

September 12, 2001

Edward C. Lorenz
Chair
Pine River Superfund Citizen Task Force
P.O. Box 172
St. Louis, MI 48880

Dear Mr. Lorenz:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter dated August 7, 2001, regarding the Breckenridge radioactive waste disposal site. We understand and appreciate your concerns.

We are well aware of the issues regarding potential unavailability of funding to develop and implement an acceptable permanent solution for the site. We are determined to properly carry out our responsibilities for protecting public health and safety and the environment. The NRC and other involved Federal and State agencies are coordinating actions to secure funds from the property owners, including sufficient funds allocated to the Breckenridge site.

Our initial focus on this project was to ensure that safe and stable conditions are maintained while high quality information is developed about the nature and extent of contamination. Our several previous inspections at the Breckenridge site have determined that the radiological contamination there poses no immediate threat. The initial characterization efforts have not provided the necessary information, however, so we are continuing to pursue that issue. Once the radiological material is accurately located and quantified, a proper course of action can be chosen to reach a permanent solution.

We have coordinated all our activities regarding this site with the State of Michigan, and intend to continue to do so. Also, in the future, we will include the Pine River Superfund Citizen Task Force on our distribution list to get copies of our future correspondence about this site.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Bruce L. Jorgensen, Chief
Decommissioning Branch

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