



CHEM-NUCLEAR SYSTEMS, INC.

DEFENSE CONSOLIDATION FACILITY
P.O. Box 828 • Barnwell, South Carolina 29812

MATERIALS DOCKET FILES
DCS

July 27, 1993

Mr. Stewart D. Ebnetter
Nuclear Materials Safety Section
U.S. NRC, Region II
101 Marietta Street, N.W., Suite 2900
Atlanta, Georgia 30323

Dear Mr. Ebnetter:

Chem-Nuclear Systems, Inc. (CNSI) notifies the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) of field project activities to be performed under NRC Radioactive Materials License 39-23004-01 issued to CNSI. In a letter dated June 2, 1993, your department was notified of remediation services to commence at the Auburn Steel Corporation facility located in Auburn, New York. This letter is provided to update the status of the activities being performed at this field project location.

The Phase I scope of work has been completed by Chem-Nuclear. This work included decontamination and packaging of materials radioactively contaminated with Cesium-137. These materials were generated as a result of remediation of the ventilation system associated with the arc furnace in the melt shop. This work also included investigation, inspection and survey of other systems within the mill that are potentially contaminated, as well as the contaminated arc furnace dust collected in bulk containers as a result of Auburn Steel operation. The arc furnace has returned to operational status, and the contaminated material has been segregated and placed in containers for monitoring.

The Phase II scope of work consists of sampling, analysis and characterization of the waste generated during the Phase I decontamination activities. Approximately 625 tons of contaminated waste was generated, consisting primarily of furnace dust, furnace brick and filter bags removed from the furnace baghouses. Preliminary sampling indicates that cesium concentrations are in the picocurie per gram range with maximum contact dose rates of 40 mrem/hr. Additional samples shall be collected from each container and sent to RUST International's Clemson Technology Laboratory for radioactivity and metals analyses. Based on the laboratory results, the waste classification shall be determined, and disposal options evaluated.

Chem-Nuclear shall continue to possess license control of this radioactive material until sampling and characterization is completed. Auburn Steel presently possesses a radioactive material license which does not authorize storage of this material; however,

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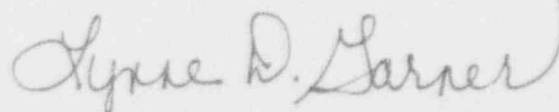
S.D. Ebnetter
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the facility has submitted a license amendment request to the State of New York to allow storage capabilities of the contaminated material until final disposition is determined.

Chem-Nuclear shall continue to provide project status updates to your Department as major milestones are achieved, until license possession is transferred to Auburn Steel Corporation. If you have any questions or require any further information, please feel free to contact me at 803-758-1823.

Sincerely,

CHEM-NUCLEAR SYSTEMS, INC.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Lynne D. Garner". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Lynne D. Garner
Licensing Engineer

cc: J. Potter, NRC, Region II