



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV

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

FEB - 6 1997

CAL 96-005B

Dr. John Meason, Commander
U.S. Army White Sands Missile Range
ATTN: STEWS-DT (Meason)
White Sands Missile Range
White Sands, New Mexico 88002-5048

SUBJECT: CONFIRMATORY ACTION LETTER RESPONSE

Dear Dr. Meason:

This refers to a facsimile transmittal, received in this office on January 29, 1997, responding to our letter dated December 19, 1996. We have reviewed your response and have no further questions at this time.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of the facsimile transmittal will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room. Receipt of your January 29 response completes the actions specified under the Confirmatory Action Letter (CAL) issued by the NRC on October 24, 1996. Your completion of the reviews and evaluations specified in Items 1 through 3 of the CAL will be tracked in accordance with the schedule and commitments identified in your letter dated November 15, 1996, which has been incorporated by reference in Condition 15 of NRC License 30-02405-10.

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Robert A. Brown at (817) 860-8130 or Linda Howell at (817) 860-8213.

Sincerely,

Ross A. Scarano, Director
Division of Nuclear Material Safety

Docket: 030-09345
License: 30-02405-10

cc w/enclosure:
NRC Public Document Room
New Mexico Radiation Control Program Director

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REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE
WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE NEW MEXICO 88002-



STEW-NTS-O (70-10p)

13 DEC 96

MEMORANDUM FOR U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region IV, 611 Ryan Plaza
Drive, Suite 400, ATTN: Dr. L. J. Catkin, Arlington, TX 76011

SUBJECT: White Sands Missile Range (WSMR) Validation Study and Operating
Procedures of the Gamma Range Facility (GRF)

1. References:

- a. Letter, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region IV, CAL 96-005, 24 Oct 96,
subject: Confirmatory Action Letter.
- b. Memo, STEW-NTS-O, 15 Nov 96, subject: Engineering Study of the Gamma Range
Facility (GRF) Source Carrier and Transfer Process.
2. In response to reference 1a, an engineering study of the WSMR GRF Medium Source
Carriers is scheduled to begin in earnest in Jan 97. This organization's plan and
schedule for subject study has been submitted to the NRC (reference 1b).
3. Based on the results and conclusions of this study, WSMR will complete and submit
for NRC review a validation study to support a new source carrier and carrier transfer
system design change or rationale to support continued use of the existing sources and
carriers. In addition, WSMR will complete and submit for NRC review a complete
assessment of the operating procedures related to the GRF source carrier transfer
system. Any proposed changes to existing procedures will be submitted to the NRC for
review with a request for a license amendment to incorporate any new procedures.
4. For any addition information please feel free to contact Mr. Roland Penny,
(505) 678-4161 or Mr. Richard Williams, (505) 678-1448.

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF APPLIED TECHNOLOGY, TEST AND SIMULATION:

ROLAND L. PENNY

Chief

Operations and Support Division

CF:

Cdr. TECOM, ATTN: AMSTE-SM-S (Mr. Asenuda), APG, MD 21005-5055

Cdr. AMC, ATTN: AMSCF-P (Mr. J. Manfre), 5001 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22333-0001