



United States Department of the Interior

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IN REPLY REFER TO:

1703
CA-932.8

MAR 22 1990

Memorandum

To: WO (707), Room 3529, MIB
From: Deputy State Director, Lands & Renewable Resources
Subject: Atlas Mine RI/FS Document

This is to inform you that we have received the EPA's final version of the Atlas Mine RI/FS and the supporting documents. I am mailing you one set of the documents (6 volume set) under a separate cover due the large size. Should you have any questions regarding the mailing feel free to call me or Mark Blakeslee at FTS 460-4725.

Richard Johnson



WD (707)

MAR 22 1990

1703
CA-930

Memorandum

To: State Director
From: Deputy State Director, Lands & Renewable Resources
Subject: Meeting on Atlas Mine Issue, 3/20/90

Atlas Mining Co. and Vinnel Mining Co. held a meeting with EPA in San Francisco on Tuesday, March 20, 1990. Temi Berger, Solicitor's Office, and I attended at Vinnel's invitation. The purpose of the meeting was for the PRPs (Atlas and Vinnel) to present to EPA the results of their independent studies into the soils and air transport of asbestos in the area of the Atlas site.

Presentations were made by the consultants to the PRPs, with Phil Fitzwater presenting the air modeling data and George Robinson presenting the water data. Both of their modelling runs showed little or no asbestos movement from the mine site vs. the natural occurring asbestos in the surrounding areas. The PRPs bottom line was that naturally occurring asbestos far overshadows that from the Atlas mine site, and is therefore not a significant human health hazard. The discussion about erosion and sedimentation followed the Western Technologies Inc. analysis paper (you have previously received a copy). The discussion about airborne transmittal of asbestos was presented on slides - no written analysis paper was presented.

EPA appeared attentive and interested in this presentation. While the PRPs referred to The Conceptual Reclamation Plan dated March 16, 1990, they asked EPA, based on the air and water presentations made at the meeting, to consider a new remediation plan. EPA agreed to accept and consider such a new proposal from Atlas and Vinnel, if it could be presented in the next week. The PRPs agreed to develop and submit such a plan. (The Conceptual Reclamation Plan referred to is a revised version of the remediation plan Atlas and Vinnel developed with our assistance in January 1989.)

After the meeting, Temi and I stayed to meet with Dan Meers and Laurie Williams of EPA. We discussed some new EPA suggested wording for the proposed plan release fact sheet. They also stated the RI/FS was being mailed out that same day, and they expected to mail the proposed plan by April 9. Public hearings are still planned for Coalinga and Hollister on May 9-11.

/s/ RICHARD F. JOHNSON

cc: DM, Bakersfield
AM, Hollister
Berger, Sol.
WO-707
Blakeslee

DJohnson/jt/3/23/90
A:ATLAS2
