

**KERR-McGEE NUCLEAR CORPORATION**

KERR-McGEE CENTER • OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73125

July 30, 1974



Mr. J. E. Rothfleisch
Materials Branch
Directorate of Licensing
U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D.C. 20545

Dear Mr. Rothfleisch:

Please refer to my letter dated July 26, 1974, transmitting answers to comments by the U.S. Dept. of Interior, June 18, 1974, on the AEC's Draft Environmental Statement on our Sequoyah Facility, License #SUB-1010, Docket #40-8027.

An error was made in the first paragraph of page 6 of the Attachment, and I am enclosing 10 copies of the corrected page to be inserted.

Again, if we can furnish additional information, please let us know.

Sincerely yours,

W. J. Shelley, Director
Regulation and Control

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Rupture of Waste Retention Pond Embankment

Water from the Illinois River at the time of the construction of the plant before the erection of Robert S. Kerr Reservoir did indeed tend to hug the east bank of the Arkansas and could be observed from the air to remain in an unmixed condition for several miles. Since the completion of the Robert S. Kerr Reservoir and especially the erection of a diversion dike by the Corps of Engineers across the Arkansas River and downstream for several hundred feet, this condition no longer exists. The Illinois River water does not appear to be separated as previously observed, though one may assume that a separation exists on the bottom of the river for some distance into the Arkansas due to density differences caused by differences of temperature.

The generation of windblown spray by prevailing winds has not been observed nor measured around the raffinate storage ponds due to the practice of maintaining a minimum of 3' of freeboard as can be seen by the attached graph which updates the instrument provided in Supplement #3 dated August 1973. The freeboards in the ponds have always been maintained at greater than 3'. It is evident that some wave action occurs in the ponds by the disturbance of the dike immediately above water level, but no impairment of plant growth has been observed due to windblown sprays.

Comments on the balance of this paragraph is contained in the special report on geology.

Pond Seepage

Please refer to the special report on subsurface geology.

Evaporating Pond

The inclusion of the discussion of evaporative ponds under Supplement #3 is intended to illustrate an alternate, not to