

March 16, 1967

Attached Request for Radioactive
Waste Burial Permit

READING FILE
READING FILE

Mr. Donald A. Lazarchik, Chief
Industrial Wastes Section
Division of Sanitary Engineering

Through: Director, Division of
Sanitary Engineering

Thomas M. Gerusky, Chief
Radiological Health Section

Director, Division of
Occupational Health

Attached is a request from Mr. Robert Gallagher, Applied Health Physics, for a permit to dispose of radioactive wastes at Kawecki Chemical Company, Reading, Pennsylvania. It is a copy of the request that was submitted to the Atomic Energy Commission. Mr. Gallagher had telephoned concerning this application on February 28, 1967, and stated that he would forward a formal request to this office.

On March 9, 1967, I received a telephone call from Mr. Don Harmon, U. S. Atomic Energy Commission, who stated that all such burial requests must also be approved by the State Health Department before the AEC would grant an exemption from their regulations. Because we have not yet had a chance to study the request in detail, the AEC is planning to issue a six-month processing license which will not include an exemption for burial. In the meantime, Kawecki Chemical Company will be depositing this material on their property.

Since no administrative, formal procedure has been set up concerning burial permits under the 1959 law, it is suggested that our two programs work closely in evaluating the request and submit our findings to the Secretary of Health with recommendations concerning approval or disapproval of this permit request. The AEC has requested to be involved in our discussions and will keep us informed concerning any action they are taking.

We have made a preliminary review of this proposal and find no serious deficiencies. The only problem is long-term ownership. It is suggested that an evaluation be made of the possible consequences of runoff into the Schuylkill River. From the information given concerning the form in which the material will be deposited, this does not appear to be a limiting factor.

TMG:las

Attachment