

KAREN RAHM
Secretary



Schneider

STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES

Olympia, Washington 98504-7512

August 11, 1985

Donald A. Nussbaumer
Assistant Director for
State Programs
Office of State Programs
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Nussbaumer:

Your letter of March 28, 1985, requested our comments on the Dow Solidification Process for Low-Level Radioactive Waste submitted to you from Dow Chemical USA. We have reviewed the Topical Report, Number DNS-RSS-200 against criteria established for stabilization of radioactive waste as outlined in the NRC Branch Technical Position (BTP). After completing our review of this report, we are in concurrence with all comments generated by your staff.

The report forwarded to us was again less complete than the Topical Report reviewed by the NRC (DNS-RSS-011-P-A). In the future, we request that the same material which the NRC reviews be submitted to the state, whether it is proprietary or not.

The state of Washington by License Condition 15 of US Ecology's License Number WN-I019-2, Amendment 16, dated December 23, 1983, authorizes the use of Dow Media as a stabilizing agent. Our inspections at the site have not detected any improperly solidified containers when Dow Media was used. At this time, we have no reason to discourage the use of this material for those waste generators using the solidification material.

Please advise if and when the NRC review should find Dow Media no longer an acceptable stabilizing agent.

Sincerely,

Nancy P. Kirner
Nancy P. Kirner, Supervisor
Waste Management Unit

NPK:pm

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