

MEMORANDUM TO:

Ronald R. Bellamy, Chief

June 2, 1997

Decommissioning and Laboratory Branch, Region I

FROM:

John W. N. Hickey, Chief

Low-Level Waste and Decommissioning

Projects Branch

[ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:]

Division of Waste Management, NMSS

SUBJECT:

RESPONSE TO MAY 16, 1997, TAR REGARDING
NORTON COMPANY

This memorandum responds to your May 16, 1997, Technical Assistance Request (TAR) regarding the Norton Company, License No. STB-00770. Per your request, Low-Level Waste and Decommissioning Projects Branch (LLDP) staff reviewed the "Remarks" section of the TAR that describes a scenario for evaluating the acceptability of residual contamination in buried pipes. We agree with the generic method described. This method is only applicable to sites that are decommissioning using the criteria in place before the "Final Rule on Radiological Criteria for License Termination" was approved by the Commission on May 21, 1997. Any assessments performed to demonstrate compliance with the new rule should be forwarded to LLDP for review.

In general, the acceptability of leaving contamination in a buried pipe should be supported by an ALARA analysis performed by the responsible party. The ALARA analysis should consider the effort expended to characterize and remediate the pipe, as well as other site-specific factors that may affect the cost/benefit of additional action. It appears that Norton included information related to ALARA in the submittal to Region I, but the TAR provides limited information on the content and detail of the submittal. Therefore, we are making no recommendations as to the suitability of the pipe for unrestricted use at this time. If you would like our assistance in reviewing the ALARA evaluation for this site, please contact us. In addition, we did not perform detailed technical reviews of the RESRAD or Microshield runs performed by Region I.

Contact: Dave Fauver, NMSS
301-415-6625

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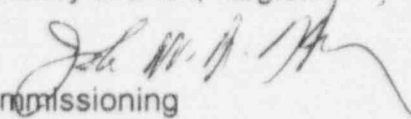
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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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If you have questions regarding this response, please contact Dave Fauver at (301) 415-6625.

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NAME	JBuckley	DFauver <i>DNF</i>	LBell <i>DNF</i>	JHickey				
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