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Joseph A. Thomson
1831 Foothill Drive
Glendale, Ca. 91201

March 14, 1996

H. Dean Chaney, CHP
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
1450 Maria Lane, Suite 210
Walnut Creek, Ca. 94596

Dear Mr. Chaney,

It certainly was my pleasure to meet you on February 23, 1996 and to accompany you on an inspection of the land and two concrete block buildings at 160-170 W. Providencia, Burbank, Ca. 91502.

It was, however, very despairing to see that my property is radio-actively contaminated. Especially since before I leased (circa 1961) and later bought (circa 1966), I was assured by the then owner, Mr. Elwood Richardson, and a Government Inspector that the property would not be approved for use until all contamination was removed.

Not only was the removal not accomplished but unbelievably there exists deliberately buried flasks of nuclear radio-active materials! These are in various locations inside and outside the buildings.

At the time and later you repeatedly assured me that it probably was Thorium and although severe, was not dangerous to people's health. I hope so because whatever it may be, I and others were long exposed (over 40 years in my case) and my understanding is that all the isotopes of Thorium are constantly undergoing radio-active transformations. You thought it would be wise to vacate the property so the Federal Government could initiate a complete cleanup. Later that day you said the people could stay temporarily.

By phone in early March you told me that you would write in about 3 weeks and advise me what the Government planned to do and on what schedule. You also said that you were not yet certain whether cleanup would proceed under the control of the U.S. Government or the State of California, but that would perhaps be clarified in your letter.

As you also know my buildings are no longer being leased, except for one tenant using about 1000 sq. ft. of the over 20,000 sq. ft. available.

On March 11 I met with my attorneys and provided them with your introductory letter dated Feb. 2, 1996 and the information contained herein. We hope to hear from you at the earliest possible moment since there are several prospective tenants interested in this property. I am retired and rental of this property is my major source of income.

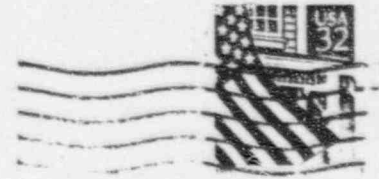
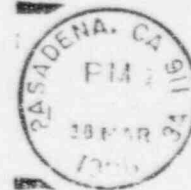
With kindest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,


Joseph A. Thomson
Owner



Mr. Joseph A. Thomson
1831 Foothill Dr.
Glendale, CA 91201



MR. H. DEAN CHANEY
U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
1450 MARIA LANE SUITE 210
WALNUT CREEK, CA. 94596





UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV

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

April 8, 1996

Edgar Bailey, C.H.P., Chief
Radiologic Health Branch
Food Drugs & Radiation Safety Division
State Department of Health Services
P.O. Box 942732
714/744 P Street
Sacramento, California 94234-7320

Dear Mr. Bailey:

As you may be aware, Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) recently performed a review of over 16,000 NRC and Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) terminated licenses. ORNL assigned numerical scores to the former licensees, based on the potential for residual radioactive contamination of the sites and availability of materials disposition documentation in the retired docket files. A former licensee in the State of California, Isotopes Specialties Company (ISC), received numerical scores from ORNL which put this license in a category requiring a followup review by the Region IV staff.

In order to gather more information about this facility, a member of our staff, Mr. H. Dean Chaney, visited the site during the period February 21-23, 1996. This site inspection had been coordinated with your office. Facilities associated with the former licensee are located at 703 South Main Street and 170 W. Providencia Street, Burbank, California.

The enclosed inspection report identifies areas examined during the inspection. The inspection consisted of independent radiological surveys and measurements at the two sites (site photographs are provided in Attachments 2 and 3, and survey diagrams for the sites are contained in Attachment 4 to the enclosed inspection report). The original facilities have been expanded from their original size in some cases.

Based upon the inspection findings (cursory radiological surveys), we have determined that some areas involving both sites contain residual radioactivity contamination above current NRC release criteria. This activity is most likely due to previous AEC or State of California licensed activities at the sites. Anomalous gamma radiation exposure rate readings were identified on several surfaces within and outside of the site facilities. The areas of elevated readings are sufficiently above ambient gamma radiation levels that further radiological characterization of the site appears warranted. Our radiological survey results were confirmed by Mr. Paul Baldenweg of your Los Angeles, California office on February 23, 1996. No readily removable alpha or beta radioactivity above NRC criteria was detected.

Ally

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Edgar Bailey

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April 8, 1996

When the state of California became an Agreement State on September 1, 1962, the "Agreement Between The United States Atomic Energy Commission and State of California," (Agreement) gave the state certain rights and responsibilities with respect to byproduct, source, and small quantities of special nuclear materials. Under this Agreement, we believe that the state has clear regulatory responsibility for these sites.

In summary, we plan to remove these sites from the active ORNL formerly-licensed site list. To close the license file, we need confirmation that the state will provide regulatory oversight for any future activities that are necessary because of the discovery of residual radioactive contamination at the site. Therefore, we request that you acknowledge in writing your acceptance of the regulatory responsibilities for the site. To accommodate timely disposition of our findings, we are requesting that the above noted response be provided to this office within 30 days of the date of this letter. The NRC may be able to provide assistance in this matter if needed. Any request for assistance should be directed to the NRC Office of State Programs. Our docket material concerning this facility and the licenses will be made available to you upon request.

Please contact Mr. Frank Wenslawski, Chief, Materials Branch, Walnut Creek Field Office at (510)975-0219 if you have any questions concerning this letter or its enclosure.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,



Ross A. Scarano, Director
Division of Nuclear Materials
Safety

Enclosure:
NRC Inspection Report
30-90006/96-01

Docket: 30-90006
(Dummy Docket Number, Status-4)
Licenses: 04-00580-07 (Retired)
04-00580-03 (Retired)

cc w/enclosure:
Paul Baldenweg
State of California
Department of Health Services
Radiological Health Branch
1449 W. Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90026

Edgar Bailey

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April 8, 1996

Ugo Mamolo
Viktor Bene's Bakery
703 S. Main Street
Burbank, CA 91506

Joseph A. Thomson
1831 Foothill Drive
Glendale, CA 91201

Walt Brandler
Multisales Vac. Tech.
170 W. Providencia Street
Burbank, CA 91502