

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION I

INSPECTION REPORT

Inspection Report No. 040-01203/97-001

Docket No. 040-01203

License No. C-04507 (Terminated)

Licensee: Metals Research and Development, Incorporated  
44 Tunkhannock Avenue  
Exeter, Pennsylvania

Facility Name: Keystone Automotive Warehouse

Inspection At: 44 Tunkhannock Avenue  
Pittston, Pennsylvania

Inspection Conducted: February 5, 1997

Inspected By: Steve W. Shaffer  
Steve W. Shaffer  
Decommissioning & Laboratory Branch

2-13-97  
Date

Approved By: Ronald R. Bellamy  
Ronald R. Bellamy, Chief  
Decommissioning & Laboratory Branch

Feb 13, 1997  
Date

Inspection Summary: Announced survey of the facility previously used by Metals Research and Development Incorporated (MRD). MRD was previously licensed by the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) (NRC Inspection No. 040-01203/97-001).

Areas Inspected: Areas inspected were the rear section of their warehouse, the front sections of the warehouse, and a storage office. These areas appeared to coincide with the areas of past licensed material use.

Results: The results of the survey demonstrate that the facility meets NRC criteria for release for unrestricted use.

## DETAILS

### 1.0 Individual Contacted

\*Sandy Kalmonovich

\*Denotes presence at exit interview.

### 2.0 Background

License No. C-03821 was issued September 18, 1957, for the possession and use of up to 500 pounds of natural uranium as uranium oxide and up to 500 pounds of uranium metal. License No. C-04507 was issued January 13, 1959, replacing License No. C-03821. The authorization was the same as C-03821. The licensed material was used for experimental research on fabricating reactor fuel elements. On January 29, 1959, an AEC inspection was conducted of the facility. At the time of the inspection, 50 fuel elements had been fabricated, eight of which had been transferred the Army Reactor Branch. The licensee had acquired a total of 26 pounds of uranium scrap slugs, 7.925 pounds of uranium metal, and 536 grams of enriched uranium. Prior to the inspection, the licensee had already shipped their remaining inventory to the New York Operations Office of the AEC. C-04507 expired on January 31, 1960.

### 3.0 Facilities

The facility currently has offices on the first and second floors in the front and a two-story warehouse encompassing the remaining 80% of the building. The warehouse floor is very well maintained and may have been refinished or coated since MRD used the facility. The office space has been redone since MRD used the facility.

### 4.0 Instrumentation

The inspector conducted count rate surveys with a Ludlum Model 18 (NRC Tag Number 054820 last calibrated on March 14, 1996) equipped with a Ludlum 44-10 probe. Exposure rate surveys were performed with a Ludlum Model 19 (NRC Tag Number 019635 last calibrated on August 9, 1996).

### 5.0 Radiological Surveys

Approximately 10% of the three warehouse areas that appeared to coincide with the old powder manufacturing laboratory, chemistry laboratory, and a storage area were surveyed. Special attention was given to cracks, crevices, and corners where contamination would accumulate and be harder to remove. All readings were indistinguishable from background.

Approximately 20% of a storage office which appeared to be on top of the old testing area, where the enriched uranium was stored, was surveyed. Readings taken in the corner by the door were about five to ten microrem per hour ( $\mu\text{R/hr}$ ) above background on contact. Readings taken at a meter above the floor were only about three  $\mu\text{R/hr}$  above background. These readings are below NRC criteria for release for unrestricted use.

#### 6.0 Exit Interview

The results of the inspection were discussed with the individual indicated in section 1.0 of this report at the end of the inspection.