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EV-131

"Environmental Impact Evaluation and Engineering Plan" for the Remedial Action at the Former Kellex Laboratory, Jersey City, New Jersey

Robert J. Stern, Acting Director NEPA Affairs Division

ECT is initiating the necessary activities required to accomplish the remedial action to correct conditions of radiological contamination at the former Kellex site. The proposed action entails the excavation of some spotty areas of radiological contaminated soil. The details and findings of the Environmental Impact Evaluation of the proposed remedial action were discussed at a meeting on June 22, 1979, that was attended by Mr. C. Kouts of your staff. In addition, Mr. Kouts was given a copy of the subject report.

We believe, based upon the Environmental Impact Evaluation, that the remedial action proposed for the former Kellex Corporation site, Jersey City, New Jersey, is not a major Federal action and has no significant impact on the environment. The project will improve the general environment of the area by eliminating the potential for exposure of the public to radiation being emitted from contaminated soil presently on the property.

Because of the location and use of this property, failure to expedite the necessary remedial action could adversely impact the economic welfare of the persons owning or planning to use the property. Possible adverse effects of the action include potential exposure of employees to radioactivity from airborne material created during the decontamination, and the possibility of spreading the contamination during the action. Both possibilities are remote since the amount of contaminated material is relatively small and the remedial action will be radiologically monitored. The procedures to be used for decontamination have been designed to prevent the generation of dust and spreading of material.

We recommend that no additional NEPA documentation be required as the project does not have a significant impact on the environment and is on balance beneficial. We want to begin the remedial action by the end of this month to expedite the clearance of this property and allow construction by its owner to proceed unimpeded. I would appreciate your response to this recommendation as soon as possible.

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William E. Mott, Acting Director

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