

June 9, 1997

MEMORANDUM TO: C. F. Frazier, Acting Chief, Materials Licensing Branch

FROM: B. L. Jorgensen, Chief, Decommissioning Branch Orig. Signed by

SUBJECT: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE REQUEST: DECOMMISSIONING  
BRANCH RESPONSE AND CONCLUSIONS REGARDING ITS  
REVIEW OF A DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY'S CLOSE-OUT  
SURVEY (CONTROL NO. 302444)

As requested in MLB's May 22, 1997, memorandum my staff has reviewed the licensee's *INDUSTRIAL RADIATION SURVEY NO. 27-MH-5113-96, FACILITY CLOSE-OUT AND TERMINATION SURVEY, MCALESTER ARMY AMMUNITION PLANT, MCALESTER, OK*, and the Chemrad August 29-30, 1995, "USRADS and INRAD Systems" *Indoor Radiological Survey of Building MAC03F and Building MAC608F located at McAlester Army Ammunition Plant*. These reports were attached to the licensee's letter dated March 17, 1997. Based on the review of the submittal, and past license and inspection information, we have concluded that the licensee has adequately assessed this former materials storage area, and that the licensee's amendment request should be issued.

The bases for this recommendation are as follows:

1. The potential source terms for generation of residual contamination within the facilities to be released were low. That is, the residual contamination was associated with DU penetrator machining equipment which were seal wrapped, on platforms (shipping pallets). Further, no processing or handling of unsealed materials had been performed in the facilities.
2. Routine environmental radiological contamination surveys were performed by the licensee while the equipment was in storage and no fixed or removal contamination was found exceeding release guidelines on building surfaces.
3. The confirmatory survey (Indust Radn Survey No. 27-MH-5113-96, *Facility Close-out and Termination Survey, 18 July 96-30 Aug 96*) satisfactorily demonstrated that the buildings met NRC guidelines for unrestricted release.

Note: The letter transmitting the amendment should clearly indicate that this release was based on the Army's close-out survey, and not the Chemrad survey. Although Chemrad's "USRAD and INSRAD Systems" were well documented and did not reveal contamination in excess of NRC guideline limits, several technical questions were identified during this review.

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On June 3, 1997, Mr. David Fauver, NRC Division of Waste Management was contacted to discuss this computer based radiological survey system. Mr. Fauver indicated that we had not reviewed or approved this system to date, and that he felt we should review this system closely (i.e., TAR to HQ) prior to basing a release on the survey.

On June 3, 1997, Mr. Gary Buckrop was contacted for this request) and advised that the buildings could be authorized for release based on the Army survey, but if the Army desired the release to be based on both surveys that the NRC amendment would be delayed due to the necessity of forwarding the request to HQ. Mr. Buckrop was also advised that even if the amendment was issued without incorporating the other survey, we would forward the Chemrad survey to HQ for review, and would forward our comments to him under separate cover. Mr. Buckrop advised Mr. McCann (same day) that the Army wished to proceed with the request, rather than waiting for the TAR.

Should you or your staff have any questions, or need clarification of the above, please do not hesitate to contact me or Mr. McCann.

cc: D. Fauver, DWM  
L. Hueter, RIII

bcc: PUBLIC (IE 07)

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