



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I
475 ALLENDALE ROAD
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406-1415

APR 08 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR: Richard L. Bangart, Director
Division of Low Level Waste Management
and Decommissioning, NMSS

FROM: Richard W. Cooper, Director
Division of Radiation Safety and Safeguards, RI

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE IN FULFILLING STAFF
REQUIREMENTS MEMORANDUM ADDRESSING STORAGE OF
LOW-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE

This is in response to your memorandum dated February 24, 1992, same subject. As requested in your memorandum, a list of licensees who have requested amendments to authorize interim storage of low-level radioactive waste is attached as Enclosure 1 to this memorandum.

Since we have not previously been requested to separately identify or track the licensees who request interim storage of radioactive waste, the enclosure may not be complete. The data was obtained through file reviews and requests that individual license reviewers attempt to recall cases which meet the criteria. We may have overlooked cases and there may be additional requests that have been received, but have not yet been assigned to reviewers. Since there is a continuing need for this information and in order to better track these requests, we suggest that NMSS add appropriate field(s) to the License Tracking System. Data could then be entered by license reviewers through the worksheet after each licensing action and be extracted and summarized as necessary.

cell
by
Mooney

Also, we would point out that many licensees may store radioactive waste without further authorization. These licensees have sufficient capacity in approved facilities and authorization limits which are much higher than their current needs.

The Region I staff has been proactive in dealing with the concern for the low-level radioactive waste (LLRW) disposal/storage issue. Based on guidance from NMSS, on February 3, 1992, we distributed guidance to the Region I staff regarding reviewer actions on interim radioactive waste storage (Enclosure 2). This guidance requires that reviewers raise the issue with selected new license and renewal requests whether or not these licensees request approval for interim storage. For these selected licensees, authority for storage of radioactive waste will be limited to two (2) years unless the licensee submits and receives approval of a formal interim storage plan or the waste is held in accordance with an approved decay-in-storage plan.

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One licensee, Alaron, of Wampum, Pennsylvania, License Nos. 37-20826-01 and 37-20826-02 has informally told the Region I staff they are considering requesting a license amendment to offer interim waste storage as a service. The authorization for this licensee listed in Enclosure 1 applies to some very specific reusable material. It is not a general authorization for interim storage. We are not aware of any actual requests for a license to store waste as a service to others.

If we can provide any additional assistance in this matter please let us know.

R. W. Cooper, Jr.

Richard W. Cooper, Director
Division of Radiation Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosures:

1. Region I Licensees Requesting Authorization for Interim Storage
2. Memorandum from R. R. Billany to Region I Nuclear Materials
Safety Branch Staff dated February 3, 1992.

cc w/encl:

W. F. Kane, RI
J. L. Milhoan, RII
C. J. Paperiello, RIII
J. M. Montgomery, RIV
B. Faulkenberry, RV
J. G. Partlow, NRR
R. F. Cunningham, NMSS
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C. J. Haughney, NMSS
P. Lohaus, NMSS

REGION 1 LICENSEES REQUESTING AUTHORIZATION FOR INTERIM STORAGE

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Submission</u>	<u>License No.</u>	<u>Approved Date</u>
University of Connecticut	9-26-91	06-01450-47	Pending
Unilever	8-23-91	29-00304-02	Pending
Center for Molecular Medicine and Immunology	2-07-92	29-28554-01	Pending
Alaron Corporation	1-09-92	37-20826-01	2-10-92
	1-09-92	37-20826-02	2-10-92
Sandoz	7-31-91	29-08978-02	Pending

ENCLOSURE (1)