

Mike Amb

(Plz return to
Dnr) #111.
#2 diversion
with
C.M.S.

ADMINISTRATOR'S MEMORANDUM

TO: Bureau Chiefs and Regional Supervisors
FROM: Norman C. Young *NY*
DATE: February 19, 1987
SUBJ: Use of trees on active tailings impoundment structures constructed by the upstream method

Ill. diversion #1

The Department will allow the use of certain tree species on the downstream slope of active tailings embankments constructed by the upstream method but will restrict the type of vegetation allowed to trees which generally have a single main root system. Brushy plants such as rose bushes, current bushes and willows which would prevent a thorough inspection of the embankment will not be allowed.

The use of trees as a revegetation tool on tailings embankments constructed by the upstream method should not cause the problems they would on a water storage dam, since there is not a significant volume of free water stored in the embankments, and any free water is maintained away from the embankment proper by the beach constructed by the tailings sands placement. These practices, inherent in the upstream construction method, prevent the problems usually associated with allowing woody vegetation on water storage embankments, such as piping caused by the deterioration of the root systems in the embankment.

If you have specific questions relative to acceptable species, please contact Dam Safety Section.

RECEIVED
FEB 20 1987

Department of Water Resources
Western Regional Office