

IN. 1-7



UNITED STATES
ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

OAK RIDGE OPERATIONS
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AREA CODE 615
TELEPHONE 483-861

March 10, 1977

Assistant Director for Health Protection, DSSC-HQ
ATTN: R. H. Kennedy, DSSC-HQ

ERDA RESURVEY PROGRAM: JOSLYN STAINLESS STEEL COMPANY, FORT WAYNE,
INDIANA

On October 23, 1976, H. W. Dickson and I visited the subject site to reassess the radiological status of those facilities utilized under AEC/MED contract during 1944-49 and to determine the need for a formal ERDA/ORNL survey. Discussions were held with Mr. Edwin E. Hodgess, Jr., Vice President-Operations who provided information on the AEC operations and identified those parts of the plant which were involved. Most of his information came from discussions with Paul Lauletta, a former Joslyn employee directly involved in the project. On the enclosed diagram showing the plant layout, the letters A through J indicate areas involved in uranium operation. Radiation measurements were made in all these areas using alpha and beta-gamma sensitive instruments and showed radiation levels to be generally indistinguishable from naturally occurring background levels. A trace of beta-gamma radiation approaching 0.1 mrad/hr was detected at an isolated spot in the Roll Shop (Area B). The maximum alpha reading found was 300 d/m/100 cm² and occurred on the wall in Area F.

Subsequent to the October 23 visit, a HASL memo reporting a radiation survey at Joslyn by A. R. Piccot on August 1, 1949, was provided to us by HQ (copy enclosed). Certain of the areas surveyed reportedly had readings of 20 mrad/hr and greater. It is doubtful that this was the final AEC radiation survey; however, discussions with current and former HASL staff (Al Breslin, Paul Klevin, and Hal Glauberman) have not completely clarified the matter. We have been unable to contact Mr. Piccot.

Conclusion: Since no radioactivity of significance was detected during the October 23, 1976, survey of Joslyn facilities and since tight accountability procedures required the return to AEC of any uranium cutting and grinding residues or oxide scale which was generated in the process, it is considered unlikely that pockets of radioactivity could exist under new concrete surfaces which would be of potential health and safety



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consequence. (Note: findings from our survey at Simonds Steel, Lockport, New York, revealed nothing representing a potential radiation safety problem and it is our understanding that the work at Joslyn was similar but on a smaller scale.)

Recommendation: It is recommended that no further ERDA survey be performed at Joslyn.

If you concur, the enclosed letter will be sent to Joslyn confirming our conclusions.



William T. Thornton
Health Protection Branch
Safety and Environmental Control Division

OSH:WTT

Enclosures:
As stated

cc: J. W. Range, PIO
W. H. Travis, S&EC