



Department of Energy
Albuquerque Operations Office
P.O. Box 5400
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87185-5400
FEB 13 1997

Mr. Joseph J. Holonich, Chief
Uranium Recovery Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards Mail Stop T7-J-9
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, District of Columbia 20555-2738

Dear Mr. Holonich:

Enclosed for your review and comment is a copy of a calculation analyzing the sediment carrying capacity of the diversion channels at the Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action Project's Upper Burbank Repository located at Uravan, Colorado, as well as recommendations for an alternate design. This study was performed due to the difficulty in identifying a competent source for Type "C" rock within 100 miles of the site.

The documents and/or information transmitted herein have been determined by the U.S. Department of Energy to be exempt from disclosure under Exemption 5 of the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552(b)(5), as Amended). Therefore, we request these documents not be released to the general public at this time.

If you or your staff have any questions regarding this transmission, please feel free to contact me at (505) 845-5637.

Sincerely,

J.A. Woodworth
Naturita Site Manager
Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial
Action Team
Environmental Restoration Division

Enclosure:

(Evaluation of Erosion Protection and Diversion Channel Sediment Carrying Capacity, Upper Burbank Disposal Site)

cc w/o enclosures:

D. Gillen, NRC
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