



40-8698

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001
February 14, 1997

Plateau Resources Limited
ATTN: Mr. Kenneth Webb
877 North 8th West
Riverton, Wyoming 82501

SUBJECT: GROUNDWATER PROTECTION AT THE SHOOTARING CANYON URANIUM MILL

Dear Mr. Webb:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff is in the process of reviewing Plateau Resources Limited's (PRL's) license renewal application for the Shootaring Canyon uranium mill. To aid the NRC staff in its review, please provide the following information:

1. A detailed discussion addressing: (1) the current state of the tailings impoundment liner, in general, and (2) more specifically, the state of the liner beneath the disposed tailings. Sampling data in support of this discussion should also be provided, if available;
2. The results of groundwater monitoring conducted over the past five years beneath and downgradient from the tailings impoundment, including the results of sampling conducted in wells RM-7, RM-8, and RM-9; and
3. The results of surface water monitoring conducted over the past five years.

In order to complete the currently scheduled completion date of March 31, 1997, for the NRC staff's detailed technical review of the license renewal application not be adversely impacted, the NRC staff requests that the above information be submitted to the NRC within 30 days of the date of this letter.

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Sincerely,

Joseph J. Holonich, Chief
Uranium Recovery Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material
Safety and Safeguards

DOCUMENT NAME: S:\DWM\URB\JRP\TAILINGS.PRL

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NAME	JPark JRP		RO'Connell		JHoltovich	
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