

UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT  
REGION IV  
611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 1000  
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76012

40-2259


January 7, 1976

To Those Listed Below

The replies to IE Bulletin 75-07 from Utah International, Inc., License  
40-2259 No. SUA-672; Kerr McGee Nuclear Corporation, License Nos. SUB-1010,  
SUB-986, and 35-12636-06, are attached for your information. 40-8027

40-8006

40-8401



Glen D. Brown, Chief  
Fuel Facility and Material  
Safety Branch

ATTACHMENTS:

Letter W. J. Hale to IE:IV, received December 31, 1975.

Letter W. J. Shelley to E. M. Howard, dated December 29, 1975.

DISTRIBUTION:

G. W. Roy, IE:HQ (1)

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# UTAH INTERNATIONAL INC.

LUCKY MC MINE

POST OFFICE BOX 831 • RIVERTON, WYOMING 82501  
(307) 856-9261

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
Office of Inspection and Enforcement, Region IV  
611 Ryan Plaza Drive  
Suite 1000  
Arlington, Texas 76012



Dear Mr. Howard:

In refference to your letter and IE Bulletin 75-07 Dated November 26,1975.

We do not use either Nitric Acid or HEPA Filters in our process. Small amounts of Nitric Acid, in conjunction with other Acids, are used in our Control Laboratory for decomposition of samples for Assay. No cellulose materials or other readily oxidizable substances are shipped from our Mill at any time.

Our process is limited to the mining and milling of uranium ore, and the shipment of the resulting Uranium Oxide Concentrate.

If there is anything else in which we can be of assistance in this matter, please let us know.

Sincerely,  
W. J. Hale  
Radiation Officer

~~85-12-200264~~ 1P-



# KERR-MCGEE NUCLEAR CORPORATION

KERR-MCGEE CENTER • OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73125

December 29, 1975

E. Morris Howard, Director  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Inspection & Environment  
Region 4  
611 Ryan Plaza Drive - Suite 1000  
Arlington, TX 76012

Dear Mr. Morris,

Please refer to your letter of November 26, 1975, requesting that certain action be taken by licensee in regards to the subject HEPA filters.

The actions requested have been taken with the following results:

1. Certain of our current operations release nitrogen-oxides into ventilation systems filtered by HEPA filter.
2. Since this incident, we have instituted a revised operating procedure requiring neutralization of the filter with sodium-hydroxide solution prior to packaging for shipment. A copy of this procedure is attached for your inspection.
3. We have taken the action described in paragraph 2 as a routine precaution to insure that this does not re-occur.

Please let us know if you require additional or more detailed information.

Sincerely,

W. J. Shelley, Director  
Regulation & Control

WJS/cb  
Enclosure

~~504070478~~

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# REFERENCE ONLY

Procedure: KM-NP-36-19  
Revision : 0  
Page : 1 of 2  
Date : 8/8/75

## Kerr-McGee Nuclear Corporation Cimarron Facility Plutonium Plant Operating Procedure

SUBJECT: Treatment of wet 24" x 24" Acid Filters.

### I. INTRODUCTION

The absolute filters that are used in ventilation systems that handle nitric acid fumes absorb and hold varying amounts of nitrates. These nitrates must be neutralized to prevent the possibility of combustion.

### II. SAFETY

- 1) Prior to bagging a filter into the processing box it is the foreman's responsibility to assure that the box is clean and that the box ventilation system is functioning properly.
- 2) NaOH is a hazardous chemical. Safety goggles and rubber gloves must be worn when handling this solution outside of the glove box.
- 3) Filters will be bagged in and out of the box using standard bagging procedures.

### III. NUCLEAR SAFETY

- 1) Only one filter at a time may be processed in box 36 A & B. This filter must contain no more than 200 grams Pu.
- 2) Box 36 A & B must be cleaned after processing each filter, including removal of any solution and solids, prior to introducing another filter for processing.

### IV. PROCEDURE

- 1) Check a filter out of the vault. (Foreman will specify the filter to be processed).
- 2) Move the filter to box 36 A & B. Assure that the box is empty and clean.
- 3) Bag the filter into the box using standard bag-in procedure. Enter the amount of Pu in the filter on the box status sheet.

REFERENCE ONLY



- 4) Bag 4 liters of 6 molar NaOH into the box. (use 2 two-liter bottles)
- 5) Bag a squirt bottle into the box.
- 6) Lay the filter down on the box floor. Using the squirt bottle, spray the filter as evenly as possible with 2 liters of the 6 molar NaOH solution.
- 7) Turn the filter over and spray the other side with 2 liters of 6 molar NaOH.
- 8) Using a pair of tweezers, pull a small amount of filter media out of the filter in 5 random locations on each side of the filter. Put this material into a sample batch and submit to the lab to be checked for Ph using Phydriion paper. The filter must be at least basic.
- 9) When lab result is obtained, the filter must be treated further if result is acid. (Foreman will give special instructions for this) If the result is basic the fiber is ready to package for burial.
- 10) Allow the filter to set for one hour to drip dry.
- 11) Bag the filter out using normal bag-out procedure.
- 12) Put bagged filter in a box and seal per normal procedure.
- 13) Label the filter box and be sure label shows the lab result.
- 14) Clean out dry box and zero the box status sheet.
- 15) Box is now ready to process the next filter.

#### V. EMERGENCY SHUTDOWN

- 1) Bag filter out and return it to the vault.
- 2) Vacuum any solution to wall storage.

#### VI. EQUIPMENT LIST

- 1) Squirt bottle (1)
- 2) Absolute filter shipping cartons (as needed)
- 3) 2 liter bottle(as needed)