

ORNL SITES - SUMMARY

License No.: RD-00169 ORNL Score: 92
 Docket No.: none
 Licensee: National Research Corporation Review Status: Complete
 Site Address(es): 70 Memorial Drive
 Cambridge, MA
 Site Contact: Mitch Galanek (MIT Health Physics)
 Telephone No.: (617) 253-2360
 SDMP Site: no
 Related License(s): none
 NRC Reviewer: Richard S. Barkley
 Review Abstract: The National Research Corporation was licensed in 1955-1956 to possess unlimited quantities of thorium-containing materials for conversion to thorium compounds, metals and alloys. National Research apparently never acquired more than a ton of thorium oxide total in the course of their work. The company is no longer in business and the property is currently owned by MIT which calls the building East-51.
 Recommendations: None.

Summary: The National Research Corporation was licensed in 1955-1956 to possess unlimited quantities of thorium-containing materials for conversion to thorium compounds, metals and alloys. National Research Corporation was previously licensed by the AEC as far back as 1950 to possess small amounts of uranium and thorium for experimental purposes involving the conversion of material to metal and alloy forms. During the period from 1955-1956, National Research Corporation scaled-up their metal melting and alloying operations, although they apparently never acquired more than a ton of thorium oxide total in the course of their work. The company is no longer in business and the property, a valuable piece of real estate along the Charles River, is currently owned by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). The building has been renovated since the 1950's and is currently undergoing another renovation; the building now consists entirely of classrooms and offices. Since MIT could not locate any records regarding this building after a search and after interviewing former MIT employees, the HP staff performed a survey of about 10% of the building area during the week of September 12th. Their survey of the building did not identify any evidence of radioactivity above background levels. Based on the results of the survey of the building by the MIT HP staff, the previous extensive renovation of the building and the absence of any formerly licensed material in the building, no further action regarding this ORNL identified site is warranted.

Reviewed by: Richard S. Barkley Date 10/6/94

Approved by: J. D. Kenna Date 10/6/94

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