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MEMORANDUM FOR: Harold R. Denton, Director
Division of Site Safety & Environmental Analysis

FROM: John B. Martin, Assistant Director
for Fuel Cycle Safety & Licensing
Division of Fuel Cycle and Material Safety

SUBJECT: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE REQUEST - ATLAS MINERALS,
DIV. OF ATLAS CORPORATION, DOCKET NO. 40-3453

Plant Name: Atlas Uranium Mill

Licensing Stage: Review of the Preliminary Draft Environmental Statement for the Atlas uranium mill is near completion. Issuance of a FES and a final decision on a license renewal action are scheduled for completion prior to December 15, 1977.

Organization Responsible for Request: Fuel Processing & Fabrication Branch
Environmental and Licensing Coordinator: Frank Lomax

Site Technology: W. Gammill, Assistant Director for Site Technology
Division of Site Safety & Environmental Analysis

Requested Completion Date: September 15, 1977

Description of Request: Evaluation of the necessity for riprap protection for the toe of the tailings pond dike at the Moab Utah mill site under PMF conditions for Colorado River. Review of applicant's riprap design, Enclosure 2, is also requested.

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Purpose of Request:

The applicant's review (see Enclosure 2) of possible flooding damage to the tailings pond dike at his Moab Utah mill site was based on a combination of a 100 year flood of the Colorado River at Cisco, and a PMF of the drainage area between Cisco and the mill. This review concluded that due to short duration of flooding, low water velocity at the dike, and the fact that only a few feet of the toe of the dike would be inundated, no undercutting of the dike would occur, with therefore no risk of dam failure. Enclosure 1 is a review conducted in 1974 which essentially validated the applicant's position. This request is for a review of the same case using Colorado River PMF conditions to specify if riprap protection of any area of the dike which would be inundated at PMF is necessary. Minimum design criteria and area of coverage for such riprap would also be helpful.

This request has been discussed with Mr. T. L. Johnson and Mr. L. G. Hulman.

Original Signed by

John B. Martin, Assistant Director
for Fuel Cycle Safety & Licensing
Division of Fuel Cycle and
Material Safety

Enclosures:

1. AEC Report, Aug. 2, 1974
2. Report on Tailings Discharge
Operations, Atlas, July 29, 1977

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