



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

APR 30 1985

40-6500
RETURN TO 396-SS
PDR



Mr. William T. Crow
Chief, Div. of Fuel
Cycle and Material Safety
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
7915 Eastern Ave.
Silver Springs, MD 20915

Dear Mr. Crow:

Canonsburg site remedial action activities have recently started up again after a winter shutdown period. Work is progressing very well as planned, except for one major problem. We have not received responses from NRC for several required changes to the remedial action plan. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has responded very timely; however, NRC has not. These changes and related correspondence are described as follows:

1. Changing Organic Material Disposition Requirements On-Site

- Proposed change submitted to NRC on 12/10/84.
- NRC letter of 2/5/85, identified concern about uniform mixing of organics within cell.
- DOE responded by letter dated 2/21/85, addressing the concern about uniform mixing.
- Proposed change was discussed during the meeting in Silver Springs on 3/27/85. DOE, DOE Contractors, and NRC staff participated in the discussions.
- DOE submitted additional information on 4/3/85.
- No NRC response received to date.

2. Disposition of Lens of Contaminated Material in Area B

- This change was discussed during the meeting in Silver Springs on 3/27/85. DOE, DOE Contractors, and NRC staff participated in the discussions.

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- Submitted information on proposed change to NRC on 4/3/85.
- No NRC response received to date.

3. Complete decontamination of Area C including deletion of a portion of buried Rip Rap wall and increasing the size of the encapsulation cell

- Submitted proposed changes to NRC on 12/10/84.
- NRC responded on 2/5/85 stating that the proposed changes were acceptable, but that NRC must complete their review of the erosion protection design.
- Meeting notes describing resolution were signed on 3/27/85, in Silver Springs. However, DOE requests that an official letter from NRC approving changes be provided.

4. Inclusion of Chromium Wastes Within the Encapsulation Cell

- Proposed change submitted to NRC on 4/11/85.
- Additional information submitted to NRC on 4/22/85.
- No NRC response received to date.

5. Deletion of Bentonite Material from the Encapsulation Cell's Radon Cover

- DOE has decided to include the Bentonite in the cover as specified in the approved Remedial Action Plan. The Remedial Action Contractor's schedule is such that the equipment for placement of the bentonite must be ordered immediately or site remedial action activities will be delayed.

We request official concurrence on items 1 through 4 prior to May 3 so site activities will not be delayed. Construction delays will result in significant additional costs, due to subcontractor's downtime.

Mr. William T. Crow

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Timely approval of these changes is considered to be critical to the success of the Canonsburg remedial action activities. Upon receipt of this letter, please contact David Ball of my staff or me regarding their status.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "John G. Themelis".

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

cc:

L. Higginbotham, NRC
G. Gnugnoli, NRC
K. Krishnan, JEG
W. Mason, JEG
R. Hopkins, M-K
D. Groelsema, NE-24, HQ

DOCKET NO. 40-6500
CONTROL NO. 26155
DATE OF DOC. 04/30/85
DATE RCVD. 12/09/85
FCUF ☒ PDR ☒
FCAF _____ LPDR _____
WM _____ I&E REF. ☒
WMUR _____ SAFEGUARDS _____
NRC _____ OTHER _____

RE: SECTION:

have not received
responses from NRC
for several required
changes to the remedial
action plan
12/12/85 INITIAL CEC