

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

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Memorandum

TO : Ralph G. Page, Chief, Enforcement Branch,
Division of Licensing and Regulation, HQ

FROM : *Ernest D. Campbell*
Ernest D. Campbell, Project Chariot Coordinator,
Special Projects Division, SAN

DATE: JAN 10 1963

SUBJECT: RADIOACTIVE WASTE MOUND AT PROJECT CHARIOT SITE

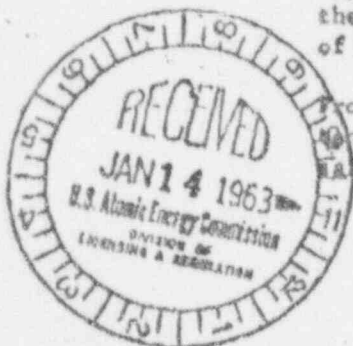
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Forwarded herewith, per your request during my January 8 visit to your office, is a copy of the SAN letter which notified Alaska State officials of the tracer experiment conducted by the U. S. Geological Survey at the Chariot site last August.

As I mentioned during our discussions, any activity associated with Project Chariot, or the Chariot site, is a matter of considerable interest to the people of Alaska and we have been walking a tight-rope attempting to maintain good relations with both the State and the public. Because of this sensitivity, it has been our practice to notify the State of significant activities concerning the Project site, after our plans become firm. In keeping with this practice, the attached letter was forwarded to our designated contacts: Commissioner Phil Holdsworth, Coordinator for Atomic Development Activities for the State of Alaska. When appropriate, the Governor has also been advised and you will note a copy of this letter was also sent to him.

Heretofore, we have not corresponded with the Alaska State Health Department in regard to the USGS tracer experiment nor the waste disposal mound at the Chariot site. If, as you mentioned, you feel it desirable to advise the Health Department about this, it is requested that we be advised in advance so that the SAN Public Information Office may informally notify the Governor's office such a communication is forthcoming. This prefatory step should prove helpful in view of SAN's continuing coordination with Alaska State officials with regard to atomic energy matters. I also urge that if a letter is transmitted to Alaska, it make clear whether or not there are any public health or safety hazards. (The State may or may not have personnel competent to render such an evaluation, and the situation should be explained carefully to minimize stimulation of unwarranted concern.)

From our discussions, it is my understanding that it is DLSR's tentative opinion that the waste mound does not pose a health or safety problem and may be abandoned without further attention. Our



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plans for closing the Chariot Camp will, therefore, make no provision for performing any work relating to the waste mound. When the DL&E position on this matter has become firm, we would appreciate your advising us by memo so that our records may indicate the disposition of the problem.

There is one final point which I would like to bring to your attention. The Commission's plans to dispose of the camp facilities and remove its personnel from the site, is privileged information for the time being. When plans are developed, a public announcement will be made; however, this may not be accomplished for perhaps another two months. Therefore in the interim, the subject is being handled on an OFFICIAL USE ONLY basis.

Please contact me if there is additional information you desire or for any assistance we can render.

Enclosure:

Copy, ltr, Schank, SAN to Holdsworth, Alaska State Capital, dated August 17, 1962.

CC: Richard Smith, Region V, Division of Compliance, w/enclosure
Rod Southwick, Public Information Office, SAN w/o enclosure

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MEMO ROUTE SLIP		See me about this. Note and return.	For concur For signature.	For action. For information.
TO (Name and unit)		INITIALS	REMARKS	
Compliance Division		DATE	2-2	
TO (Name and unit)		INITIALS	REMARKS	
E. R. Price		DATE		
TO (Name and unit)		INITIALS	REMARKS	
		DATE	3 246	
FROM (Name and unit)		REMARKS		
R. G. Page, Chief. Enforcement Br., LR		Please note attached below the yellow copy of this letter is a memorandum from Ernest B. Campbell, Project Charlot Coordinator, SAN to R. G. Page. It is proposed that a bec of our notice to the U. S. Geological Survey be sent to Mr. Campbell. In light of Mr. Campbell's memorandum, I suggest that we make no contacts with the State Health Department Officials in Alaska. I believe that SAN should make any contacts with the State Officials which may be required.		
PHONE NO.	DATE			
3668	1/21/63			

USE OTHER SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL REMARKS

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