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Dow - RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

July 9, 1957

Mr. Robert G. Heits
Research Department
The Dow Chemical Company
Post Office Box 351
Pittsburg, California

Dear Mr. Heits:

Mr. E. C. VanKlaren has informed me of the arrangements that have been made to conclude the research work in which you have been concerned since 1948. This action is in accord with our policy of fostering private participation to the greatest extent possible in all phases of the uranium industry. I am sure that the individuals in your organization who have been involved in this work, with the background they have acquired over the past nine years, are well fitted to continue the work under private industry sponsorship for the benefit of the uranium industry.

A review of the work done in your laboratory in connection with this contract under the leadership of Dr. Bailes reveals that this group has participated in the solution of substantially all of the major research undertakings of the Division of Raw Materials. Several outstanding contributions deserve special comment.

The application of anion exchange resins to the recovery of uranium from leaching liquors was a major breakthrough in metallurgy during the early years of the Commission's program. The part which The Dow Chemical Company played in this development in cooperation with other active organizations was most commendable.

The recognition of the usefulness of solvents for extracting uranium from commercial phosphoric acid, the test work to demonstrate a process, and the assistance rendered in the commercial applications of the process were certainly outstanding contributions by the scientists in your group and reflect much credit to The Dow Chemical Company.

Your laboratory was the first to recognize the utility of long chain alkylphosphates for recovering uranium from the leach liquors of ore processing mills. Your staff proceeded to develop the technology of

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processes which today are finding successful application in the uranium industry. This accomplishment is recognized as an important contribution to the metallurgy and the economics of uranium recovery from ores.

The more recent work of this group of investigating certain new ideas for eliminating process steps between ore treatment and refined uranium products has pointed the way to further potential savings.

These outstanding results of your work, together with many other important contributions in other phases of the project, attest to the wisdom of selection of your company for research work and demonstrate the value of your contract to the Commission and to the uranium industry. Please accept my sincere compliments for a good job, well done.

I take this opportunity of wishing you success in your future activities in this field and assure you of our desire to cooperate with you.

Very sincerely yours,

Jesse C. Johnson
Director
Division of Raw Materials

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