



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV

611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-8064

MAR 25 1996

Joseph A. Thomson
1831 Foothill Drive
Glendale, California 91201

Dear Mr. Thomson:

Thank you for your letter of March 14, 1996, and the information on the name of the previous owner of the 170 West Providencia Avenue property. Your cooperation and assistance during our inspection and survey of the aforementioned property is greatly appreciated by my office and Mr. Chaney.

I would like to clarify a couple of points raised in your letter regarding findings from Mr. Chaney's visit.

- As to a flask being deliberately buried in Bay "B" of the old Isotopes Specialties Company (ISC) warehouse, we have no direct knowledge of any such burial. Mr. Chaney only noted that from the focused, vertical direction of radiation emanation from the relatively small (1 square foot) spot and the visible concrete cap at that spot, that it appeared to be a capped pipe or well of some sort. This would indicate that the contamination detected was not characteristic of radioactive material that had been deposited by spilling or some other method of dispersion.
- As to requesting that you vacate the property, Mr. Chaney did suggest that the workers renovating the property (following Fiber Resin's moving) should not continue such, in the event that they would disturb some of the radioactivity in the floor surfaces and in areas not surveyed by Mr. Chaney. Upon further discussions with you and clarifying that the workers had only some minor work remaining (painting, sweeping, and hanging some doors), Mr. Chaney agreed that it would not be a problem for them to continue. I understand that Mr. Chaney did advise you, upon your inquiry, that if the site should be leased prior to cleanup, that he thought it would be prudent and responsible of you to inform any prospective tenant of the survey findings, and that in all likelihood a full site characterization and cleanup would require vacating the premise.

The report of our inspection and survey is currently under internal review and should be issued in a few weeks. We are presently working to establish jurisdictional responsibilities between the federal and state organizations.

A/1143

Joseph A. Thomson

-2-

Again, thank you for your assistance. We will keep you apprised of decisions regarding this issue.

If you have any further questions regarding our inspection and survey results, please feel free to contact Mr. Chaney at (510)975-0229.

Sincerely,

for Frank A. Wenslawski
Ross A. Scarano, Director
Division of Nuclear Materials
Safety

cc:
State of California Radiation Health