



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION IV  
611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400  
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-8064**

March 27, 2001

MEMORANDUM TO: Larry W. Camper, Chief  
Decommissioning Branch  
Division of Waste Management  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

FROM: Dwight D. Chamberlain, Director */LHowell for/*  
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION REGARDING TERMINATED LICENSE  
REVIEWS AND SELECTED DECOMMISSIONING SITES

This responds to your memorandum dated March 13, 2001, in which you requested information for SRM-SECY-00-180. Our response to each subject area is presented below:

**Terminated License Reviews**

Region IV has five sites that meet the criteria for terminated license reviews. A status update of each site is listed in the attachment to this Memorandum. In summary, we have completed the initial review of each docket file, we are currently recommending closure of two files, and we will conduct onsite reviews/inspections of the remaining three sites by the dates specified in the attachment.

**Currently Licensed Sites**

Region IV does not have any sites that meet the criteria discussed in your Memorandum. Accordingly, we have no updated information to provide to you in this subject area.

If you have any questions concerning this Memorandum, please call either D. Blair Spitzberg, Ph.D., Chief, Fuel Cycle Decommissioning Branch, at (817) 860-8191 or Robert Evans, Health Physicist, at (817) 860-8234.

Attachment: As Stated

Larry W. Camper

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bcc w/enclosure (via ADAMS distrib):

EW Merschoff

JTBuckley, NMSS/DWM/DCB

LWCamper, NMSS/DWM/DCB

ERPogue, NMSS/DWM/DCB

DDChamberlain

DBSpitzberg

LLHowell

RJEvans

FCDB

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RIV File (5th Floor)

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/RA/	/JEWhitten for/	/LHowell for/
03/23/01	03/23/01	03/26/01

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## **ATTACHMENT**

### **REGION IV TERMINATED LICENSE REVIEWS**

#### **Salmon River Uranium**

- The mill was located approximately 5 miles west of North Fork, Idaho. The license was active during 1959. An AEC inspection conducted on June 4, 1962, found the site to be abandoned. There was no visible stock pile and the mill tailings pond was dry. The site is currently owned by Joyce Corporation.
- A letter dated September 12, 1980, from the State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, indicated that EPA had performed a survey of the mill tailings area in 1974. The survey indicated that the site had been stabilized and no radiation problems or contamination was identified. Region IV has contacted EPA Region 10 and is attempting to obtain additional information about this 1974 survey.
- Idaho Department of Environmental Quality has a file for Joyce Corporation which documents remediation activities that were conducted in the early 1990's at the site. These activities primarily focused on hazardous wastes. Region IV plans to obtain a copy of this file in the near future.
- Region IV attempted to perform a scoping survey during 2000. The area was easily located; however, it was remote and significantly overgrown with weeds. The environment was not conducive to performing a survey. In addition, there were raging forest fires in the area.
- Region IV may close the file based on site history and available documentation. However, if Region IV elects to conduct an independent survey, it is recommended that the trip be conducted in early June 2001, after the winter thaw and prior to start of major weed growth.

#### **Sawyer Petroleum Company**

- This licensee was authorized to process thorium oxide. The locations of use were in Utah and Montana. The license was active from 1958-1960.
- The NRC has closed the Montana portion of the file. The file was transferred to the State of Utah on March 20, 2001, so the State can review and close its portion of the file.

#### **Mining Research Company (MRC)**

- MRC was licensed by the AEC to process uranium ore. The locations of use were in Colorado and South Dakota. The Colorado portion of the file was closed, but the South Dakota portion remains open.
- Region IV expects to continue the onsite review of this licensee during May 2001.

### **Uranyl Research Company (URC)**

- URC was licensed by the AEC to possess unlimited quantities of source material for processing and resale. This license was active from August 1957-September 1958.
- URC most likely processed some source material on property controlled by Shawano Development Corporation in the Poison Basin mining district near Baggs, Wyoming. This site has since been remediated under the Wyoming Abandoned Mine Land Project 7-D.
- Region IV is in the process of closing this license file.

### **International Mining Company (IMC)**

- IMC was licensed by the AEC to mechanically upgrade uranium ore. The license was active between May 1957-April 1964.
- IMC conducted operations at three sites; one in California and two in Wyoming. One Wyoming site has been remediated by the State, while the second site will require remediation. The California site has not been located or reviewed by the NRC.
- A letter to the contaminated site property owner in Wyoming has been drafted and is being coordinated with NMSS. The NRC is also gathering corporate information about the property owner and IMC. Region IV will contact the State of California regarding IMC's California operations.