

UNCLASSIFIED

ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

RELEASE OF URANIUM MILL LIQUID EFFLUENT TO COLORADO RIVER  
ATLAS CORPORATION, ATLAS MINERALS DIVISION  
MOAB, UTAH  
LICENSE NO. SUA-917

Report to the Director of Regulation  
by the Director of Compliance

On Saturday, November 23, 1968, the licensee reported to Region IV (Denver), Division of Compliance, that an uncontrolled release of liquid effluent carrying a slurry of solid waste to the Colorado River had occurred about noon that day. Preliminary information obtained from the licensee is as follows:

At about 12:30 p.m. on November 23, 1968, a break was discovered in a pipe carrying liquid effluent from the mill to the retention pond system used for holdup and treatment of the effluent prior to release to the Colorado River. An estimated 200 to 300 gallons per minute ran onto the ground and directly to the river for about two hours before the break was observed and the system shut down. Samples of the raw effluent were obtained and river samples from points upstream and downstream from the mill were taken at four-hour intervals. Results of the sample analyses are not yet available.

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The Division of Compliance is conducting an investigation. The Utah State Health Department and the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration have been notified.

The staff of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy was informed by telephone. There has been no publicity.

bcc: Chairman Seaborg (2)  
 Commissioner Ramey  
 Commissioner Tape  
 Commissioner Johnson  
 Commissioner Costagliola  
 R. D. O'Neill, OCR (2)  
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SURNAME ▶	GW Roy:kt	JR Roeder	RH Engelken	LD Low	HL Price	
DATE ▶	11/26/68					

PROTECTED  
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DIVISION OF COMPLIANCE  
REGION IV