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VIA FACSIMILE AND FEDERAL EXPRESS

OFFICE OF THE
GENERAL
ADJUDICATOR
NRC STAFF

Administrative Judge Charles Bechhoefer
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

November 16, 1999

Re: Molycorp, Inc.
Docket Nos. 40-8794-MLC and 40-8778-MLA
ASLBP No. 99-769-08-MLA

Dear Judge Bechhoefer:

Today I received Amended Requests for Hearing from both the City of Washington and Canton Township in the above-referenced matters. Due to the upcoming holidays, I am writing to request a very brief enlargement of time until November 30, 1999, within which to file Molycorp's responses.

The City of Washington's Amended Requests for Hearing was mailed to Molycorp's Pittsburgh counsel on November 15, 1999, and was received today. Under my understanding of the applicable regulations, Molycorp's response date runs from the date of mailing and, accordingly, Molycorp's response is due ten days thereafter or on November 25, 1999. This is Thanksgiving Day. Because of the Thanksgiving holidays, Molycorp is requesting until the following Monday, November 30, within which to respond to the City's Amended Request.

I have some confusion as to the actual date of mailing of the Township's Amended Request for Hearing. Although the Certificate of Service which accompanied the Township's Amended Request indicates that it was mailed from the Township's Pittsburgh attorneys on Friday, November 12, 1999, this Amended Request was not received by Molycorp's Pittsburgh counsel until Tuesday, November 16. Moreover, the envelope in which the Township's Amended Request was received indicated that it was only processed by the U.S. Postal Service today.

If Molycorp's response deadline is calculated from the date of the Certificate of Service, rather than the postage date, Molycorp's Reply would be due on or about November 22, only six days after Molycorp received the Amended Request. This would not provide Molycorp with sufficient time to prepare an appropriate response. Accordingly, Molycorp similarly requests an enlargement of time until November 30 to respond to the Township's Amended Request.

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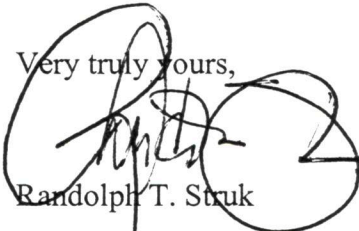


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I have spoken with the Township's Pittsburgh attorney today, and he has graciously agreed to consent to Molycorp's request for an extension until November 30. Although I was unable to reach the City's counsel, I am hopeful that in light of the two prior occasions on which Molycorp has consented to requests for extensions by the City, the City will not object to Molycorp's request for the brief extension of time.

If you have any questions, please call me.

Very truly yours,

Randolph T. Struk

RTS/cag

cc: Via Federal Express:
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Executive Director for Operations
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