

INSTRUCTIONS TO RECIPIENTS

To : L. A. F.

From : B. S. W.

Date : March 11, 1960

Subject : RADIATION REPORT FOR FEBRUARY, 1960

The following reports covers the work completed or "in process" on our radiation control program during the month of February.

EXTERNAL RADIATION PROGRAM

1. A new Tracer lab film badge survey was started on February 15, 1960 for the new job classifications in the carbonate plant circuit.

The jobs being surveyed are:

- a. Thickener Operator (4 badges)
- b. Carbonate precipitation Operator (4 badges)

In addition to these badges, repeat survey is being made on the Moisture Man and the Crusher Operator. This survey will continue for 13 weeks from the starting date.

2. On February 15, 1960, we received from Mr. Donald Walker, AEC Inspection Division, a copy of the results of the AEC film badge survey. This survey shows that nearly all personnel surveyed had low exposure levels. Their survey also indicated, as did our own, the job of Dryer-Packer has the highest external radiation level. A copy of their survey is on file in the plant radiation file in the Metallurgical Department.

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To : I. A. [unclear]

From : B. B. [unclear]

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Idaho Falls on January 3, 1960. Mr. Izzo, who was the employee's supervisor, told Mr. Izzo about one of the employees, Mr. J. J. [redacted] Mr. Izzo's external radiation badge showed a rather high exposure. Mr. Izzo promised to investigate the situation and on February 19, 1960, he wrote Mr. Johnston an explanatory letter. A copy of Mr. Izzo's letter is on file in the Metallurgical Department's radiation file.

In his letter, Mr. Izzo stated that the employee had lost his badge shortly after being hired. A new badge was issued to him and through some means the lost badge was returned to the storage cabinet. At the end of the period both the original badge and the newly issued badge were sent in for counting. Since we have not been able to ascertain how the badge got returned to the storage cabinet or where it was located while being lost, we do not know why the badge received a high level of exposure. The assumption is that the high level was a result of some abnormal condition that occurred while the badge was lost.

AIR SAMPLING

1. The first quarter, 1960 general air and breathing zone air sampling survey is still in process. No further results are available at this time other than those reported in the January report.
2. On February 8, 1960, Mr. Donald Walker, Inspection Division, AEC, toured the mill on an unofficial visit. He was accompanied by Mr. R. E. Cunningham of the Washington, D.C. office, Inspection Division, and Dr. Silverman, a consultant for the AEC. The purpose of their visit was to familiarize Dr. Silverman with the radiation program at various

uranium concentrates. Unfortunately the crushed department was not up to par on their visit. A number of discrepancies from our radiation policy were noted.

- a. Dust collector not working
- b. Brooms being utilized for cleanup
- c. Respirators not being worn
- d. Warning signs not posted in dusty areas
- e. Sprays not working

At Mr. Painter's request, a meeting of the supervisory personnel involved was held and these points covered. Immediate action was instituted so these discrepancies would not occur again.

In regard to this situation, Mr. T. R. Downard was requested to make a survey of the crushing plant and report and recommend any actions or work necessary to maintain good dust control conditions in the department.

Mr. Downard worked in the department from 2-10-60 through 2-19-60 and submitted a report covering this survey. This report is on file in the Personnel Department file in the "Velometer Survey" folder. The following items were either covered with work orders or completed as a result of this survey:

- a. New belt skirt at "tail" pulley, #3 conveyor belt
- b. New belt skirt on chute under cone crusher #2 conveyor belt
- c. Dust leaks in ore chutes, ducts, etc., repaired
- d. Complete inspection of all ducts in dust collector system
- e. Removal of debris such as "shot wire", paper, wood chips, etc., that had plugged several of the ducts

- f. Complete velometer survey of all dust collecting ducts and rebalancing of entire system
- g. Exhaust blower in grizzly pit repaired and in service
- h. Redesign of sprays on #2 conveyor belt so mist from sprays would not wet belt causing misalignment
- i. Repair of dust collector drive mechanism and bag house

It is felt that the completion of the items listed will result in a return to our normal high standard previously maintained. I would like to stress that frequent observation of all dust collecting facilities in this department and immediate repair of such equipment that may not be functioning properly is absolutely necessary to maintain our desired conditions of being below the maximum allowable concentration at all times. To obviate a recurrence of plugged ducts, etc., in the dust collector system, Mr. Downard has been instructed to make a monthly velometer survey of this system. These surveys will be kept on file in the Personnel Department.

Future investigative and corrective work is planned for the crusher department in regard to the following items:

- a. Belt scrapers
- b. Belt tensioning pulleys
- c. Mist sprays in cone crusher and jaw crusher chutes

These items are not critical at the present time due to the high moisture content of the ore, however, with the return of warm weather, these items must be corrected.

CRASH CLEAN-UP PROGRAM

1. The spray washer system installed in the crushing department during the month of January is being used. However, this system does not function adequately if more than one pellet on a particular loader is used simultaneously. Mr. Papp is investigating the problem and will institute corrective action if possible.

CRASH CLEAN-UP PROGRAM

1. Incinerator for burning filter press papers has not been installed as yet.
2. The vacuum hood over the hearth toaster is being used but without a collector bag. Future work on this unit may be necessary if the bag installation cuts the air velocity through the hood opening below 100 f.p.s.

COLORADO RIVER SAMPLING PROGRAM

1. The regular monthly river water and effluent samples were collected. Assaying of these samples is being delayed until the radiation laboratory is renovated.
2. A request for extension of our river water sampling and testing period was submitted to Mr. H. L. Price, Director of Division of Licensing and Regulation on February 15, 1960. To date, no answer has been received from Mr. Price. In an oral conversation with Mr. Cunningham of his office, we were led to believe that no opposition to this request would be made.

SPECIAL PROGRAM

1. No urine samples collected this month.
2. We are still waiting for the "electric eye" monitor equipment.
3. Complete velometer survey made of the crushing plant on February 17.

Results on file in the Personnel Department.

4. Continuation of our monthly effluent composite for chemical and radioactive elements analysis.

B. B. Winn
Plant Metallurgist