



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

November 10, 2016

Harry D. Bozoian, Director
Missouri Department of Natural Resources
Lewis & Clark Building
1101 Riverside Drive, 4E
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Subject: LETTER DATED MAY 4, 2015, REGARDING WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC COMPANY, LLC HEMATITE RADIOACTIVE SITE PROPOSAL FOR FATE OF MATERIALS SURROUNDING THE LACLEDE GAS COMPANY'S NATURAL GAS PIPELINE (SNM-0033)

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has received a letter from Laclede Gas Company (Laclede), dated August 31, 2016, (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML16252A270), in regard to Westinghouse Electric Company, LLC's (Westinghouse) Hematite Decommissioning Project. Laclede's August 31st letter requests the withdrawal of the comments and objections that Laclede made in its earlier March 5, 2015, letter (ADAMS Accession No. ML15069A039), regarding Westinghouse's "Request for Review of Approach for Unrestricted Release of Soil in the Vicinity of the Former Evaporation Ponds that Structurally Support an 8-Inch Diameter High Pressure Natural Gas Pipeline at the Hematite Decommissioning Project." Specifically, in its March 5, 2015, letter, Laclede had expressed concerns that Westinghouse's proposal to leave in place contaminated soil beneath Laclede's natural gas pipeline at the Hematite, Missouri plant may expose its workers to radiological and chemical hazards. You provided a subsequent letter (ADAMS Accession No. ML15162A984), dated May 4, 2015, which raised concerns similar to those expressed in Laclede's March 5, 2015.

Subsequent to the March 5, 2015, letter, Laclede and Westinghouse worked collaboratively to analyze the potential radiological and non-radiological risks that the contaminated soil may pose to workers. As explained in Laclede's August 31st letter, after reviewing various data, the contractor hired by Laclede concluded that any radiological exposure would be well below the NRC's public dose limit. The contractor, however, determined that there was a potential risk from certain chemical contaminants, particularly Trichloroethylene (TCE)). Following further safety analyses, Westinghouse identified exposure mitigation techniques and Laclede developed worker safety plans to minimize the risk of TCE exposure. On the basis of the exposure mitigation techniques and the worker safety plans, Laclede, as stated in its August 31, 2016, letter, determined that the Westinghouse proposal to leave the contaminated soil in place presents "a near-zero risk of adverse health impacts for its workers." Accordingly, Laclede withdrew its objections and comments to the Westinghouse proposal.

By separate letter, the NRC has notified Laclede that based on its August 31, 2016, letter, the NRC will consider Laclede's March 5, 2015, comments and objections withdrawn and otherwise

resolved. The NRC will take no further action on this matter unless the Missouri Department of Natural Resources informs the NRC that it still wishes to pursue this issue.

H. Bozoian

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If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Mr. James Smith of my staff at (301) 415-6103, or via e-mail to James.Smith@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Mathew R. Meyer, Acting Chief
Materials Decommissioning Branch
Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery,
and Waste Programs
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No. 70-036

License No. SUB-00036

If you have any questions regarding this letter, or the enclosed Requests for Additional Information document, please contact Mr. James Smith of my staff at (301) 415-6103, or via e-mail to James.Smith@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Mathew R. Meyer, Acting Chief
Materials Decommissioning Branch
Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery,
and Waste Programs
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No. 70-036

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ADAMS Accession No.:

ML16285A233

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