



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION II  
101 MARIETTA STREET, N.W.  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

NOV 2 1978

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Mr. James L. Setser  
Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
Environmental Protection Division  
270 Washington Street, Room 825  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Dear Mr. Setser:

In response to your verbal request for a summary of the technical results of the Dawsonville aerial surveillance which were presented at the meeting that you attended at the NRC RII office on October 20, 1978, my staff has prepared the following:

The Project Scientist from EG&G, Mr. T. W. Maguire, presented the results with the following in attendance:

J. W. Hufham, NRC-II  
D. M. Montgomery, NRC-II  
J. R. Allen, NRC-II  
K. M. Clark, NRC-II  
E. C. Ashley, NRC-Office of State Programs  
J. L. Setser, State of Georgia, Dept. of Natural Resources  
W. E. Cline, State of Georgia, Dept. of Natural Resources  
T. R. Phillips, State of Georgia, Dept. of Natural Resources  
A. Simanis, State of Georgia, Dept. of Human Resources  
T. S. Maley, Lockheed - Georgia Corp.  
H. N. Edmondson, Lockheed - Georgia Corp.  
W. E. Ahrens, EG&G

The results were summarized on an aerial photograph with an overlay showing isodose lines in  $\mu\text{R/hr}$ . The overlay and photograph discussed at the meeting are available in our office if additional examination is desired. The survey of the Dawson Forest Wildlife Management Area (formerly the Lockheed Radiation Effects Facility) by EG&G during the period by June 7-13, 1978 showed the following:

1. The technical information provided immediately following the overflight was verified.
2. No contaminated areas outside the Dawsonville Site boundaries were detected.
3. A survey along the banks of the Etowah River downstream from the site showed no elevated radioactivity levels.

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4. The results of previous surveys by the State of Georgia which showed elevated  $^{60}\text{Co}$  levels were confirmed.
5. The areas identified by the aerial survey are given below along with the net exposure rates from  $^{60}\text{Co}$  at one meter above the ground.
  - a. Reactor Area, 8-12  $\mu\text{R/hr}$ .
  - b. Cooling Off Area, 29-40  $\mu\text{R/hr}$ .
  - c. Hot Cell Area, 2.7-4.5  $\mu\text{R/hr}$
  - d. Seepage Pit approximately 0.5 miles from Hot Cell, 2.7-4.5  $\mu\text{R/hr}$ .

An area near the Seepage Pit which was identified by the State's ground level surveys as having elevated levels was not confirmed by the aerial survey. It should be noted that the exposure rates are for  $\text{Co}^{60}$  (natural background is not included) and are averaged over the field of view of the detection system (800-900 ft in diameter). This averaging effect leads to exposure rates which are usually somewhat less than those determined by ground surveys. Thus, ground surveys may be more useful and accurate for evaluating potential exposure of the public.

6. In addition to the areas identified above, the survey showed elevated count rates in the  $^{60}\text{Co}$  energy range in ten areas within the site. The count rates were above background rates but were too low for spectral identification of  $^{60}\text{Co}$ . Mr. Maguire indicated at the meeting that the elevated count rates may have resulted from electronic noise. However, ground level surveys would be necessary to determine the locations of any actual sources. We understand that you are currently surveying these designated areas. The exposure rates in these areas were less than in the seepage pit area.

We regret the delay in presenting the results of the Dawsonville overflight, but as indicated by Mr. Maguire, the technical results were delayed by technical problems and assignment of equipment and personnel to other surveys especially the DOE surveys in the Pacific.

It is our understanding that a written summary from EG&G will be available within the next few months but a complete report will not be available for approximately one year. The complete report will not present any technical information different from that identified at the meeting. As soon as this office receives information from EG&G, a copy of the information will be forwarded to you. I hope the briefing and this confirmation summary will be adequate for your use.



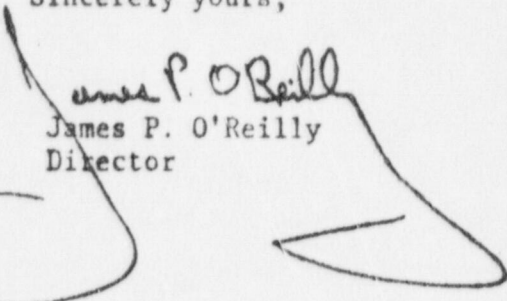
Mr. James L. Setser

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If you have any further questions concerning evaluations, or related considerations, please contact Mr. J. W. Hufham of this office.

Sincerely yours,

  
James P. O'Reilly  
Director

cc: Attendees



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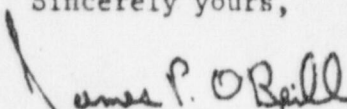
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Sincerely yours,

  
James P. O'Reilly  
Director

cc: Attendees

