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Fansteel Inc.

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June 15, 2000

Ms. Heather Astwood
Licensing Section 2
Licensing Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety & Safeguards, MNSS
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington DC 20555

Subject: Decommissioning Plan (Eastern Property Area SMB 911)
Modification

Dear Ms. Astwood,

Fansteel plans are to modify the current Decommissioning Plan to allow flexibility in the treatment of groundwater. Although Fansteel will continue to treat the groundwater in a proven treatment system, Fansteel, in cadence with section 2.1.2.9 of the decommissioning plan, is modifying the decommissioning plan to include additional treatments.

Fansteel is certain that the past performance of the wastewater treatment facility in handling the "old" french-drain's solids loading will provide adequate and definitive information for the NRC to understand the adequacy of this system. This treatment system has effectively handled the radionuclide solids without deficiency over the past 10years. Fansteel is certain that the additional flow would in no way affect the wastewater treatment plant's functional capabilities. This is a very nominal flow (less than 10%) increase into this treatment system.

Based on the support of the above information, Fansteel is requesting that Section 2.1.2.8.2 paragraph 3 sentence 3 be revised to read, " The groundwater will be treated in a process that will eliminate radioactive materials associated with licensed materials from exceeding the NPDES permit discharge limit. The radionuclides accumulated from the treatment process will be used in plant process feed stock".

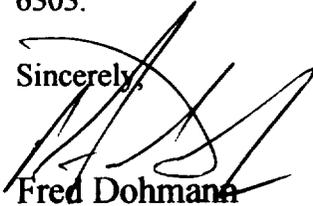
Fansteel understands the NRC's expectations are that Fansteel maintain all source material onsite and that the source material be properly managed. Fansteel is committed to these expectations and believes that the above mentioned change

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does not jeopardize the requirement of either expectation. Fansteel's main objective, as always, is to operate its plant in a safe and environmentally friendly manner.

This information is provide to support Fansteel's request to modify the current decommission plan (SMB-911 Eastern Property Area). If you have any questions concerning this decommissioning modification, please contact me at (918) 687-6303.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fred Dohmann', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Fred Dohmann
General Manager

Cc: Michael Mocniak
Dave Tourdot