

February 26, 1997

Mr. Richard Sena, Acting Director
Environmental Restoration Division
Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action
Project
U.S. Department of Energy
2155 Louisiana NE, Suite 4000
Albuquerque, NM 87110

SUBJECT: COMPLETION REPORT FOR THE LOWMAN, IDAHO VICINITY PROPERTY LO-023S

Dear Mr. Sena:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has completed its review of the page changes of the completion report for the Lowman, Idaho Vicinity Property LO-023S, submitted by the U. S. Department of Energy (DOE) by letter dated December 10, 1996. Based on its review, the staff has identified that DOE has not properly addressed the open issues as discussed in the enclosure. These issues were identified earlier in our letter dated August 27, 1996.

In order to support a timely review, please provide within 30 days of the date of this letter all of the necessary information as discussed in the enclosure. If you have any questions concerning this letter or the enclosure, please contact the NRC Project Manager, Mohammad Haque, at (301) 415-6640.

Sincerely,

(Original signed by)
Daniel M. Gillen for

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

Enclosure: As stated

cc: W. Woodworth, DOE Alb
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NRC STAFF EVALUATION OF DOE RESPONSE TO COMMENTS ON
COMPLETION REPORT AND APPLICATION OF SUPPLEMENTAL STANDARDS
FOR THE LOWMAN, IDAHO VICINITY PROPERTY LO-023S

COMMENT 1: The Completion Report indicates that radon daughter concentrations are above the 0.01 WL limit for grab samples, but the 1994 Track Etch data demonstrates the 0.02 WL regulatory limit was not exceeded.

DISCUSSION: DOE provided revised Completion Report (CR) Section 3.2.2 (page 7). It indicates that the annual average radon daughter concentrations are less than 0.03 WL. Also, DOE's response 3 indicates that the alpha-track data are now in Table 3.3 and Appendix A.

STATUS: DOE should revise CR page 7 to indicate that the 0.02 WL standard has been met, and provide Table 3.3 and the revised pages to Appendix A (see our comment 3 of August 27, 1996).

COMMENT 2: Table 3.2, Interior Gamma Survey, appears to have pre-remedial values for the house, while the shed and garage have post-remedial values. The CR should identify which gamma levels were measured before and after the remedial action.

DISCUSSION: DOE indicated (response 3) that Table 3.2 and Appendix A had been revised.

STATUS: DOE should provide the corrected pages.

NEW COMMENT: DOE's 1996 responses indicate that Tables 3.4 and 3.5 and pages to Appendix A would be added to the CR. Also, DOE indicated that it revised several pages, other than those attached. DOE should provide these pages.

ENCLOSURE