

AUG 20 1996

Carolyn R. Vadala
c/o W.E.C.A.R.E
157 La France Avenue
Bloomfield, New Jersey 07003

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO YOUR JULY 22, 1996 LETTER CONCERNING THE WESTINGHOUSE
ELECTRIC CORPORATION, BLOOMFIELD, NEW JERSEY FACILITY

Dear Ms. Vadala:

This refers to your letter dated July 22, 1996 (received in our office August 6, 1996) concerning the Westinghouse Electric Corporation facility in Bloomfield, New Jersey. In regard to your request for "... all of the reports on this property: contamination areas, maps, and levels, exposure rates to the community, water testing reports, all DOE and NRC reports and studies on every known contaminant with which this property was involved . . .", we are pursuing sending a copy of the entire contents of the docket file for this license (NRC License No. SUB-1789, Docket No. 040-12345) to the Bloomfield Township Health and Safety Office. However, consistent with regulations, information containing names or other identifiers or proprietary information may be purged or withheld. Mark Roberts of my staff contacted Richard Proctor, Director, Health and Safety for Bloomfield Township on August 8, 1996 to make preliminary arrangements for receipt of this material. Mr. Proctor indicated that he would make provisions for a suitable location in the Township (likely the Library or the Township Building) for the storage and inspection of these documents. We will inform you once a location is determined. The NRC will also include the Bloomfield Township Health and Safety Office as a recipient for future correspondence in regard to the site. Because of the large volume of materials currently in the docket file, we estimate that approximately one month will be required to copy, collate and transmit the information contained in the docket file.

In regard to your request for "... all DOE . . . reports", you should contact Dr. Alexander Williams at the Department of Energy (DOE) at (301)903-8149, his address is shown below. Although there may be DOE documents in our docket file for this license, the NRC does not maintain copies of all DOE documents for a given site.

In regard to your request that "... this site be placed onto the Superfund list as it involves Volatile Organics . . .", the NRC does not regulate volatile organics and is not responsible for the Superfund program. You should contact the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to address the issues of volatile organics and the Superfund program. You should also address your request for any Records of Decisions to the EPA since Records of Decisions come under EPA regulations. EPA Region II has the responsibility for the State of New Jersey and its address is shown below. A copy of your letter and this response is being forwarded to EPA - Region II.

Enclosure (2)

The State of New Jersey is the appropriate contact for your request for a health effects report. A copy of your letter and this response is being forwarded to representatives of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The address of the New Jersey DEP is shown below.

In regard to your questions concerning tap water and soil testing, the NRC intends to perform soil testing on the portions of the Westinghouse Bloomfield site that have not been released for unrestricted use, in order to confirm the data in Westinghouse's final survey for the facility. Soil testing will consist of collecting soil samples from representative areas and analyzing the samples by gamma spectrometry to quantitatively and qualitatively evaluate radionuclide concentrations. Selected on-site groundwater samples will also be analyzed by gamma spectrometry to confirm the licensee's measurements. Tap water sources will be similarly analyzed. In addition to the on-site confirmatory measurements, the NRC will include selected, off-site public areas in the sampling and analysis program. Our intent is to collect and analyze a sufficient number of samples to be representative of the conditions in the site vicinity.

Following completion of the on-site and off-site confirmatory measurements, we will prepare a written report of our evaluation of the results of our sample analyses, the licensee's sample analyses and their relationship to the NRC clean-up criteria. We also intend to hold a public meeting in the Bloomfield, New Jersey area prior to final NRC action on the site and on the Westinghouse license.

Should you have any further questions, please contact Mark Roberts of my staff at (610) 337-5094 or me at (610) 337-5200.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:
Ronald R. Bellamy

Ronald R. Bellamy, PhD, Chief
Site Decommissioning and Lab Branch
Division of Nuclear Material Safety

C. Vadala

3

cc: w/copy of original letter

Richard Proctor
Health and Safety Director
Bloomfield Township
Township Building
Bloomfield, New Jersey 07003

W. Alexander Williams, PhD
Designation & Certification Manager
Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program
U.S. Department of Energy (EM-421)
Office of Environmental Restoration
Washington, DC 20585

Dennis Munhall
Site Assessment Manager
Superfund Program
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region II
290 Broadway
New York, New York 10007

Richard Gimello
Assistant Commissioner
Site Remediation Program
Department of Environmental Protection
State of New Jersey
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Steve Myers
Senior Geologist
BEECRA
Department of Environmental Protection
401 E. State Street, CN 432
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

B. M. Bowman
Director, Special Projects
Westinghouse Electric Corporation
Westinghouse Building, Gateway Center
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222

AUG 22 1996

Honorable Bill Bradley
United States Senator
One Newark Center, 16th Floor
Newark, New Jersey 07102-5297

Dear Senator Bradley:

This is in response to your correspondence of June 14, 1996 to the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Associate Administrator, Robert W. Hickmott, which has been forwarded to me for a reply. The letter was sent on behalf of your constituents, Mrs. Joanne Lucarelli and Ms. Carolyn R. Vadala, who had requested information concerning the cleanup status at the Westinghouse Electric Corporation facility in Bloomfield, New Jersey.

The Emergency and Remedial Response Division of E.A. Region 2 has not investigated, nor has information on file, regarding this facility. However, my staff contacted Mr. Mark Roberts of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) who informed us that the facility in question is licensed by the NRC and is undergoing remediation with NRC oversight. Since the NRC has the lead regulatory role in this matter and in order to expedite a response to your information request, I am referring your correspondence, by copy of this letter, to Charles W. Hehl, Director, NRC Region I Division of Nuclear Materials Safety. Mr. Hehl can be reached at:

Division of Nuclear Materials Safety
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region I
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406
(610) 337-5281

Mr. Roberts also informed us that the group that initiated the correspondence with your office, W.E. C.A.R.E., has contacted him directly during the week of August 5, 1996. He confirmed with this office that he would respond to their correspondence shortly, and address concerns regarding public access to information related to the site remediation.

My staff also contacted Stephen Myers of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) who confirmed that the DEP plans additional remedial work at this site under the authority of the Industrial Site Responsibility Act (ISRA). The DEP plans action that will address residual contamination remaining after the current NRC supervised site remediation.

If you have any further questions or need additional information, please let me know or have your staff contact Jeane Rosianski, Chief, Intergovernmental Affairs Branch at (212) 637-3654.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jeanne M. Fox

Jeanne M. Fox
Regional Administrator

cc: Robert C. Shinn, Jr., Commissioner
New Jersey Department of
Environmental Protection

Charles W. Hehl, Director ✓
Division of Nuclear Safety
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Thomas Madden
Division of Nuclear Safety
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Stephen Myers
New Jersey Department of
Environmental Protection

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3001

June 14, 1996

TO:

Robert W. Hickmott
Associate Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
401 M Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20460

AL 9601450

ERRD

Date Received 6/25/96

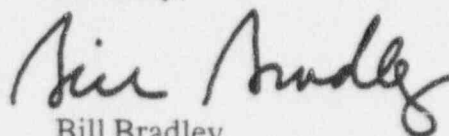
Due Date 7/9/96

RE: Clean Up in Bloomfield

I forward the attached for your consideration and would appreciate receiving information in regard to this inquiry as soon as possible. Please direct your correspondence to Laurel Mackin of my staff. She can now be reached in my Newark office at One Newark Center, 16th Floor. The zip code is 07102-5297.

Thank you very much for your time and assistance in this matter, and I look forward to your prompt reply.

Sincerely,



Bill Bradley
United States Senator

BB/lmm

RECEIVED
CE 6-24-96

W.E. C.A.R.E.
157 La France Avenue
Bloomfield, NJ 07003

May 22, 1996

The Honorable Senator Frank Lautenberg
The Honorable Senator William Bradley ✓
Gateway I
Newark, NJ 07101

RE: Request for Investigation

Dear Senator Lautenberg,

We care is committed to obtaining a clean, healthy environment in our community and for our children's future. We have a major issue on our hands and we beg for your help.

We have collected information on the industrial areas near our homes in Bloomfield and East Orange, Essex County, New Jersey. Our concerns involve :

- Westinghouse Electric Corporation,
- Their work involving the refining of Uranium for the Manhattan Project,
- Their production of lamps and electrical works, and finally
- The thoroughness of the clean up of this contaminated site & adjacent lands.

The clean up, or 'decommissioning' as they say, started in 1986 but the town's people were never notified on the dangers imposed upon them. This letter will highlight facts and incidents in order for you to understand the extent of our concerns and in the hope that you will help and guide us by organizing the vast resources at your disposal.

Our immediate questions are: What is on this site, what will remain, how has this operation affected our health, & how can we protect people in the future?

We have asked the State of NJ, the NJDEP, the NRC, Westinghouse, and our town officials for specific information regarding the extent of the contaminants on this site. We have come away empty handed except for the information we ourselves have uncovered and what little information the NJDEP can give us over the phone. The NJDEP case managers have been helpful; however, when we expected specific information from the participants mentioned above, we receive 'public relations' jargon but never specifics. For example, In April of 1995 Westinghouse's representative, Mr. Bo Bouman gave us the same speech he gave to the town in 1991- but nothing about the contamination levels as we expected .

The NJDEP informed us of the following contaminants on this site (not all are mentioned here): Radium, Thorium, Uranium, Volatile organics, PCB's, Asbestos.
Water is contaminated at least 200 feet down.

* We asked that the area be covered. It was tarped for about 1 month. Now, the overturned ground and broken concrete is exposed. During one Bloomfield Health Department meeting, we asked about the huge open pits in a haphazardly tarped area. The response was the open pits were for 'airing the Thorium'. *Are you as frightened as we are?*

Senator, your office was previously involved in this situation, according to a letter dated 5/13/1986 from the NJ Dept of Health to a Mr. Samuel Forlenza of Bloomfield. It involved 'Cancer Clusters'. We would like to know the outcome of your inquiry. We know that in 1979, the State of New Jersey - Dept of Health confirmed that there were 'statistically significant' incidences of childhood cancers in the 'Ampere area' and the State recommended that the area be watched. A subsequent study (1991) from the NJ Dept of Health said the number of cancers in our area were in normal range; however the State lumped all cancer cases together per the Township of Bloomfield's request. This was a meaningless idea of 'watching our area' (see attachment 2.)

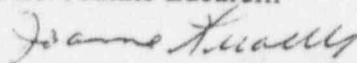
In light of the fact that our children were already experiencing problems related to environmental contaminants, the extent of the hazards involving this site while the 'decommissioning' is happening poses additional, unwarranted exposure. The lack of information and caution from Westinghouse and our Town is a blatant disregard of the welfare and safety of our neighbors and our children. This is why we are writing to you. You are our final hope. It appears that because this is about the 'Westinghouse Corporation' and because it was the 'Federal Government' who commissioned them, then they have the right to contaminate us and our land and we have no rights for finding out exactly what went on there and what risks are involved. Will you help us?

Our concern is for future generations of human beings. Westinghouse will leave its contamination in the ground and cover it with cement. This land was once farm land. It can never ever be farmed again. Our water was also affected. We can never use the water either. Our children are born with cancers and more are developing cancers. What can you do for us? What can we do for you to help you in this matter?

We are willing to continue devoting endless hours. Will you, who have power and information, be willing to help? We would like to meet with you to discuss our vast findings and to glean knowledge of how the government can help. We guess it would be proper to request, under the Freedom of Information Act, all there is to know about this industrial complex. For what do we ask? Please call us or write to the above address. We will be waiting and hoping.

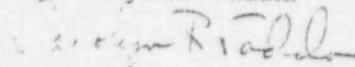
Respectfully and Sincerely Submitted on behalf of WECARE,

Mrs. Joanne Lucarelli



(201) 429-8780

Ms. Carolyn R. Vadala



(201) 748-1259

encl.

cc: NJ Sen. J. Bubba

C:wecare-laughtenb.wpd (lou)