

CT. 14-3

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20545

CTS
3:1 NL

JUN 20 1990

CT. 14

Mr. Glen Sjoblom
Deputy Director
Division of Industrial
and Medical Nuclear Safety
Office of Nuclear Materials
Safety and Safeguards
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

Dear Mr. Sjoblom:

As a part of its Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP), the U. S. Department of Energy (DOE) is trying to identify all sites and facilities where radioactive materials were handled, processed or used in support of Manhattan Engineer District (MED) and Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) activities from 1942 through the mid-1960's. The authority to conduct remedial action under FUSRAP, derived from the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, is limited to those sites operated prior to the establishment of AEC licensing requirements and at sites that were subsequently used but not licensed. The purpose of this letter is to advise of actions being considered by the Department with respect to several recently identified sites that were apparently operated under AEC Material Licenses. We request your assistance in locating information on these sites.

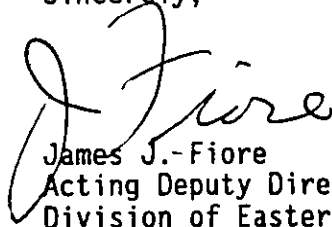
DOE previously notified NRC of several sites where licenses were held by AEC contractors and suppliers. This letter supplements the information in the earlier letter. A copy of the earlier letter, dated May 14, 1986, is enclosed for your convenience (Enclosure 1).

We believe several of the most recent sites have or had licenses. These are listed in Enclosure 2, which also includes a summary of known information about each site.

We also would appreciate any information NRC might have concerning several other sites that were or might have been licensed by the AEC due to the significant quantities of radioactive materials handled or processed during the early 1960's. A third list, Enclosure 3, lists some sites which handled large amounts of radioactive materials. Although DOE has no records to indicate that these sites were licensed, it is possible that they were because of the large amounts of materials handled at these sites. The Commission's records (if any) would be a valuable source of accurate information for these sites. If the Commission has any records relevant to these sites, we would appreciate a copy.

I would like to meet with you or your staff to discuss these sites further. To arrange a meeting, I will call you in about a week, or you can call me at 353-4716.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. Fiore".

James J.-Fiore
Acting Deputy Director
Division of Eastern Area Programs
Office of Environmental Restoration

3 Enclosures



Department of Energy
Washington, D.C. 20545

MAY 14 1986

Mr. William T. Crow, Acting Director
Uranium Fuel Licensing Branch
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
7915 Eastern Avenue
Silver Spring, Maryland 20555

Dear Mr. Crow:

The Department of Energy (DOE), as a part of its Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP), is conducting efforts to identify all sites and facilities, primarily in the private sector, where radioactive materials were handled, processed or used in support of Manhattan Engineer District (MED) and Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) activities during the period 1942 through the mid-1960's. As you know, the authority to conduct remedial action under FUSRAP, derived from the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, is limited to those sites operated prior to the establishment of AEC licensing requirements and at sites that were subsequently used but not licensed. The purpose of this letter is to advise of actions being considered by the Department with respect to several sites recently identified that were apparently operated under AEC Source Material Licenses and to request your assistance in locating information on several other sites that might have been licensed by the AEC due to the significant quantities of uranium metal handled or processed during the early 1960's.

During a recent review of records maintained at the DOE Feed Materials Processing Center (FMPC) by the National Lead Company of Ohio (NLO), a number of sites were identified that performed work in areas described above under subcontract or purchase order with NLO. Unfortunately, information describing the operations at each of these sites, and particularly the radiological status of the sites at the time work was completed or contracts were terminated, is limited. However, we were able to obtain the numbers for AEC source material licenses that were apparently in effect at the time work was performed at four of the sites. Our contractor (Aerospace Corporation) determined from discussion with you that one of the sites, American Bearing Company, had a license covering the type of operations conducted for the AEC through National Lead and that the site had been decontaminated to NRC satisfaction (Enclosure 1, Part A). Further coordination with NRC's Material Licensing Branch (FCML) records center revealed that three additional sites identified in the FMPC records were operated under Source Material Licenses that have since been terminated (also Enclosure 1, Part A), and three sites are currently operating under active NRC licenses (Enclosure 1, Part B).

The four sites in Enclosure 1, Part A, referred to above were operated under AEC source material licenses and are assumed to be under NRC

jurisdiction. These sites will be eliminated from further consideration under FUSRAP, unless further information is obtained from you to indicate otherwise within the next 30 days. We have assumed that these sites were cleaned up to NRC's satisfaction as a condition of license termination.

Part B of Enclosure 1 also includes information on three sites identified in the FMPC records which are currently operating under active NRC licenses. These three sites will also be eliminated from further consideration under FUSRAP due to the limited amount of information identified in the records (suggesting the operations were relatively small) and the small quantities of radioactive material believed to have been involved in operations at the site. Please notify us within the next 30 days if you have information that suggests there is a need for further investigation of these sites.

Sites listed in Enclosure 2 are those NLO subcontractors identified as having AEC licenses that have been terminated. As indicated above, information describing the extent of the operations and the radiological status of the sites at the termination of the AEC work is limited and is summarized in the enclosure. We do not know if the license had any relation to the NLO work, but the NRC docket under which the licenses were retired might provide some information to assist in evaluating the potential for contamination and/or the DOE authority for remedial action, if required, under FUSRAP. However, our contractor has not been able to locate dockets for these sites through your docket room. Therefore, your assistance is requested in locating and obtaining access to the records contained in the dockets identified in this Enclosure.

Although over 80 sites, including those described above, were identified during our review of the FMPC records, the use of radioactive materials at most of these sites was limited to test quantities for research and development or equipment proof testing. Most of these sites were probably never licensed. However, at the six sites identified in Enclosure 3, operations were extended over a considerable period during the later 1950's and early 1960's and involved up to ton quantities of uranium metal and/or other radioactive material. Therefore, it is possible that these facilities may have been licensed. At three of the sites, several hundred tons of uranium slugs were machined and centerless ground, thus creating a considerable potential for residual radioactive contamination if the sites were not properly decontaminated upon completion of the work. If these sites were licensed, records maintained by the NRC may be a source of reliable information to assess the potential for contamination and/or the authority for remedial action under FUSRAP. We have not been able to identify any license information to date. Therefore, your assistance is requested to determine if information is available on the operations at these sites.

In the interest of economy, the Department will continue to assemble as much information as can be found on these sites to determine the potential for residual radioactive contamination and to resolve the questions of authority to conduct remedial action, before resorting to expensive and time consuming radiological surveys to determine the current radiological

status of the sites. Therefore, a response to this request for assistance at your earliest convenience would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

151

Edward G. DeLaney, Director
Division of Facility and Site
Decommissioning Projects
Office of Nuclear Energy

3 Enclosures

ENCLOSURE 2

AEC LICENSED SITES - BY-PRODUCTS LICENSES TERMINATED

- | <u>Subcontractors</u> | <u>License Numbers</u> |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1. Dorr Company Stamford, CT | Nr. 06-17272-01 (By-Product) (Docket #030-12480) (Retired 6/30/82) |

Description of Operations:

The company conducted Westport tests, ammonium diurate calcinated in a Fluo-Solid test reactor. Tests were conducted in 1954. Significant alpha contamination (air dust up to 9,347 d/m/cubic meter) was measured during operations. Decontamination activities at termination of work unknown.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 2. General Electric Plant Shelbyville, IN | Nr. 13-15523-01 (By-Product) (Docket #030-09267) (Retired 1983) |
|--|---|

Description of Operations:

Approximately 500 pounds of thorium (small pieces) were compacted into electrodes on 25 and 26 June 1956. Correspondence indicates that equipment and facilities were decontaminated. Results of the decontamination effort (specifics) unknown.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 3. Petrolite Corporation St. Louis, MO | Nr. 24-10452-01 (By-Product) (Docket #030-05117) (Retired 1978) |
|---|---|

Description of Operations:

The only information available is that the operations took place in September 1959 under Purchase Order with NLO. Test quantities of radioactive material, other than metal, were involved.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 4. Ohmart Corporation Cincinnati, OH | Nr. SNM-1091 (Part 70 License) (Docket #070-01144) (Retired 11/31/78) (Several other licenses retired) |
|---|---|

Description of Operations:

The only information concerning operations at this site was found in correspondence indicating a polonium spill in 1954.