

August 22, 2000

MEMORANDUM TO: Philip Ting, Chief
Fuel Cycle Licensing Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

FROM: Michael C. Layton, Senior Hydrogeologist **/RA/**
Uranium Recovery Section
Fuel Cycle Licensing Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards
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Licensing Section
Fuel Cycle Licensing Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety and Safeguards
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

SUBJECT: SITE VISIT TO THE CE HEMATITE FACILITY, HEMATITE
MISSOURI

Attached for your information is a summary of our observations from the site visit to the CE Hematite facility in Hematite, Missouri. This visit was conducted for familiarization of the site, in support of the review of the fourth ground-water sampling event performed at the site. The facility is currently planning to cease operations in the near future and begin decommissioning. The site visit will also serve as familiarization for any upcoming decommissioning reviews.

Contact: Michael C. Layton, NMSS/FCSS/FCLB
(301) 415-6676

Attachment: Summary of Site Visit

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NAME	MLayton		MAdams		DGillen		LRoché	
DATE	8/18/00		8/18/00		8/21/00		8/22/00	

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SITE VISIT TO THE ABB CE NUCLEAR POWER FACILITY
HEMATITE, MISSOURI
AUGUST 8, 2000

On August 8, 2000, Michael Layton of the Uranium Recovery Section, and Mary Adams of the Licensing Section, Fuel Cycle Licensing Branch, visited the ABB CE Nuclear Power Facility (CE Hematite facility) for the purpose of familiarization with the site. This site visit was in support of the review of the fourth ground-water sampling event that was conducted in accordance with the NRC approved work plan.

BACKGROUND

A work plan covering a hydrogeologic investigation and ground-water/surface water sampling at the CE Hematite facility was submitted to the NRC on April 28, 1998. The plan committed to a short-term (one year) monitoring program to assist in understanding the site specific geologic and hydrogeologic conditions at the site. In accordance with the work plan, a fourth sampling event report was submitted to the NRC for review and comment on November 23, 1999. This site visit was conducted in support of the review and comment effort for the fourth sampling event report.

SITE VISIT

We arrived at the site and were greeted by Mr. Robert Sharkey, Director of Regulatory Affairs. Mr. Sharkey escorted us to a conference room, where he provided a brief description of the facility operations and the current forecast of the proposed facility closure. He indicated that the licensee would be making a decision on the facility decommissioning in the November - December time frame, and would notify NRC of the outcome of that decision. A decommissioning plan would then be submitted to the NRC.

Mr. Sharkey then provided a guided site tour of the exterior properties where several closed burial pits were located. A series of monitoring wells had been installed in accordance with the hydrogeologic work plan to evaluate the conditions in this area. We also toured the undeveloped area between the railroad tracks and the adjacent water way, Joachim Creek. Several wells had been installed in this area to aid in the hydrogeologic characterization of the site. We examined the surface completions and general condition of the wells, which appeared to be in good shape. The wells were finished with locking well covers and concrete pads. Many wells were also constructed with steel posts surrounding the well for protection from inadvertent vehicle damage.

While on the site tour we were met by Mr. John Bognar, who is the hydrogeological contractor for the facility. Mr. Bognar was responsible for the hydrogeologic investigation and the installation of the new monitoring wells. He assisted with the site tour. Upon returning to the facility conference room, Mr. Bognar provided a detailed description of the characterization work that had been performed and the interpretations based on that work. We left the site after the discussions in the conference room were completed.

No commitments or agreements were made during this site visit.