

DRAFT

Colonel Kenneth O. Logan
Installation Commander
U.S. Army Research Laboratory (ARL)
ATTN: AMSRL-CS-IS-SH
2800 Powder Mill Road
Adelphi, MD 20783

SUBJECT: REMOVAL OF WATERTOWN MALL AREA SITE, WATERTOWN,
MASSACHUSETTS, FROM THE SITE DECOMMISSIONING MANAGEMENT
PLAN

Dear Colonel Logan:

This letter is in reference to your letter dated July 10, 2000, requesting that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) remove the Watertown Mall Area Site from the NRC Site Decommissioning Management Plan (SDMP). As stated in your letter, your request is based on documented radiological surveys, risk evaluations, and dose assessments, that demonstrate that the NRC's and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts's criteria for unrestricted release of the facility have been achieved.

We have reviewed your reports, which address the history from 1946-1968 regarding the prior use of radioactive material and remediation of the facilities formerly located within the eastern portion of the former Watertown Arsenal, referred to now as the Watertown Mall Area site. We have also reviewed your surveys of these areas which were conducted since the Watertown Mall Area was added to the SDMP in 1990. Most recently, we have confirmed your dose assessments and evaluations through independent dose calculations.

Based on our review, we conclude that, except for isolated areas on the former building pads and in the sewer line at Building 41, the Watertown Mall Area site meets the SDMP Action Plan criteria (57 FR 13389). Additionally, the staff has concluded that residual radioactivity on the former building pads and in the sewer would not result in a significant radiological dose to the public in excess of the NRC dose-based release criteria for release for unrestricted use. On this basis, we have removed the Watertown Mall Area site from the SDMP.

Please note that this is only an administrative action at this time. Pending your request to either amend or terminate license SUB-238, this storage-only license will remain active. Based on discussions with your staff, we expect that the status of SUB-238 will be resolved by the end of calendar year 2000.

ATTACHMENT 2

If you have any questions regarding this administrative action, please contact Marie Miller of my staff at (610) 337-5205. Thank you for your continued cooperation with us in this matter.

Sincerely,

Ronald R. Bellamy, Chief
Decommissioning and Laboratory Branch
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety,
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region I

Docket No.: 0402253
License No.: SUB-238

cc:

Michael Borisky, Radiation Safety Officer, ARL
Dennis Waskiewicz, Project Manager, U.S. Army
Corps of Engineers (COE)
Mary Ellen Iorio, Technical Project Manager, COE
Hans Honerlah, Health Physicist, COE
Robert Hallisey, Director, Radiation Control
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Mary Sanderson, Chief, Federal Facilities
Superfund Sites, U.S. EPA
James Cherniack, Radiation Program Manager,
U.S. EPA
Samantha Overton, Metropolitan District
Commission
Michael Stroebel, U.S. General Services
Administration
Thomas O'Connell, MA Radiation Protection
Program
Michael Driscoll, Town Manager
Watertown Free Public Library

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