

OH.21-2

United States Government

*William*  
Department of Energy

# memorandum

FUSRAP 7362  
OH.21

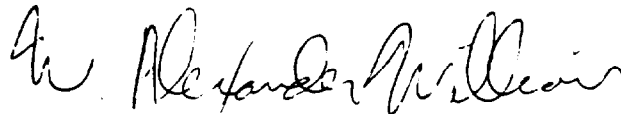
DATE: APR 8 1991

REPLY TO: EM-421  
ATTN OF:

SUBJECT: Elimination of the Magnus Brass Manufacturing Company from FUSRAP

TO: The File

The Magnus Brass Manufacturing Company Sites are hereby eliminated from consideration in the Department of Energy's Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP). The Department of Energy does not have the authority under the Atomic Energy Act to further investigate the sites, which are located at 533 Reading Road and 1029 West Seventh Street in Cincinnati, Ohio. The lack of authority is more fully explained in the attached Authority Review. The Department of Energy does not have any further information concerning the radiological status of the sites; accordingly, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, and the Ohio Department of Health have been notified of the prior use of these locations for machining and processing uranium metal.



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Attachment

bcc:  
Weston  
EM-40 (3)  
EM-42 (2)  
Williams reader

EM-421:AWilliams:jh:353-8149:4/5/91:Elimmagn.waw

*W.A.*  
EM-421  
Williams  
4/5/91  
*W.A.*  
EM-421  
Wagner  
4/5/91

**Authority Review For  
Magnus Brass Manufacturing Company  
533 Reading Road  
1029 West 7th Street  
Cincinnati, Ohio**

**1. INTRODUCTION**

As part of the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP), the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has reviewed available information on the Magnus Brass Manufacturing Company sites in Cincinnati, Ohio. The sites are being investigated for potential inclusion in FUSRAP, which applies to certain sites previously involved with activities of the Manhattan Engineering District (MED) or U.S. Atomic Energy Commission (AEC), both DOE predecessors. Such sites may require remedial action if they have residual contamination from those previous activities. This review is conducted to determine whether DOE would have the authority for remedial action at the Magnus Brass sites.

Magnus Brass machined uranium at two sites in Cincinnati, Ohio. Neither site has been visited by the Department of Energy, and this review will clarify authority to conduct further investigations.

The remainder of this review consists of the following sections:

- Sections: 2. Operational History  
3. Current Conditions  
4. Authority Analysis  
5. Discussion and Conclusions  
6. Copies of References

The information presented in these sections is in summary form. Pertinent references are identified in the text and a copy included in Section 6 for further use.

**2. OPERATIONAL HISTORY**

The Magnus Brass Manufacturing Company machined various forms of uranium metal for National Lead Company of Ohio (NLO) under subcontract S-129 between approximately December 1954 and October 1957 (Ref. a). The work was performed at two locations. The work was begun by Magnus Brass at Reading Road and then was moved to a wing of the Magnus Metal Company on West 7th Street in approximately December 1955. Total production machining was on the order of two or three hundred billets. An accountability survey in July 1955 inventoried 8,353 kilograms of uranium at Magnus Brass.

Surveys were conducted by NLO at each location following the termination of operations. Both the equipment and buildings required decontamination in order to meet Atomic Energy Commission guidelines. Decontamination of the Reading Road location was conducted by Magnus Brass and paid for by NLO. There is no record of a follow-up survey by NLO. For the second location at 7th Street, there is no evidence of actual decontamination or a follow-up survey.

An industrial hygiene survey conducted by an NLO medical representative in April 1956 found air dust uranium levels above then-acceptable guidelines during machining operations.

### 3. CURRENT CONDITIONS

An on-site visit has not been conducted by the Department of Energy. According to current real estate directories, 533 Reading Road no longer exists. Industrial parks are now located at 521 and 561 Reading Road. A building is located at 1029 West 7th Street; however, the current tenant was not sure of the building's age. Disposition of machining equipment is unknown. Current owners of the Reading Road location of Magnus Brass could include Broadway Partners Limited, which owns 521 Reading Road, and William C. Schulte of 4311 Schulte Avenue, who owns 561 Reading Road. The owner of the 1029 West 7th Street site is not known; the current tenant is Retail Delivery Service (513-721-9955).

Because of the machining work performed and the conditions noted in historical documents, residual radioactive contamination may be present at either or both locations.

### 4. AUTHORITY ANALYSIS

The authority determination is made according to the FUSRAP protocol by considering the answers to five questions based on available records. The answers to these questions from a review of available information are provided below.

4.1 Was the site/operation owned by a DOE predecessor or did a DOE predecessor have significant control over the operations or site?

DOE and its predecessors have never owned the sites. Magnus Brass was apparently a subsidiary of the National Lead Company. NLO oversaw the machinery layout, suggested ventilation system designs, conducted radiological and occupational health surveys, and supplied the uranium for machining. The uranium was owned by the AEC.

4.2 Was a DOE predecessor agency responsible for maintaining or ensuring the environmental integrity of the site (i.e., was it responsible for clean-up)?

NLO surveyed both sites and recommended decontamination procedures. NLO also reimbursed Magnus Brass for cleanup of the first site. The Subcontract required NLO to furnish film badges and protective shoes and clothing for workers at Magnus Brass. However, the Magnus Brass subcontract has a release clause which relieves the Government and NLO from liability of any kind for damage to Magnus' property or personnel.

4.3 Is the waste or radioactive material on the site the result of DOE predecessor related operations?

Since the sites have not been surveyed, there is no evidence of waste or radioactive material. DOE predecessor operations would be the most likely cause of any residual radioactivity.

4.4 Is the site in need of further clean-up and was the site left in a non-acceptable condition as a result of DOE predecessor related activity?

The status of the sites is unknown.

4.5 Did the present owner accept responsibility for the site with the knowledge of its contaminated condition and that additional remedial measures are necessary before the site is acceptable for use without radiological restrictions?

There is no evidence that the sites were transferred in a contaminated condition or that the present owners have any knowledge of the prior uranium machining activity. Present owners have not been contacted.

## 5. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

The release clause in the Magnus Brass subcontract frees NLO and the Government from claims of personnel or property damage. Under these circumstances, DOE does not have the authority to remediate the Magnus Brass sites under the Atomic Energy Act, if such remediation were found to be necessary. Thus, further investigation by DOE is not warranted, because of the lack of authority.

## 6. COPIES OF REFERENCES

- a. NLO Subcontract No. S-129 with Magnus Brass Manufacturing Company; December 27, 1954.