TX.2-4 2753

TX.2
Amo.

Department of Energy
Washington, D.C. 20545

APR 9 1985

Mr. R. M. Zielinski, Plant Manager
Amoco Chemical Company
P.O. Box 568
Texas City, Texas 77590

Dear Mr. Zielinski:

The Department of Energy is evaluating the radiological condition of sites that were utilized under the Manhattan Engineer District and/or the Atomic Energy Commission in the early years of nuclear energy development to determine whether they need remedial action and whether the Department has authority to perform such action. As you may be aware, the Amoco Chemical Company site (formerly Texas City Chemicals, Inc.) in Texas City, Texas, was identified as one such site. The former operator conducted some research and development of processes to extract uranium compounds from phosphoric acid. The enclosed site summary report and copy of the preliminary survey report for the site detail the Department's investigations regarding the former Texas City Chemical's operation and are provided to you, as the current owner's representative, for your information.

As indicated in the enclosed reports, radiation levels measured on the site were in excess of normal background levels and may exceed guidelines used by the Department to determine if a site warrants consideration for remedial action to eliminate restrictions on its use. However, the Department concludes from evaluation of these reports that the residual radioactivity identified at the site is natural activity associated with the phosphate fertilizer production on the site and does not have authority under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, to conduct any remedial actions that may be needed at this site. Therefore, the former Texas City Chemical site is being eliminated from further consideration for inclusion in the Department's Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program.

The Environmental Protection Agency and the State of Texas are being notified of these actions and findings by copy of this letter. We note that the levels of radiation identified at this site are typical of those found at most sites processing Florida phosphate ore and other commercial operations that utilize ores with relatively high concentrations of uranium or thorium.

Documentation supporting this decision by the Department of Energy is 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 me at 301-353-4716.

Sincerely,

/s/

Edward G. DeLaney, Director
Division of Facility and Site
Decommissioning Projects
Office of Nuclear Energy

2 Enclosures

cc:
Larry Wright, EPA Region VI
Edgar Bailey, Texas Dept. of Health
Harold Snyder, EPA, Wash., D.C.

bcc:
E. Keller, OR
V. DeCarlo, EH-123
C. Welty, EH-23
S. Miller, GC-11
G. Turi, NE--23
Aerospace

NE-20 RF
DeLaney RF
NEG (4)

NE-23:EDeLaney:ph:353-4716:4/3/86:IBM:91/39:3.43.1

CONCURRENCES	
RTG SYMBOL	NE-23
INITIALS/SIG.	DeLaney
DATE	3/3/86
RTG SYMBOL	
INITIALS/SIG.	
DATE	
RTG SYMBOL	
INITIALS/SIG.	
DATE	
RTG SYMBOL	
INITIALS/SIG.	
DATE	
RTG SYMBOL	
INITIALS/SIG.	
DATE	
RTG SYMBOL	
INITIALS/SIG.	
DATE	
RTG SYMBOL	
INITIALS/SIG.	
DATE	