

June 25, 2015

Ms. Sara Parker Pauley, Director
Missouri Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65103-0176

SUBJECT: MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES LETTER OF MAY 4, 2015, ON WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC COMPANY, LLC HEMATITE RADIOACTIVE SITE PROPOSAL FOR FATE OF MATERIALS SURROUNDING THE LACLEDE GAS COMPANY'S NATURAL GAS PIPELINE (SNM-0033)

Dear Ms. Pauley:

We are in receipt of your May 4, 2015, letter (ML15162A984). In that letter you requested that Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) be provided an opportunity to consider and provide comments on Westinghouse Electric Company's (WEC's) proposal regarding residual radioactive contamination in the area of the Laclede Pipeline. In addition, MDNR requested that if the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) did not have the flexibility to delay its decision regarding WEC's proposal, an opportunity for public comment on the NRC's decision will be provided.

Based upon your letter and Laclede's letter of March 5, 2015 (ML15069A039), the NRC was intending to issue a *Federal Register* notice (FRN) in late June or early July requesting public comment on WEC's Final Status Survey (FSS) approach in the area of the pipeline. This approach was detailed in letters dated December 18, 2014 (ML14352A415), and January 15, 2015 (ML15021A180). Additionally, the NRC proposed to representatives of MDNR, Laclede, and WEC a June 25, 2015, four party meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to facilitate a forum for the four parties to discuss a possible approach to address the concerns of Laclede, MDNR, and the NRC which would be acceptable to WEC.

On June 2, 2015, a four party conference call was held to establish an agenda for the June 25th meeting. During the call WEC indicated that it was their preference to delay the four party meeting until after they had submitted the results of their August survey work to the NRC. Representatives from MDNR and Laclede agreed with WEC's proposal.

WEC recognized during the call that postponement of the meeting until September or later had the potential for impacting their schedule for terminating the Hematite license. However, WEC considered such a postponement appropriate. As a result of WEC's proposal, all parties agreed to postpone the June 25th meeting.

The NRC will await the submittal of the August 2015 data. Following the receipt of the August 2015 data, the NRC will assess the FSS approach taken by WEC in the area of the pipeline. Following that assessment the NRC will again, have a call with Laclede and MDNR to determine whether they still have concerns. If they do, then the NRC will again propose a four party meeting with the hope that such a meeting might facilitate resolution of any concerns of

Laclede, MDNR and the NRC, if applicable. The NRC will also revisit the necessity of issuing the FRN at that time.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Agency Rules of Practice and Procedure," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

Please contact John Hayes if you have any questions concerning the above. He may be reached at (301) 415-5928 or via email at John.Hayes@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Catherine Haney, Director
Office of Nuclear Material
and Safeguards

cc: Westinghouse – Hematite Service List
Joseph W. Smetanka, Westinghouse
Castor J. Armesto, Laclede
Peter S. Strassner, Thompson Coburn
Tiffany Drake, MDNR

S. Parker

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/RA/

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Tiffany Drake, MDNR

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M. LaFranzo, RII

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OFC	DUWP	DUWP	DUWP	DUWP	DUWP	DUWP	NMSS	NMSS
NAME	STaylor	JHayes	CHolston	MNorato	DPersinko	LCamper	CPoland	CHaney
DATE	6/08/15	6/9/15	6/9/15	6/10/15	6/10/15	6/11/15	6/ 19 /15	6/ 25 /15

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Westinghouse - Hematite Service List
cc:

Alex S. Polonsky
Morgan Lewis, Esq.
Morgan, Lewis & Kocjus LLP
1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004

Shaw Pittman, LLP
2300 N Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037-1128

Rita Alexander
Environmental Specialist III
Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Hazardous Waste Program
917 N. Highway 67, Suite 104
Florissant, MO 63031

Honorable Wm. Lacy Clay, Jr.
6830 Gravois
St. Louis, MO 63116

Ramona J. Huckstep
Community Relations Coordinator
Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Hazardous Waste Program
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65103-0176

Aaron Schmidt, Deputy Director
Division of Environmental Quality
Missouri Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176

Sara Parker Pauley, Director
Missouri Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65103-0176

Jonathan Garoutte, Bureau Chief,
Bureau of Environmental Epidemiology,
Missouri Department of Health & Senior
Services
930 Wildwood
P.O. Box 570
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0570

Steven Sykes
Jefferson County Department of Public
Health
405 Main Street
P.O. Box 437
Hillsboro, MO 63050

The Honorable Teresa Kreidler
Jefferson County Council Board of
Executives
District 5
P.O. Box 100
Hillsboro, MO 63050

Branden Doster, Chief
Federal Facilities Section
Missouri Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176

Michele M. Gutman
Deputy General Counsel
Westinghouse Electric Company LLC
1000 Westinghouse Drive
Cranberry Township, PA 16066

Happy Welch
Festus City Administrator
Festus City Hall
711 West Main
Festus, MO 63028

The Honorable Mike Cage
Mayor, Festus City
Festus City Hall
711 West Main
Festus, MO 63028

The Honorable Cliff Lane
Jefferson County Council Board of
Executives
District 6
P.O. Box 100
Hillsboro, MO 63050

The Honorable Ken Waller, Executive
Jefferson County
P.O. Box 100
Hillsboro, MO 63050

Tiffany Drake, Unit Chief
Missouri Department of Natural Resources
DEQ/HWP/FFS/RRR
1730 East Elm Street
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176

Dennis Wambuguh, PhD.
Health & Risk Assessment Unit Chief
Bureau of Environmental Epidemiology
Missouri Department of Health and Senior
Services

930 Wildwood Drive
Jefferson City, MO 65109

Joseph J. Weismann, CHP| Vice President,
Radiological Programs
251 E. Front St., Suite 400
Boise, Idaho 83702

Joseph W. Smetanka
Vice President, Operations Support,
Nuclear Fuel
Westinghouse Electric Company LLC
Nuclear Fuel
1000 Cranberry Woods Drive
Cranberry Township, PA 16066