

February 28, 1997

Mr. James G. Yusko, CHP
Pennsylvania Department
of Environmental Protection
400 Waterfront Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4745

Dear Mr. Yusko:

I am writing in response to your letter of February 6, 1997, inviting me to make a presentation at the 42nd Annual Meeting of the Health Physics Society to be held in San Antonio, Texas, June 29 to July 3, 1997. I am pleased to be able to accept this invitation, and have enclosed a hard copy of the abstract of the talk that I plan to give on "NRC Radiological Criteria for Decommissioning".

I am also providing a copy of the abstract on diskette to the Secretariat of the Society, in accordance with the instructions included in your letter.

Thank you for this opportunity to participate in this important conference.

Sincerely,

[Original signed by]

John T. Greeves, Director
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosure: As stated

cc: Karen S. Langley
HPS Secretariat
1313 Dolley Madison Blvd.
Suite 402
McLean, VA 22101

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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Pennsylvania Department of
Environmental Protection
400 Waterfront Drive
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ABSTRACT

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION RADIOLOGICAL CRITERIA FOR DECOMMISSIONING. J.T. Greeves, Director (Division of Waste Management, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC, 20555)

Over the past few years, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has placed a high priority on the development of decontamination and decommissioning standards. The Commission initially put into place general requirements for decommissioning in 1988. These regulations addressed many of the various aspects of decommissioning a nuclear facility, including planning requirements, timing, assurance of the availability of adequate funds, and environmental review requirements. One area that our 1988 regulations did not address was the acceptable levels of residual radioactivity for decommissioned facilities. Therefore, the NRC initiated a rulemaking in 1992 to establish appropriate radiological criteria for decommissioning. Over a two-year period, the NRC conducted a series of workshops and meetings across the country to discuss the scope, issues, and alternative approaches to the rulemaking. The discussions involved a broad cross-section of interested entities and individuals, including the Environmental Protection Agency, industry, States, local governments, Native Americans, academia, vendors, civic and environmental groups, environmental justice organizations, and other Federal agencies. The workshop and scoping discussions were used in the preparation of the proposed rule on radiological criteria for license termination that was published in August 1994 (59 FR 43200) for public comment. In formulating and promulgating its final rule on radiological criteria for license termination, the Commission has given particular consideration to: (1) an all-pathways dose criterion in the range of 15 to 30 mrem per year; (2) inclusion of specific alternative criteria for certain facilities; (3) whether to include a separate groundwater standard; (4) the appropriate application of ALARA based on the dose criteria selected in the final rule; (5) a greater reliance on institutional controls; and (6) the appropriate value of the maximum dose limit permitted if restrictions should fail.

Health Physics Society
Annual Meeting
San Antonio, TX, June 29-July 3, 1997

PRESENTATION FORMAT: Oral only (per request of sponsor)
SESSION SELECTION: BB

PRESENTING AUTHOR: J.T. Greeves
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PRESENTER IS NOT AN HPS MEMBER
SPONSOR NAME:

James G. Yusko

(Sign) _____

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Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
400 Waterfront Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4745

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