NY.0-02-3

CERTIFICATION DOCKET
FOR
AL-TECH SPECIALTY STEEL CORPORATION
(THE FORMER ALLEGHENY-LUDLUM STEEL CORPORATION)
WATERVLIET, NEW YORK, AND OFFSITE PROPERTY IN
DUNKIRK, NEW YORK

Department of Energy
Office of Nuclear Energy
Office of Terminal Waste Disposal and Remedial Action
Division of Remedial Action Projects

CONTENTS

Certification Docket

Al-Tech Specialty Steel Corporation

(the Former Allegheny-Ludlum Steel Corporation)

Watervliet, New York, and Offsite Property in Dunkirk, New York

Introduction

The Department of Energy (DOE), Office of Nuclear Energy, Office of Terminal Waste Disposal and Remedial Action Projects (and/or predecessor agency, offices, and divisions) has reviewed the past activities of the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) at the former Allegheny-Ludlum Steel Corporation site (now Al-Tech Specialty Steel Corporation), Watervliet, New York, and completed a radiological screening survey at this facility and at an offsite property (Al-Tech Specialty Steel Corporation plant in Dunkirk, New York) where some equipment previously used in the Commission's operations is presently located. DOE has determined, based on a review of these surveys, that the conditions at both the Watervliet site and offsite property in Dunkirk are in compliance with current radiological guidelines and standards[1] and that no potential for radiological exposure to persons exists beyond those resulting from natural background. Therefore, the Watervliet site and offsite property in Dunkirk are not being considered for inclusion in the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program.

Purpose

The material in this docket consists of documents supporting the certification that the radiological conditions at the former Allegheny-Ludlum Steel Corporation site and offsite property are in compliance with current

[1] U.S. Department of Energy Interim Residual Contamination and Waste Control Guidelines for Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP) and Remote Surplus Facilities Management Program (SFMP) Sites, March 21, 1984.

radiological guidelines and standards determined to apply to this site and provides assurance that use of these areas will not result in any measurable radiological hazard to the general public.

The certification docket will be archived by the Department of Energy through the Assistant Secretary for management and Administration. Copies of this docket will be maintained by the Department at DOE Reading Room in Washington, D.C., so that it will be accessible to members of the general public.

Docket Contents

A brief summary of the site description, history, and activities of AEC are discussed in Exhibit I of the certification package.

Exhibit II of the certification docket contains copies of reports and correspondence supporting certification, a copy of the certification statement, and a copy of the Federal Register notice.

EXHIBIT I

Summary of Activities at the
Al-Tech Specialty Steel Corporation
(Former Allegheny-Ludlum Steel Corporation)
Watervliet, New York, and Offsite Property in Dunkirk, New York

Site History

The Al-Tech Watervliet plant was used in 1950, 1951, and 1952 for the processing of uranium metal for the AEC. The company, known as Allegheny-Ludlum at the time of the contract, rolled uranium billets into solid rods. The operation was on a developmental rather than a production scale. The contract called for the returning to the AEC all uranium-bearing material and any scrap generated in the operation to AEC. More definitive information on quantities of uranium processed is not available. The uranium operations were limited to the 14-inch rolling mill and an annealing furnace and were conducted only on weekends. AEC personnel were on hand during the rolling operations and carefully vacummed areas surrounding the rolling mill and made radiation measurements. However, no records are presently available. The primary purpose of the contract was to develop design criteria for the planned Fernald rolling mill. The 14-inch mill was removed in 1960 to a Dunkirk, New York, plant. The area where the mill operated in 1950 through 1951 is now used for metal and roller storage. The annealing furnace is still in use but could be any one of four electric furnaces. Furnace liner material was replaced several times in the interim. This material is believed to have been buried in the company disposal yard. The building housing the operation has been rearranged and expanded significantly since 1951.

Site Description

The facilities are owned and operated by Al-Tech Specialty Steel Corporation, formerly Allegheny-Ludlum Steel Corporation. The Watervliet site located on Spring Street Road was used for uranium processing and consists of a building and surrounding property (Figure 1). The offsite property is another Al-Tech plant located in Dunkirk, New York, where the old 14-inch mill is in use.

Radiological History and Status

On August 19, 1976, alpha and beta-gamma survey measurements were made by Oak Ridge National Laboratory and Oak Ridge Operations Office personnel on surfaces in the involved areas. Measurements were also made in the company disposal yard. Since 1973, Al-Tech has mined the yard for metal recovery. This resulted in the recovery of materials previously covered by many years of waste disposal, i.e., furnace liner bricks. All radiation levels measured at the plant were indistinguishable from the natural background radiation. Because no elevated radioactivity was detected and only uranium was handled, in a relatively nondispersible form and on a limited developmental scale, Oak Ridge National Laboratory concluded that any radioactive residue from the AEC contract operation was insignificant and further surveys were not required. Although the equipment was only used for a short period of time, it was determined that a survey of the 14-inch rolling mill relocated to the Dunkirk, New York, facility would be necessary. In September 1980, Oak Ridge National Laboratory surveyed those portions of the mill that were still available. Radiation was measured to be at background levels, and it was concluded that no potential health hazards exist due to AEC activities at either the Watervliet site or the offsite property in Dunkirk.

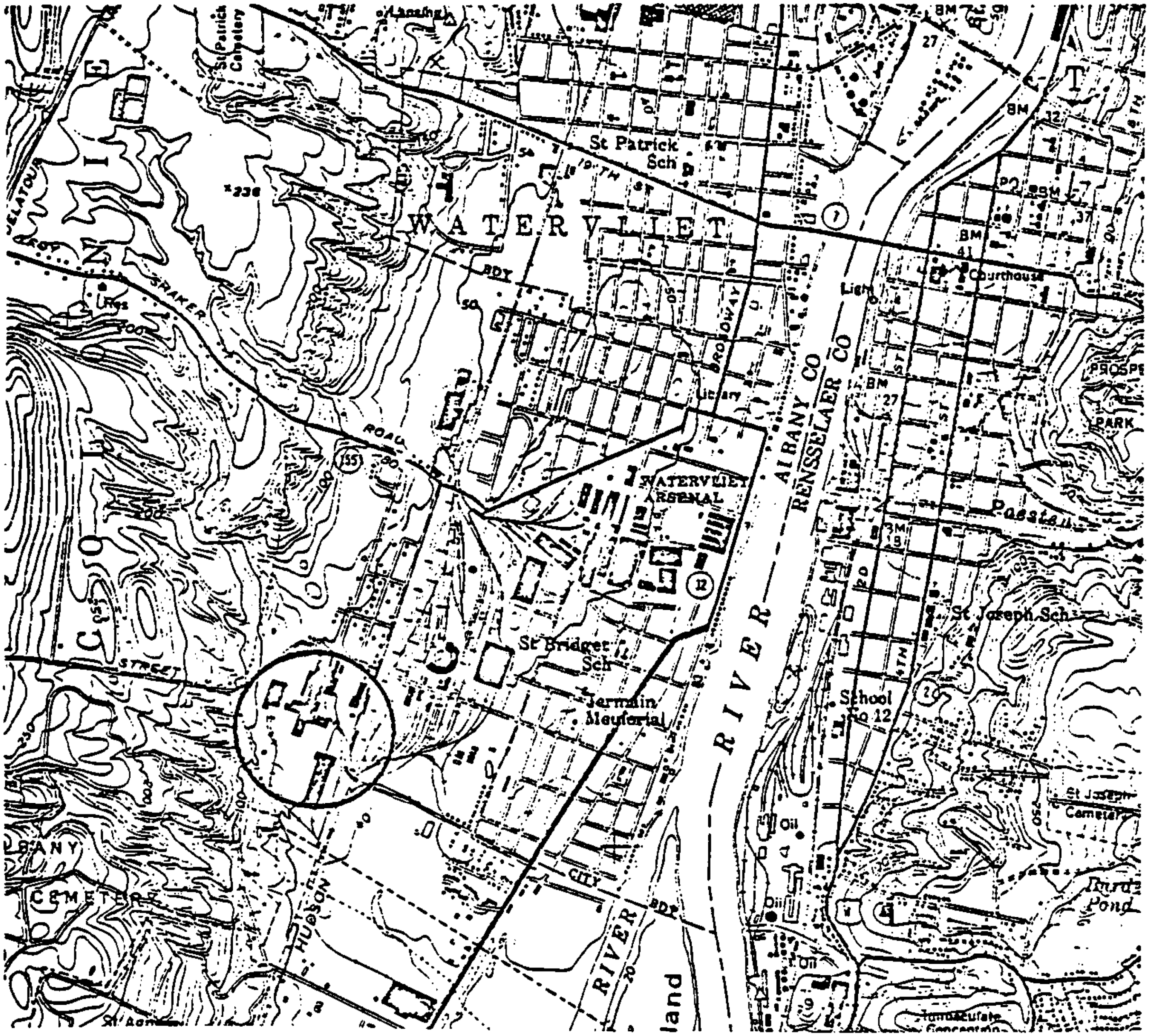

Figure 1. Location of the Al-Tech Specialty Steel Corporation in Watervliet, New York

EXHIBIT II

EXHIBIT II

Summary of Activities at the
Al-Tech Specialty Steel Corporation
(Former Allegheny-Ludlum Steel Corporation)
Watervliet, New York, and Offsite Property in Dunkirk, New York

- Thorton, William T. (OROO) to D.C. McCarter (Al-Tech Specialty Steel Corporation)--"Radiological Resurvey of Al-Tech Facilities Utilized in Early Atomic Energy Commission Contract Work," August 5, 1976.

- Thorton, William T. (ERDA) to E.K. Loop (DSSC-HQ)--"Report of Findings: Al-Tech Specialty Steel Corporation," September 20, 1976.

- Loop, E.K. (DSSC) to William T. Thorton (ERDA)--"Al-Tech Specialty Steel Corporation," September 29, 1976.

- ORNL Press Release: "ERDA Visits Watervliet Firm; No Plans for Further Survey," October 12, 1976.

- Hart, R.J. (ERDA) to D.C. McCarter (Al-Tech Specialty Steel Corporation)--"Radiological Status of Al-Tech Facilities Utilized in Early Atomic Energy Commission Contract Work," October 13, 1976.

- "Preliminary Survey of Al-Tech Specialty Steel Corporation, Watervliet, New York," Oak Ridge National Laboratory, March 1980.

- Haywood, F.F. (ORNL) to Arnold Abriss (DOE)--"RASCA - Survey of Rolling Mill Used by Al-Tech Specialty Steel Corporation, Dunkirk, New York," October 1, 1980 (report attached).

August 5, 1976

Mr. McCarter, Plant Manager
AL-Tech Speciality Steel Corporation
Post Office Box 91
Watervliet, New York 12189

Dear Mr. McCarter:

RADIOLOGICAL RESURVEY OF AL-TECH FACILITIES UTILIZED IN EARLY ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION CONTRACT WORK

This will confirm our discussions arranging for Energy Research and Development Administration representatives to visit those AL-Tech facilities in Watervliet, New York, which were utilized during the early 1950's for uranium metal rolling operations under AEC contract. On January 19, 1975, ERDA assumed control of all but the regulatory functions of AEC. As part of an overall ERDA program, the visit will assist us in evaluating the adequacy of existing radiation records and determining the need for additional surveys so the agency and the contractor may be assured that conditions do not exist which would be contrary to current guidelines for radiation control.

It is anticipated in the absence of adequate records that a radiation survey of involved areas may be necessary. If that is the case, we would hope on this visit to secure information to aid us in developing site specific plans in order to conduct a survey, with your permission, in the near future.

Mr. Fred Haywood of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory and I plan to arrive August 19, 1976, at 9:00 AM and will contact you upon arrival.

Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
W. L. THORNTON
William T. Thornton
Health Physicist
Health Protection Branch
Safety and Environmental Control Division

CSH:WTT

OK

cc: J. W. Range, PIC
R. H. Travis, ERDA

OFFICE	HP/Br.	Safety Dv.	PIO			
SURNAME	Thornton/ndv	8/5/76	8-6-76			
DATE	8-5-76					

September 20, 1976

E. K. Loop, Chief, Process Facilities Safety Branch, DSSC-HQ

REPORT OF FINDINGS: AL-TECH SPECIALTY STEEL CORPORATION

On August 19, 1976, Fred F. Haywood, ORNL, and I visited the Al-Tech plant in Watervliet, New York, to make a preliminary assessment of the radiological status of facilities utilized during 1950-51 for AEC contract work involving uranium. Discussions were held with Mr. Donald McCarter, Plant Manager. Mr. Ted Owens, who was familiar with the subject work, assisted in identifying involved plant areas. Following is a statement of findings:

Operations History. The company, known as Allegheny-Ludlum at the time of the contract, rolled uranium billets to solid rods. The operation was on a developmental rather than a production scale. The contract called for return to the AEC of all uranium-bearing material and any scrap generated in the operation. More definitive information on quantities of uranium processed is not available. AEC operations were reportedly limited to the 14-inch rolling mill and an annealing furnace and were conducted only on weekends. Primary purpose of the contract was to develop design criteria for the planned Fernald rolling mill.

Current Status of Facilities. The 14-inch mill was removed in 1960 to a Dunkirk, New York plant. The area where the mill operated in 1950-51 was located and is now used for metal and roller storage. The annealing furnace is still in use but could be any one of four electric furnaces. Furnace liner material has been replaced several times in the interim. The building housing the operation has been rearranged and expanded significantly since 1951.

Preliminary Survey Findings. Alpha and Beta-gamma survey measurements were made on surfaces in the involved areas. Measurements were also made in the company disposal yard. The yard was being mined during the past three years for metal value recovery resulting in the resurrection of materials; i.e., furnace liner bricks, previously covered by many years of waste disposal. Surveys detected no radiation levels above naturally occurring background.

OFFICE ▶	HP Br.	Safety Dv.	PIO			
SURNAME ▶	Thornton/ndw					
DATE ▶	9-20-76	9/20/76	9/20/76			

Form AEC-318 (Rev. 9-53) AECM 0240 ☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1974-526-166

Evaluation and Conclusions. Since no elevated radioactivity was detected and since only uranium was handled, and that on a limited developmental scale, it is concluded that any radioactive residual from AEC contract operation is insignificant and further surveys are not required.

Recommendation. It is recommended that further surveys not be made.

The company has had several inquiries from local press since the ERDA Resurvey Program was made public in May 1976 and requests that if a radiation clearance can be given for Al-Tech facilities that this information be communicated by ERDA to local press.

OR-PIO has prepared a press release, copy enclosed, and will issue in the Albany, New York area upon receipt of HQ concurrence with the above recommendation.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
W. L. THORNTON

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

OSH:HPT

Enclosure: ✓ CFF
Press Release

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

OFFICE ▶	HP Br.	Safety Dv.	PIO			
SURNAME ▶	Thornton/ndw					
DATE ▶	9-20-76	9/20/76	9/20/76			

Form AEC-318 (Rev. 9-53) AECM 0240

September 29, 1976

William T. Thornton
Safety and Environmental Control Division
Oak Ridge Operations Office

AL-TECH SPECIALTY STEEL CORPORATION

Your recommendation of September 20, 1976, that no further radiological survey be considered for the Al-Tech Plant, formerly the Allegheny-Ludlum Company, Watervliet, New York, has been accepted. The proposed press release appears to adequately cover the situation.

/s/

E. K. Loop, Chief
Process Facilities Safety Branch
Division of Safety, Standards,
and Compliance

OFFICE ➤	SSC:PFS	SSC:PFS	SSC:DDIR			
SURNAME ➤	REAlbrecb	EKLoop	WJMcCool			
DATE ➤	9/29/76	9/29/76	9/ /76			

NEWS

OAK RIDGE OPERATIONS
UNITED STATES
ENERGY RESEARCH
& DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION
Oak Ridge, TN 37830

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Telephone No. - Area Code 615
483-8611 - Extension 3-4231

ERDA VISITS WATERVLIET FIRM;
NO PLANS FOR FURTHER SURVEY

The Energy Research and Development Administration announced today that as a result of a preliminary visit to Al Tech Specialty Steel Corporation (formerly Allegheny-Ludlum Steel Corporation) in Watervliet, N. Y., no further radiation surveys of the facility will be required.

An ERDA health physicist who visited the facility on August 19 for discussions with Al Tech officials and to examine the facility, could find no evidence of radiation in excess of naturally occurring (background) radiation levels. ERDA said it plans no further visits to the site, thus completing its update of radiological records on the facility.

The Watervliet plant was used briefly during the period 1950-1951 for the processing of naturally radioactive uranium metal for the former Atomic Energy Commission (AEC).

The AEC began a program in 1974 to identify and survey sites used for atomic-energy related activities in the 1940's and 1950's. The surveys were made at sites where radiological information was insufficient to assure that there were no health or safety problems. ERDA inherited the

survey program when it took over many of the AEC's functions in 1975.

# # #

EDITORS NOTE: Enclosed for your additional information is a copy of a press release with attachments concerning the National survey program. The release was issued by ERDA Headquarters on September 16, 1976.

(Retyped -- original was illegible)

October 12, 1976

UNITED STATES
ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

OAK RIDGE OPERATIONS
P. O. BOX E
OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE 37830

AREA CODE 615
TELEPHONE 483-8611

October 13, 1976

Mr. D. C. McCarter, Works Manager
Al-Tech Specialty Steel Corporation
Post Office Box 91
Watervliet, New York 12189

Dear Mr. McCarter:

RADIOLOGICAL STATUS OF AL-TECH FACILITIES UTILIZED IN EARLY ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION CONTRACT WORK

On August 19, 1976, representatives of the Energy Research and Development Administration visited the Al-Tech plant located on Spring Street Road in Watervliet, New York, to reevaluate the radiological status of the subject facilities. Rationale underlying this ERDA effort was indicated in the introductory letter to you dated August 5, 1976, from William T. Thornton of my staff.

Based on our finding that (1) radiation levels as measured in the plant are indistinguishable from naturally occurring background levels, (2) AEC contract work was on a very limited scale, and (3) only uranium in a relatively non-dispersable form was handled, it is concluded that no potential for a radiation-related health and safety problem exists in the subject facilities and that further formal radiation surveys are not warranted.

Enclosed for your files is a copy of our report documenting the findings during the August 19 visit. Also enclosed is a copy of the ERDA statement being issued to local press affirming our conclusions.

Your cooperation in this matter is very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

R. J. Hart
Manager

OSH:WTT

Enclosures:
As stated.

cc w/encls:
M. B. Biles, DSSC-HQ, Gmtn.
F. V. Strnisa, NY
C. A. Keller, AMO
J. W. Range, PIO
W. H. Travis, S&EC

PRELIMINARY SURVEY OF AL-TECH SPECIALTY STEEL CORPORATION WATERVLIET, NEW YORK

Work performed
by the
Health and Safety Research Division
Oak Ridge National Laboratory
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830

March 1980

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY
operated by
UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION
for the
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
as part of the
Formerly Utilized Sites--
Remedial Action Program

AL-TECH SPECIALTY STEEL CORPORATION
WATERVLIET, NEW YORK

At the request of the Department of Energy (DOE, then ERDA), a preliminary survey was performed at the Al-Tech Specialty Steel Corporation plant in Watervliet, New York (see Fig. 1), on August 19, 1976, to assess the radiological status of those facilities utilized in Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) contract activities during 1950 through 1951. D. C. McCarter, Works Manager, provided information about the project and identified plant areas involved in the project. Ted Owens, who was familiar with the contract work, also provided information and assisted in identifying involved plant areas. Contract work with the company, known as Allegheny-Ludlum at the time, involved the development of a process to convert rolled uranium billets into solid rods. The contract specified that all uranium-bearing material and any scrap generated in the operation be returned to the AEC. All work performed at this site was limited to a 36-cm rolling mill and an annealing furnace and was performed only on weekends. McCarter reported that AEC personnel were on hand during the rolling operations and that they carefully vacuumed areas surrounding the rolling mill and made radiation measurements.

Present Use of Facilities

The 36-cm rolling mill was removed to a Dunkirk, New York, plant in 1960. The area where the mill was located is presently used for metal and roller storage. Any of the four existing electric annealing furnaces could have been the one used in the process. However, furnace liner bricks have been replaced in each furnace several times since the project terminated. It was believed that old furance liner bricks may have been buried in the company disposal yard. For about three years prior to this preliminary survey, the disposal yard had been mined to reclaim various types of metal which had been placed in the landfill. It was assumed that this operation was to continue indefinitely.

Results of Preliminary Survey

The preliminary survey was conducted by F. F. Haywood of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory and W. T. Thornton of the DOE/Oak Ridge

Operations Office. A survey was conducted of the area where the 36-cm rolling mill had been located, the annealing furnaces, and the company disposal yard. The survey consisted of direct measurements of alpha activity and beta-gamma dose-rate measurements (open- and closed-window Geiger-Mueller survey meter) made at 1 cm from surfaces. The direct alpha measurements were made in contact with the surfaces surveyed. Special attention was given to furnace liner bricks which had been uncovered in the company disposal yard. All measurements taken at the Al-Tech Specialty Steel Corporation were within typical background levels for the state of New York.

It was concluded that no present or potential radiation-related health hazard exists due to post-MED/AEC operations, and that no further DOE survey is required at the Al-Tech Specialty Steel Corporation in Watervliet, New York. Measurements at other rolling mill facilities have revealed beta-gamma radiation levels up to 42 mrad/hr. Therefore, it is recommended that an effort be made to locate the machinery used by Al-Tech so that a survey of that equipment can be performed.

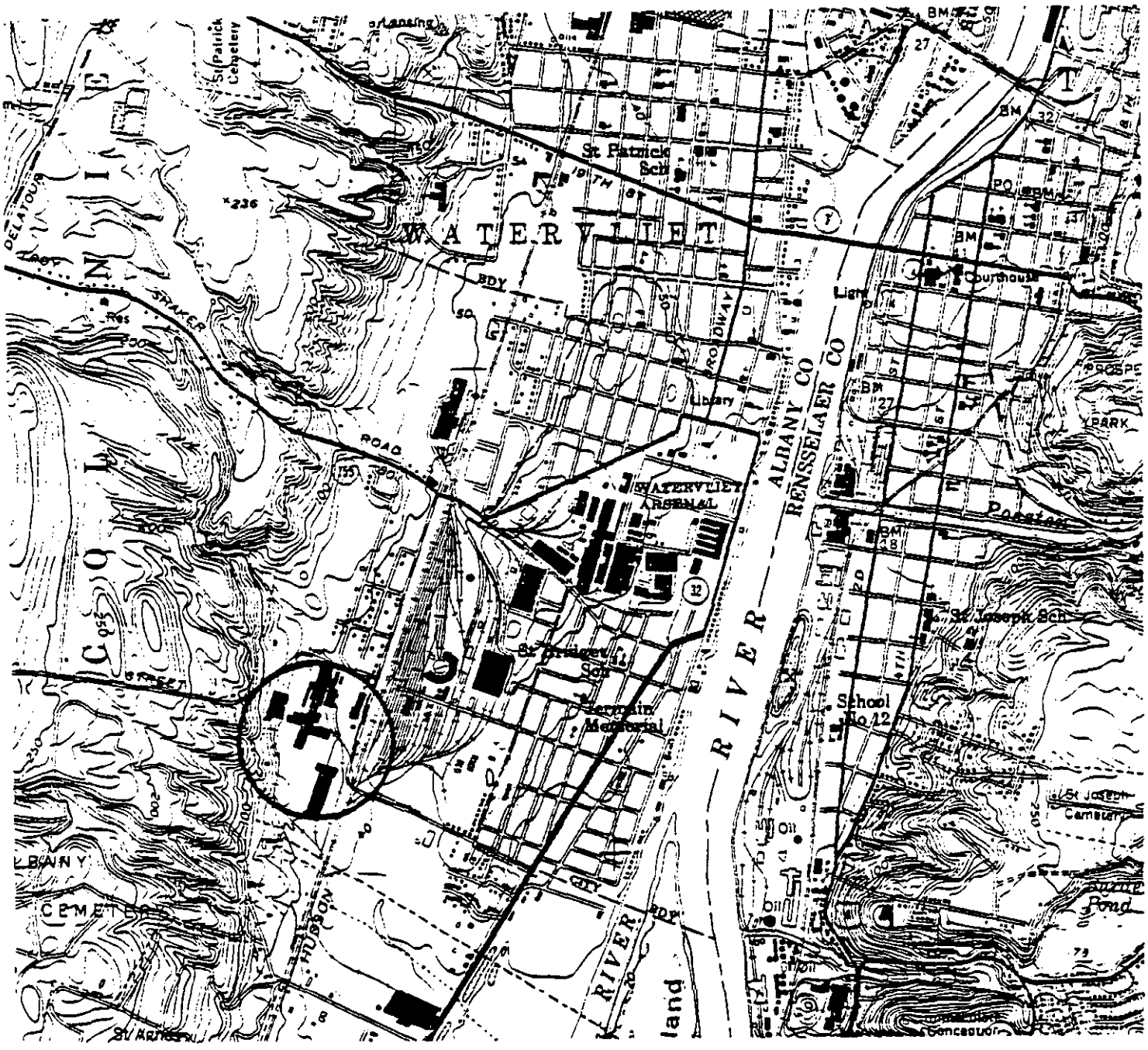

Fig. 1. Location of the Al-Tech Specialty Steel Corporation in Watervliet, New York.

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY
OPERATED BY
UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION
NUCLEAR DIVISION

POST OFFICE BOX X
OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE 37830

October 1, 1980

Mr. Arnold Abriss
U. S. Department of Energy
Environmental and Safety Engineering Division
Nuclear Branch
Washington, D. C. 20545

Dear Mr. Abriss:

RASCA - Survey of Rolling Mill Used by
Al-Tech Specialty Steel Corporation,
Dunkirk, New York

Attached, please find four copies of our letter report for the subject survey conducted on September 23, 1980. As you can see, there were no elevated radiation levels observed on the original mill stands and associated shoe plates. We feel that no additional survey work is required at the Dunkirk site.

Sincerely,

for W. D. Cottrell
F. F. Haywood
RASCA Program Manager, ORNL

FFH:ror

cc: P. S. Rohwer

cc/enc: W. R. Bibb

SURVEY OF ROLLING MILL USED BY AL-TECH SPECIALTY STEEL CORPORATION DUNKIRK, NEW YORK

Work performed
by the
Health and Safety Research Division
Oak Ridge National Laboratory
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830

September 1980

OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY
operated by
UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION
for the
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
as part of the
Formerly Utilized Sites--
Remedial Action Program

SURVEY OF ROLLING MILL USED BY AL-TECH SPECIALTY STEEL CORPORATION DUNKIRK, NEW YORK

A radiological survey was conducted at the Al-Tech Specialty Steel Corporation Plant in Dunkirk, New York, on September 23, 1980, by representatives of Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL). The subject of the radiological survey was a portion of the original 36-cm (14-inch) bar mill used in converting uranium billets into solid rods. It was concluded in the "Preliminary Survey of Al-Tech Specialty Steel Corporation, Watervliet, New York" letter report (see attachment) that the mill be surveyed due to the potential for residual contamination as has been found at other bar mills involved in rolling uranium metal.

The 36-cm mill was relocated in 1960 from the Watervliet plant to the one used by Al-Tech at Dunkirk, New York. Three stands and associated shoe plates of the original mill are currently used in routine operations. Two stands and associated shoe plates were removed from the original mill and placed in a scrap metal yard. The rollers used during operations have been scrapped for a number of years (verbal communication with Jim Trabits, manager of engineering and maintenance).

Survey Results

The mill stands and associated shoe plates located in the mill building and scrap yard at Dunkirk were surveyed. Measurements included a gamma-scan of all accessable equipment surfaces, a beta-gamma scan of selected equipment surfaces, and alpha activity at random locations on equipment surfaces. All measurements taken on equipment surfaces resulted in no radiation levels significantly above background levels.

Conclusions

Since all radiological measurements taken both at the Watervliet and Dunkirk plants of Al-Tech Specialty Steel Corporation have resulted in radiation levels within background levels, it is concluded that no present or potential radiation-related health hazards exist due to previous Manhattan Engineer District (MED)/Atomic Energy Commission (AEC)-related activities. It is recommended that no further Department of Energy (DOE) radiological surveys be performed at these sites and that they are released by DOE for unrestricted use.

Reply: NE-24

Subject: Recommendation for Certification of Acceptable Radiological Conditions and Termination from the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program: Bethlehem Steel Corporation, Lackawanna, New York; Al-Tech Specialty Steel Corporation (the former Allegheny-Ludlum Steel Corporation), Watervliet, New York, and offsite property in Dunkirk, New York; Hooker Specialty Chemicals Division, Hooker Chemical and Plastic Corporation (Former Hooker Electrochemical Division), Niagara Falls, New York; and Columbia University, New York, New York.

TO: William K. Voigt, Jr., Acting Director
Office of Terminal Waste Disposal
and Remedial Action

I am attaching for your signature the statements of certification and the Federal notice of certifications of the following sites:

- Bethlehem Steel Corporation, Lackawanna, New York;
- Al-Tech Specialty Steel Corporation (the former Allegheny-Ludlum Steel Corporation), Watervliet, New York, and Offsite Property in Dunkirk, New York;
- Hooker Specialty Chemicals Division, Hooker Chemicals and Plastic Corporation (formerly Hooker Electrochemical Division), Niagara Falls, New York; and
- Columbia University, New York, New York.

These four sites had been utilized by the Manhattan Engineer District (MED) and/or the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) during the early years of nuclear research, development, and production. Since that time, radiological surveys and/or screening surveys have been conducted at these sites to determine the radiological conditions at these sites.

The Bethlehem Steel Corporation was under contract with AEC during the period 1949 through 1951 to roll natural uranium billets into 1-1/2 inch rods for use as reactor fuel. Screening surveys were conducted at the Bethelehem Steel plant in 1976 and 1980 by Oak Ridge National Laboratory. These surveys detected no levels of radioactivity above background levels at the facility.

The former Allegheny-Ludlum Steel Corporation processed uranium billets into solid rods under contract with AEC during the early 1950s at their Watervliet plant. In 1960, the 14-inch mill used for AEC operations was removed from Watervliet to a Dunkirk plant. On August 19, 1976, Oak Ridge National Laboratory conducted a screening survey of the former Allegheny-Ludlum Steel site in Watervliet. Later in September 1980, Oak Ridge National Laboratory conducted a survey of the remaining portions of the mill that had been relocated in Dunkirk. These surveys detected no levels of radioactivity above background levels.

The former Hooker Electrochemical Division of the Hooker Chemical Company under contract with MED from January 1943 until shortly after World War II, performed chemical processing (slag recovery) of uranium-bearing materials as a precursor to uranium recovery. A radiological survey was conducted by Oak Ridge National Laboratory in October 1976 at the Hooker Chemical Company site. The final survey report, published in January 1977, documented the residual radioactivity levels as within current Federal and state guidelines for unrestricted use.

Columbia University was a major contributor to research and development efforts during the early years of nuclear development under MED and later under AEC. Research included work on isotope separation (centrifuge and gaseous diffusion), the nuclear chain reaction, and on atomic pile. Five buildings at Columbia University were identified as used by the MED and the AEC. All buildings, except for Nash, are currently involved in radioactive work, licensed by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the City of New York. On August 16, 1976, Oak Ridge Operations Office personnel visited the Columbia University campus to determine if conditions warranted a radiological survey of the site. It was concluded based on this site visit and screening survey that the contamination due to MED operations was adequately decontaminated by the University and no additional actions were warranted by DOE.

Based on a review of pertinent documents, the Director of the Division of Remedial Actions Projects has determined that the conditions at these four sites are below the current criteria for remedial actions. Therefore, no remedial action is required and these sites are not to be considered for inclusion in the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program.

Following your concurrence in the certifications, this office will notify interested state and local agencies, the public, the specific property owners of the certification actions by correspondence announcements as appropriate. The documents transmitted with the statements of certification and the Federal Register notice will be compiled in final docket form by the Division of Remedial Action Projects for retention in accordance with DOE Order 1324.2 (Disposal Schedule 25).

J.E. Baublitz, Director
Division of Remedial Action Projects

STATEMENT OF CERTIFICATION

Al-Tech Specialty Steel Corporation

(Former Allegheny-Ludlum Steel Corporation)

Watervliet, New York, and Offsite Property in Dunkirk, New York

The Office of Terminal Waste Disposal and Remedial Action has reviewed and analyzed historical data from the developmental scale operations and the radiological screening survey data obtained at the Former Allegheny-Ludlum Steel Corporation, in Watervliet, New York, and the offsite property in Dunkirk, New York. Based on this analysis the Department of Energy certifies that the former Allegheny-Ludlum Steel Corporation Watervliet site and offsite property in Dunkirk are in compliance with applicable radiological guidelines and standards. This certification of compliance provides assurance that the use of these properties will result in no radiological exposure above applicable criteria and standards to members of the general public or to site occupants. Therefore, this site and offsite property are not being considered for inclusion in the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program.

By: _____ Date: _____

William R. Voigt, Jr., Acting Director
Office of Terminal Waste Disposal
and Remedial Action

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Nuclear Energy

Certification of the Radiological Condition
of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation,
Lackawanna, New York

Al-Tech Specialty Steel Corporation,
(The Former Allegheny-Ludlum Steel Corporation),
Watervliet, New York, and Offsite Property in Dunkirk, New York

Hooker Specialty Chemicals Division,
Hooker Chemicals and Plastic Corporation,
(The Former Hooker Electrochemical Division),
Niagara Falls, New York

Columbia University, New York, New York

AGENCY: Office of Terminal Waste Disposal and Remedial Action

ACTION: Notice of Certification

SUMMARY: The Department of Energy has reviewed the past activities of the Manhattan Engineer District and/or Atomic Energy Commission and has completed radiological surveys and/or screening surveys at four sites and one associated property:

- The Bethlehem Steel Corporation site located at 2558 Hamburg Turnpike, Lackawanna, New York;
- The Former Allegheny-Ludlum Steel Corporation site located on Spring Street Road, Watervliet, New York, and offsite property, an AL-TECH Specialty Steel Corporpation plant located on Willowbrook Avenue, Dunkirk, New York;
- The Former Hooker Electrochemical Division site located on Buffalo Avenue, Niagara Falls, New York;
- The Columbia University site in New York, New York.

As a result the Department, through the Office of Terminal Waste Disposal and Remedial Actions, has issued the four statements entitled:

1. STATEMENT OF CERTIFICATION, BETHLEHEM STEEL CORPORATION, LACKAWANNA, NEW YORK.

2. STATEMENT OF CERTIFICATION, AL-TECH SPECIALTY STEEL CORPORATION (THE FORMER ALLEGHENY-LUDLUM STEEL CORPORATION), WATERVLIET, NEW YORK, AND OFFSITE PROPERTY IN DUNKIRK, NEW YORK.

3. STATEMENT OF CERTIFICATION, HOOKER SPECIALTY CHEMICALS DIVISION, HOOKER CHEMICALS AND PLASTIC CORPORATION (FORMER HOOKER ELECTROCHEMICAL DIVISION), NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK.

4. STATEMENT OF CERTIFICATION, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, NEW YORK, NEW YORK.

The Office of Terminal Waste Disposal and Remedial Action has reviewed the decontamination efforts and/or surveys conducted at these four sites. Based on these reviews, the Department of Energy has certified that these sites are in compliance with applicable radiological guidelines and standards, and are released from the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

J.E. Baublitz, Director
Division of Remedial Action Projects (NE-24)
Office of Terminal Waste Disposal
and Remedial Action (NE-20)
U.S. Department of Energy
Washington, D.C. 20545
(301) 353-5272

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department of Energy has established a program to characterize and, where necessary, correct the radiological conditions at sites formerly used by the Army Corps of Engineers' Manhattan Engineer District and the Atomic Energy Commission during the early years of nuclear research, development, and production. The ultimate objective of the program is to ensure that formerly utilized sites, and any associated properties in their vicinity, can be certified within current radiological guidelines and applicable standards established to protect the general public. The Bethlehem Steel Corporation, the former Allegheny-Ludlum Steel Corporation, the Former Hooker Electrochemical Division, and Columbia University located in New York are four of these sites.

The Bethlehem Steel Corporation during the period 1949 through 1951 was under contract with AEC to roll natural uranium billets into 1-1/2 inch rods for use in reactors. Screening surveys were conducted at the Bethlehem Steel plant in 1976 and 1980 by Oak Ridge National Laboratory. These surveys detected no levels of radioactivity above background levels at the facility.

The former Allegheny-Ludlum Steel Corporation processed uranium billets into solid rods under contract with the AEC during the early 1950's at their Watervliet plant. In 1960, the 14-inch mill was removed from Watervliet to a Dunkirk plant which was considered an offsite property in the investigation. On August 19, 1976, Oak Ridge National Laboratory conducted a radiological screening survey of the former Allegheny-Ludlum Steel site in Watervliet. Later in September 1980, Oak Ridge National Laboratory conducted a survey of the remaining portions of the mill relocated at the offsite property in Dunkirk. These surveys detected no levels of radioactivity above background levels.

The former Hooker Electrochemical Division, of the Hooker Chemical Company under contract with MED from January 1943 until shortly after World War II, performed chemical processing (slag recovery) of uranium-bearing materials as a precursor to uranium recovery. A radiological survey was conducted by Oak Ridge National Laboratory in October 1976 at the Hooker Chemical Company Site. The final survey report, published in January 1977, documented the residual radioactivity levels measured at this site are within NRC Guidelines for Decontamination of Facilities and Equipment Prior to Release for Unrestricted Use or Termination of Licences for By-Product Source, or Special Nuclear Material, USNRC (December 1975).

The Columbia University was involved in research and development efforts under MED during the early years of nuclear development and later under AEC. Buildings utilized for the MED/AEC work at Columbia included Pupin, Schermerhorn, Havemeyer, Nash, and possibly Prentiss. Research included work on isotope separation, the nuclear chain reaction, and an atomic pile. Five buildings at Columbia University were identified as used by the MED and the AEC. All buildings, except for Nash, are currently involved in radioactive work, licensed by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the City of New York. On

August 16, 1976, Oak Ridge Operations Office personnel visited the Columbia University campus to determine if conditions warranted a radiological survey of the site. It was determined that the site did not need remedial action.

These findings are supported by the Department of Energy's "Certification Docket for Bethlehem Steel Corporation, Lackawanna, New York," "Certification Docket for Al-Tech Specialty Steel Corporation (the Former Allegheny-Ludlum Steel Corporation), Watervliet, New York, and Offsite Property in Dunkirk, New York," "Certification Docket for Hooker Specialty Chemicals Division, Hooker Chemicals and Plastic Corporation, (Former Hooker Electrochemical Division), Niagara Falls, New York," and "Certification Docket for Columbia University, New York, New York." These dockets will be available for review between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday (except Federal holidays), at the Department of Energy's Public Document Room located in Room 1E-190 of the Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C.

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William R. Voigt, Jr., Acting Director
Office of Terminal Waste Disposal
and Remedial Action