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To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks: Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.

<p>1. Name of conveying party(ies):</p> <p><u>John C. Nigro</u></p> <p>Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>2. Name and address of receiving party(ies)</p> <p>Name: <u>James Pirtle</u></p> <p>Internal Address: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Street Address: <u>152 Brookville Road</u></p> <p><u>Muttontown</u></p> <p>City: <u>Glen Head</u> State <u>New York</u> ZIP: <u>11545</u></p> <p>Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>3. Nature of conveyance:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assignment <input type="checkbox"/> Merger</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Security Agreement <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Name</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p> <p>Execution Date: <u>March 18, 1999</u></p>	

4. Application number(s) or patent number(s):

If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is: _____

<p>A. Patent Application No.(s)</p> <p><u>09/189,056</u></p> <p><u>Filed November 9, 1998</u></p>	<p>B. Patent No.(s)</p>
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Additional numbers attached? Yes No

<p>5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence... concerning document should be mailed:</p> <p>Name: <u>Dara L. Onofrio</u></p> <p>Internal Address: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p><u>Ostrager, Chong, Flaherty & Onofrio</u></p> <p>Street Address: <u>300 Park Avenue</u></p> <p>City: <u>New York</u> State: <u>NY</u> ZIP: <u>10022</u></p>	<p>6. Total number of applications and patents involved: <input type="text" value="1"/></p> <p>7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41).....\$ <u>40.00</u></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Enclosed</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Authorized to be charged to deposit account</p> <p>8. Deposit account number:</p> <p><u>15-0699</u></p> <p>(Attach duplicate copy of this page if paying by deposit account)</p>
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9. Statement and signature.

To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document.

Dara L. Onofrio
Name of Person Signing

Dara L. Onofrio
Signature

4/14/99
Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and document:

Mail documents to be recorded with required coversheet information to:

ASSIGNMENT

I, John C. Nigro, 11041 France Avenue South, Bloomington, MN, 55431, U.S.A., a citizen of the United States of America, for good and valuable consideration, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, have assigned and do hereby assign to JAMES PIRTLE, an individual and co-inventor, 152 Brookville Road/Muttontown, Glen Head, New York, 11545 U.S.A., a citizen of the United States of America, his successors, assigns and legal representatives, the entire right, title and interest in the United States and throughout the world in and to all subject matter invented by us and disclosed in the application for letters Patent of the United States entitled, BINDER FORMULATION AND USE THEREOF IN PROCESS FOR FORMING MINERAL PELLETS HAVING BOTH LOW AND HIGH TEMPERATURE STRENGTH, assigned Serial No. 09/189,056 filed November 9, 1998 which claims priority of provisional application Serial No. 60/065,052 filed November 10, 1997; and in the PCT application assigned PCT/US98/23730 filed November 9, 1998; and in and to all letters Patent and all Convention and Treaty rights of all kinds, in the United States and all other countries throughout the world, for all such subject matter. I agree to sign all papers necessary to secure said Letters Patent and rights, and request issuance of all said Letters Patent to said JAMES PIRTLE in accordance with this assignment.

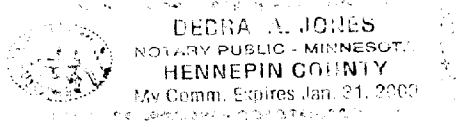
Executed: March 18, 1999


John C. Nigro

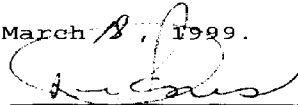
STATE OF Minnesota)
) ss.:
COUNTY OF Hennipin)

Before me a Notary Public for said County, personally appeared John C. Nigro, to me known and known to me to be the person who executed the foregoing instrument and acknowledged it to be his free act and deed.

Witness my hand and seal March 18, 1999.



[Notarial Seal]



Notary Public
My Commission Expires:
1.31.2000