

40-2377

KAISER ALUMINUM
CORPORATE ENVIRONMENTAL

July 5, 2000

Mr. John Buckley
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
TWFN, 7F27
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Re: Adjacent Land Area Remediation
Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical Corporation
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Dear Mr. Buckley:

Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical Corporation (Kaiser), in the interest of expediting their remediation project in Tulsa, Oklahoma, is exploring the possibility of discharging water encountered in excavations during the subject remediation activities to the Tulsa municipal wastewater conveyance and treatment system. These discussions were undertaken at the suggestion of the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (OKDEQ).

Kaiser's Nuclear Regulatory Commission- (NRC) approved plan for this activity anticipated conveyance of excavation waters to the on-site retention pond or to Fulton Creek. However, OKDEQ believes that in view of permitting time requirements, it would be more expeditious to route excavation water to the municipal system. This would enable remediation to proceed during the dry weather season, thus minimizing the quantities of water which would be encountered.

Kaiser's estimate of the quantity of excavation water which will be encountered is approximately 70,000 gallons over the 3 to 5 month remediation activity. This quantity could increase somewhat depending upon actual conditions encountered.

Preliminary discussions with the City of Tulsa Department of Public Works (DPW) on June 19, 2000 were favorable. Kaiser now is collecting groundwater analytical data for submission to the DPW to support their decision-making process.

Kaiser now envisions collecting excavation water in frac tanks, analyzing the collected water, and upon verification that the quality is within DPW requirements, discharge to the municipal system. Radiological criteria for discharge would be as specified in 10 Code of Federal Regulations 20, Appendix B, Table 3. Any sediment collected in the frac tanks would be removed and placed with the excavated soil on site.

NMSSo1 Public

Buckley Letter
July 5, 2000

Kaiser believes that routing excavation water to the municipal system rather than to the retention pond constitutes only a minor change in the approved plan. Moreover, it will expedite completion of the remediation activity. Therefore, if the NRC determines that approval of this option is necessary, Kaiser is requesting that the NRC approve this option for disposition of excavation water contingent upon approval by the DPW. If no approval is necessary, please notify me in writing as soon as possible.

Since Kaiser's plans currently call for construction activities to begin in late August, 2000, your expeditious handling of this matter will be appreciated. If you have any questions or require additional information please call me at (225) 231-5116

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill Vinzant". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

J. W. (Bill) Vinzant, P.E.
Regional Environmental Manager

MDT:klb

cc: Louis Carson
Carl Parrott
Pam Bishop
Steven Jantzen