

**MS. RICHARD FYFE BOYCE, MS.**  
ROUTE 2, BOX 307  
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501 FOR SMA

Denise Fort, Director  
Environmental Improvement  
Devisision  
P.O. Box 968  
Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87504.

Dear Ms. Fort.

The San Marcos Association wishes to commend EID for its continued interest and monitoring efforts of the Gold Fields Mining Corporation/Ortiz Mine.

At a meeting on May 14th 1985 with members of your technical and legal staff SMA was informed of recent data collected from the Ortiz Mine site. The unexplained level of cyanide found in well #122 is of much concern to residents in our area. Although SMA does not have the technical qualifications to judge and evaluate these findings, it is keenly interested to stop any possible kind of ground water polution.

At this same meeting Mr. Ron Conrad suggested that there were several options available to EID to remedy this situation. SMA favors Assurance of Discontinuance, requiring actions to be taken, and setting a timetable for their initiation and completion.

SMA suggests that the assurance contain at a minimum the following:

- 1) GFMC increases the size of the catchment pond below residue pile,
- 2) places suitable lining of catchment pond,
- 3) spread residue in thin layers to encourage oxidation,
- 4) hypochloride the catchment pond and pump it back onto the residue pile,
- 5) disclose geological data taken from core sample of site (if necessary on a confidential basis to EID)
- 6) drill additional wells into water table, using data acquired from core samples to better charactrize site and possible fractures, flow of water, etc.

SMA relies on the expert decision of your department in this matter.

cc: SMA Exec. Board.

Sincerely  
*Helen M. Boyce*  
Helen M. Boyce, Pres. SMA.