

Regulatory

File Cy.

DOCKET NO. 40-8027



KERR-McGEE CORPORATION

KERR-McGEE BUILDING • OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73102

June 8, 1973



Mr. L. C. Rouse, Chief
Fuel Fabrication and Reprocessing Branch
Directorate of Licensing
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D.C. 20545

Dear Mr. Rouse:

Please refer to your letter of May 3, 1973, amending License No. SUB-1010 to authorize the treatment of raffinate in accordance with our application dated March 7 and supplement dated April 4. After reviewing results of recent treatment tests, we wish to request an exception for the 1973 growing season for the constraint on Radium 226 concentration in the treated raffinate used as fertilizer material of 1 pCi/l.

This request results from recent experience accumulated with testing and treatment methods on a continuous basis. We find that the configuration of our equipment does not permit the degree of control previously described in results of batch tests reported to you in our application and supplement. During this initial test period while evaluation of equipment efficiencies and further optimization of our process is under way, we propose a level of 10 pCi/l as maximum. In view of the highly controlled nature of this test on privately owned Kerr-McGee property, we believe that the proposed level of control at about 1/3 of current 10 CFR 20 levels provides sufficient protection against irreversible damage to the environment beyond Kerr-McGee property.

As you know, current drinking water standards specify a limit of 3 pCi/l for Radium 226. The "Report of the National Technical Advisory Committee to the Secretary of the Interior on Water Quality Criteria," April 1, 1968, page 163, concludes that irrigation water containing levels of Radium 226 meeting



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drinking water standards would not cause detrimental effects to soils for at least a period of 40 years. We, therefore, conclude that this exception will not damage the test area during the short time proposed.

May we please have your prompt consideration and approval of this proposed exception.

Sincerely,



W. J. Shelley, Director
Regulation and Control
Nuclear Division

WJS:ml

FROM:

Kerr-McGee Corporation
Oklahoma City, OK

DATE OF DOCUMENT:

Apr. 26, 1973

DATE RECEIVED

Apr. 26, 1973

NO.:

2742

LTR.

MEMO:

REPORT:

OTHER:

X

TO:

L. C. Rouse

ORIG.:

CC:

OTHER:

X

TVX

ACTION NECESSARY

☐

CONCURRENCE

☐

DATE ANSWERED

NO ACTION NECESSARY

☐

COMMENT

☐

BY:

CLASSIF.:

U

POST OFFICE

REG. NO.:

Docket No. 40-8027

DESCRIPTION: (Must Be Unclassified)

TVX req. urgent approval w/ for
submerged combustion burner and
raffinate treatment test.....

REFERRED TO

DATE

RECEIVED BY

DATE

Rouse:

4/26

w/extra

ENCLOSURES:

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Distribution:

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1-PDR

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REMARKS:

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