



UNITED STATES
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20545

October 27, 1972

Note to Files

KERR-MCGEE LICENSE SUB-1010, DOCKET NO. 40-8027

I received a telephone call on October 25, 1972, from Mr. Francis Irving, attorney for Kerr-McGee. He asked if we had received the letter from Kerr-McGee requesting an informal meeting on deep-well disposal prior to a hearing if Kerr-McGee chooses to ask for one. Mr. Irving's concern was that the deadline (October 30) for filing a request for a hearing may pass before they receive a decision from us on their request for an informal meeting. I told Mr. Irving that we have received their letter and have it under consideration. I also indicated that we hope to have a reply in the mail before the October 30 deadline and that we would telephone them to let them know what the reply contains. I further informed Mr. Irving that if the deadline for filing a request for a hearing passes before they get a reply from us, they would be given further opportunity to consider our reply and subsequently request a hearing if they so desired.

REC

Richard E. Cunningham
Assistant Director for Materials
Directorate of Licensing

cc: S. H. Smiley
J. C. Malaro
C. R. Buchanan
J. M. Becker
G. R. Grove

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Note to Files

MEETING WITH KERR-MCGEE - DEEP WELL DISPOSAL - SEQUOYAH FACILITY
NOVEMBER 20, 1972

At Kerr-McGee's request in a letter dated October 16, 1972, a meeting was arranged to let Kerr-McGee review in detail their proposal for deep well disposal of low level waste before deciding whether the company should pursue a hearing in the matter of our denial of the proposal on September 29, 1972. The meeting was held in the Phillips Building. Enclosed is a list of attendees.

Kerr-McGee representatives and their consultant, H. J. Gruy and Associates, presented additional geological data and explained the geological model for the disposal well in greater detail than was presented in their application. The information presented more fully defined the boundaries for the disposal formation and Mr. Gruy explained what he felt could be expected from the geological formation and what could not be clearly defined. For example, he was confident of the capacity of the formation, and that it would contain the radioactive waste and that the wastes would not migrate in a vertical direction. However, he could not say with certainty where the lateral location of the wastes would be in any particular layer of the disposal formation. AEC consultants Dr. Don L. Warner, University of Missouri School of Mines and Metallurgy, and Mr. George D. DeBuchananne of the U. S. Geological Survey, asked several questions about the model and the geology of the area. Kerr-McGee presented additional geological maps of the disposal area reflecting boundaries for the five different layers used for disposal and other data on how the well would be operated and monitored. Kerr-McGee believes the disposal well would confine the waste and that it is a more acceptable means of disposal than the settling basins presently used. Mr. Gruy pointed out that the pressure in the well could be monitored and that an abnormal drop in pressure would indicate that wastes are moving out of the formation faster than predicted by the model. He believes that migration would be lateral rather than vertical migration. Mr. Gruy said that all models which they have

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developed for the petroleum industry for the past 15 years have proven to be correct when tested. Kerr-McGee was told that the AEC, with the aid of their geological consultants, would study the additional information presented and inform Kerr-McGee in writing of our conclusions. The following avenues were listed as probable alternatives:

1. A decision may be made that deep well disposal is not acceptable as proposed and the denial would then stand as issued. However, the AEC would entertain a new application requesting authorization to conduct deep well disposal operation.
2. Deep well disposal might be approved for a limited period (5 years) with appropriate restrictions and monitoring requirements.

Kerr-McGee was told that if the AEC decided to approve their deep well disposal, they would likely be required to support the proposal with an environmental report which would include a cost/benefit/risk analysis.

After the meeting Messrs. Malero, Buchanan, Grove and Cunningham met with Dr. Warner and Mr. DeBuchananne for a short discussion of the information presented at the meeting. Both DeBuchananne and Warner feel that the additional information given to us by Kerr-McGee warranted further study. However, they felt the situation wasn't changed much by the new information and that there are still uncertainties with respect to the geology and the use of such a well for disposal. They felt that Kerr-McGee did not adequately address the question of alternative methods of disposal in their application. Mr. DeBuchananne said that Kerr-McGee's deep well disposal might be acceptable on a temporary basis provided AEC incorporated appropriate monitoring requirements in the license. Both Dr. Warner and Mr. DeBuchananne are to give us their comments and recommendations in writing after further study of the information presented at the meeting.

C. R. Buchanan
Materials Branch
Directorate of Licensing

Enclosure:
List of Attendees

OFFICE ▶						
SURNAME ▶						
DATE ▶						

NAME	ORGANIZATION	POSITION
G. R. GROVE	AEC	Tech Asst to Dep Dir
J. J. RODGERS	H. J. GRAY; Assoc.	CONSULTING ENGR
H. J. GRAY	✓	✓
T. M. WEST	Kerr-McGee	Genl. Mgr.
FRANCIS S. IRVING	✓	ATTORNEY
Richard E. Cunningham	AEC	AD Materials
DAVID J. FOLEY	Kerr-McGee	Supr. Proj. Eng.
CECIL R. BUCHANAN	AEC	ASST CHIEF, MATLS BR.
George D. DeBucharanne	U.S. G.S.	Chief ^{WRD} Office Radiochemistry
DON L. WARNER	UNIV. OF MISSOURI	PROF OF GEOL ENGR
Jim Malano	AEC	Chf Math Branch
George B. PARKS	Kerr-McGee	Executive Vice President



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Cecil R. Buchanan

C. R. Buchanan
Materials Branch
Directorate of Licensing

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List of Attendees

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J. D. RODGERS	H. J. Gray; Assoc.	CONSULTING ENGR
A. J. GRAY	✓	✓
T. M. WEST	Kerr-McGee	Asst. Dir. -
FRANCIS S. IRVING	✓	ATTORNEY
P. Lord Cunningham	AEC	Asst. Dir. AD Materials
DAVID J. FOLEY	Kerr-McGee	Mgr. Proj. Eng. -
CECIL R. BUCHANAN	AEC	Asst. Chief, MATLS BR.
George D. DeBouchardonne	USGS	Chief ^{WRD} Office Radiology
DOUG L. WARNER	UNIV OF MISSOURI	PROF OF GEOL ENG.
Jim Malano	AEC	Chf Math Branch
George B. FARKES	Kerr-McGee	Executive Vice President

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James F. Wagner, Chief
Central Accounts Branch, OC

BILLING ADDRESS - KERR-McGEE CORPORATION

Please send invoices and correspondence relating to the following
licenses to the address listed below:

35-12636-02	Kerr-McGee Corporation
35-12636-03	Kerr-McGee Building
35-12636-06	Nuclear Division
SMA-826	Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
SUB-1010	73102
SME-1174	

The above address change was requested on March 1, 1973, by Tip Sapin
of Kerr-McGee Corporation.

Original Signed by
Wm. O. Miller

William O. Miller
Business Management Branch
Office of Administration -
Regulation

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