

JUL 10 1985

Docket No. 40-08406

License No. STB-1254

Dollar Savings
ATTN: Mr. Robert W. Wilson
President
Washington Centre
32 North Mill Street
P. O. Box 1469
New Castle, Pennsylvania 16103

Dear Mr. Wilson:

Subject: Pesses Company and METCOA Property

This refers to your letter, dated June 6, 1985, which enclosed a copy of the proposal from Chem-Nuclear Systems, Incorporated to clean up the hazardous waste material at the Metcoa plant site in Pulaski, Pennsylvania. Your letter also raised several questions regarding the Pesses Company license, the planned EG&G overflight survey, the procedures for a final site survey and possibility of a tenant moving onto this site while decontamination is in progress. I will attempt to answer each of your questions in this letter.

A. EG&G Overflight Survey

While preliminary photography has been performed at the site, the survey itself has not been started. It is unlikely that this survey will be done within the next year. We will provide you a copy of the results of this survey as soon as one is available. When all radioactive material has been removed, we do plan to have a contractor perform surveys on the ground.

B. Occupancy of Site During Decontamination

We will not object if a tenant or purchaser of the site begins to move onto a portion of the site which is free of radioactive materials. Before this takes place, please inform this office of the details of this occupancy so that we might make any confirmatory surveys which are appropriate to ensure that the occupied area is free of radioactive materials. The tenant or purchaser should not have access to the portion of the site which still contains radioactive materials.

C. Pesses License

1. No bond was required of the Pesses Company by the NRC at the time the license was granted.

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2. Copies of the applications and letters referenced in the license, along with copies of related correspondence, are enclosed with this letter.

D. Chem-Nuclear Proposal

I have reviewed the Chem-Nuclear Proposal and have several comments. First, their proposal to dispose of the drums of thorium alloy appears to be technically acceptable. Second, the proposal does not appear to address the radioactive contamination which is onsite but not in drums. Prior to releasing the site for unrestricted use, the NRC would have to be assured that this contamination was removed and was properly sent for disposal. Third, it should be made absolutely clear which party has the responsibility for ensuring that the waste shipment meets all U.S. Department of Transportation Packaging and Shipping requirements. We have seen problems develop in this area in similar situations.

Please contact me if you have any questions or if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:
Francis M. Costello

Francis M. Costello, Chief
Nuclear Materials Section A
Nuclear Materials Safety & Safeguards Branch
Division of Radiation Safety & Safeguards

Enclosures:

1. May 23, 1978 letter from Marvin Pesses to Earl Wright, NRC
2. March 16, 1978 letter from Earl Wright, NRC, to Marvin Pesses
3. January 17, 1978 letter from Marvin Pesses to Earl Wright, NRC
4. September 19, 1975 letter from Marvin Pesses to Kitty Dragonette, NRC.
5. September 19, 1975 letter from Kitty Dragonette, NRC, to Marvin Pesses
6. September 18, 1975 letter from Molly Tatel, Pesses Company to Kitty Dragonette, NRC
7. August 26, 1975 letter from Marvin Pesses to Kitty Dragonette, NRC
8. August 15, 1975 letter from Kitty Dragonette, NRC, to Marvin Pesses
9. July 24, 1975 letter from Marvin Pesses to Kitty Dragonette, NRC
10. July 23, 1975 application from the Pesses Company

bcc w/o enclosures:

T. Costello, DRSS

J. Kinneman, DRSS

FMC
RI:DRSS

Costello/djh

7/5/85

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