17, 1985

October 17, 1985

8:00 am DOE Headquarter's Comments

Jack Baublitz

8:20 am Salt Lake City Briefing

Larry Anderson

9:00 am Depart for Vitro Site
(Transportation will be provided)

9:30 am Arrive Vitro Site

10:45 am Depart for Clive

BOX LUNCH AT CLIVE

2:30 pm Depart Clive

4:30 pm Arrive Salt Lake City

STATE/TRIBE MONTHLY STATUS
AUGUST, 1985

CANONSBURG

Construction continued at the processing site. Work activities included placement of contaminated fill, radon barrier, and riprap in drainage swales. Overall remedial action is 75 percent complete as of the end of August.

Vicinity properties remedial action continued without problems.

NRC staff visited the site August 29 for a construction audit. Concern was expressed regarding the filling of voids in the rock cover. Further discussion will occur during the September 16 visit by NRC. NRC was very complimentary regarding quality of workmanship on the site.

SALT LAKE CITY

Argee Company, the site remedial action contractor, is requesting a \$6,026,000 change order. Both the state and DOE are assessing this request.

A meeting was held with state health officials on August 27-28. Topics included health and safety issues and resolutions of audits conducted in early July.

Morrison-Knudsen (M-K) is currently finalizing the remedial action design for Mountain States Supply.

SHIPROCK

Work is progressing on schedule at the processing site. The contractor is excavating materials from areas adjacent to the site, and work is being done on the retention pond and emergency spillover.

Ten of the 12 vicinity properties, initiated in June by M-K, have been completed.

DURANGO

The preliminary Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) has been distributed to cooperating agencies for review; comments are due by September 6, to meet FEIS publication schedule. M-K is proceeding with preliminary design for early site preparation work which is scheduled to begin in late summer of 1986.

Vicinity properties inclusions, to date, are much less than was originally expected. Consequently, the engineering milestones are behind by 72 percent. Remedial action should begin in September on the first bid package. M-K began work on the decontamination pad for temporary storage of contaminated materials from vicinity properties. During August, an additional 70 requests for inclusion surveys were received by ORNL. These properties will be surveyed during September and October, with recommendations being submitted in October and November.

GUNNISON

Based on technical and cost factors, relocation to East Gold Basin has been selected as the preferred alternative. A definitive schedule for this alternative is being developed. Remedial action construction will not begin until at least 1987.

GRAND JUNCTION

There were 26 properties bid and 18 remedial actions started in August, which is behind the recovery plan schedule by 44 percent and 41 percent, respectively. The current level of effort being expended to engineer and initiate remedial action indicates that the FY 1985 milestone schedule for remedial action starts will be met or exceeded. Meeting the engineering milestones will be difficult; however, any shortfall will be slight and is not expected to impact next year's remedial action schedule.

RIVERTON

DOE, state and NRC representatives met on August 2 to further discuss the State's flood and ground water concerns for stabilization-in-place (SIP) and to discuss the comparative cost estimates for SIP, relocation to the Dry Cheyenne site and relocation to the American Nuclear Corp. licensed mill. Both relocation options are substantially more expensive than SIP. Further discussions are anticipated.

A meeting was held between DOE and BLM-Wyoming State office on August 15, to discuss the Dry Cheyenne potential disposal site for the Riverton tailings pile. The land withdrawal application submitted by DOE in May, 1985, will be published in the Federal Register and local press. One potential problem area to be resolved is that current BLM-Washington policy will not permit any construction activities on withdrawal areas before the legislative withdrawal is finalized. The Project Office will meet with BLM in Washington to resolve this issue in late September.

The RAC completed remedial action on the 13 properties scheduled for this year.

AMBROSIA LAKE

Signing of the New Mexico Cooperative Agreement is scheduled for September 11. Geohydrologic drilling and geophysical logging began August 21, with completion expected by September 20.

MAYBELL

Bendix radiological characterization of the processing site was completed.

EDGEMONT

The state advised the Project Office that it signed the Cooperative Agreement modification, providing funding through June, 1986. Engineering and remedial action will resume immediately.

GENERAL

The Navajo Tribe UMTRA Project team was briefed on the status of Tuba City, Monument Valley, and Mexican Hat. The engineering, geohydrological, and radiological characteristics of each site were described. Monthly meetings will be held with the Tribe, NRC, Technical Assistance Contractor (TAC), and DOE to discuss status and identify concerns.

DOE Program and Project Office and TAC personnel met with EPA on August 29 to discuss EPA's interpretation and intent of the standards versus current Project Office interpretation and approach. The purpose was to determine if there are areas of over-conservancy in the Project design analysis approach. Additional discussions are anticipated.

Project Office, TAC, and M-K staff met with the NRC on August 20, at Silver Springs, to discuss generic guidance for the Remedial Action Inspection Plans (RAIPs), and also the site specific RAIP for Shiprock and the Burrell landfill. Almost all issues were resolved. The revised Salt Lake City RAIP was provided to NRC, and they will provide comments as soon as possible.

A meeting between DOE, NRC, TAC, and M-K was held in Canonsburg, August 17-19, to finalize the procedures and documentation that will be required in Project Site Certification Reports.

On August 5, the Value Engineering recommendations and implementation plan were reviewed by the Project Office. Out of 35 recommendations, 33 were approved.