



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20545

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OCT 13 1987

Mr. Thomas Lingafeter
Environmental Control Department
Dow Chemical
Post Office Box 1398
Pittsburgh, California 94565

Dear Mr. Lingafeter:

As you may know, the Department of Energy (DOE) is evaluating the radiological condition of sites that were utilized under the Manhattan Engineer District and the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) during the early years of nuclear development to determine whether they need remedial action and whether the Department has authority to perform such action. Dow Chemical was notified that they were being considered as one such site (W. E. Mott to W. H. Beamer dated February 27, 1979), because of work performed under AEC contract during the period 1948 to 1957. This work involved process studies and experimental investigations on different uranium ores and thorium-bearing ores, including pilot-scale solvent extraction of uranium from phosphoric acid, as well as studies on liquid waste disposal.

A radiological screening survey of the site was performed by DOE Chicago Operations Office and Argonne National Laboratory personnel on December 8, 1977. No readings above background were found, except in some inaccessible areas of a fume hood located in Room 18. Subsequent remodeling of the laboratory room included removing the hood and scrubbing the area until no activity above background could be detected. These findings were conveyed to and confirmed by the State of California.

This letter, along with the enclosed summary report and supporting information, represents the results of the Department's review to determine if the site contains residual radioactive contamination traceable to the actions conducted on behalf of the AEC. The report is provided to you as the representative of the site owner, for your information. On the basis of the review, the Department has determined that no potential exists for significant amounts of residual radioactive material derived from activities conducted for the AEC to remain at this site. As a result, the site was eliminated from further consideration under the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP). This package was prepared as the final DOE action on the site under FUSRAP.

Documentation supporting the Department's decision will be available for public review at the Department's Public Reading Room located in Room 1E-190 of the Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C.

If you have any questions regarding this decision or the availability of the material at the reading room, please contact Andrew Wallo of my staff at 301 353-5439.

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Sincerely,

151

James J. Fiore, Director
Division of Facility and Site
Decommissioning Projects
Office of Nuclear Energy

Enclosures

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