



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I
475 ALLENDALE ROAD
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406-1415

March 12, 1997

Docket No.: 070-00033

License No.: SNM-23

David Lederer
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region I
J. F. Kennedy Federal Building, HBO
Boston, Massachusetts 02203

SUBJECT: REMOVAL OF THE TEXAS INSTRUMENTS, INC., ATTLEBORO,
MASSACHUSETTS SITE FROM THE NRC SITE DECOMMISSIONING
MANAGEMENT PLAN AND TERMINATION OF USNRC LICENSE NO. SNM-23

Dear Mr. Lederer:

In 1990, the NRC staff identified approximately 50 sites that warranted special Nuclear Regulatory Commission oversight and created the Site Decommissioning Management Plan (SDMP). This action was taken for these sites to ensure timely and safe remediation of residual radioactive material in excess of the current NRC criteria for release for unrestricted use. One of the sites on the SDMP is the Texas Instruments, Inc., facility in Attleboro, Massachusetts.

The staff added this site to the SDMP because an on-site disposal of radioactive material had been made, but the location and extent of the disposal was not well-known, and the extent and location of soil contamination on this site was also not well-known. Although measurements taken in the 1980's had not indicated any contamination in groundwater, the staff was also concerned about potential radioactive contamination of the groundwater due to the presence of the buried radioactive material on the site.

Remediation of the on-site burial area was completed in the fall of 1993. Confirmatory measurements by an NRC contractor did not identify any residual radioactive contamination in this area in excess of the NRC criteria for release for unrestricted use. In the summer and early fall of 1994, Texas Instruments completed comprehensive characterization of the remainder of the exterior areas of the site. Radiological surveys of the building interiors were also performed at this time. Radiological contamination was identified in both interior and exterior areas of the site. Texas Instruments remediated the contamination in these areas in accordance with their 1992 remediation plan for the burial area and a 1994 supplement to the 1992 remediation plan.

Texas Instruments completed remediation of all exterior and interior areas in September 1996. Final radiological surveys were conducted by Texas Instruments' contractors and the reports were submitted to the NRC for review. Texas Instruments also submitted the results of the analysis of groundwater samples collected from monitoring wells on the site from 1993 through 1997. The NRC, accompanied by a representative of the

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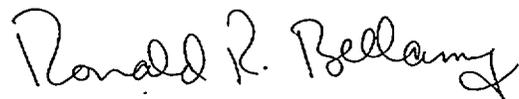
Commonwealth of Massachusetts, conducted confirmatory measurements at the site during the week of February 4-7, 1997.

Also, as you are aware, in approximately 1978, the NRC confirmed the presence of radioactive contamination at the Shpack landfill in nearby Norton, Massachusetts. Although the source of this contamination may have been the result of work performed at the Texas Instruments' Attleboro facility, the company has not acknowledged that their facility was the source of the material in the landfill. Texas Instruments and several other companies have entered into a consent order with EPA regarding the landfill. The landfill was listed on the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Formerly Utilized Site Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP) in 1980. Because the landfill is a DOE FUSRAP site and Texas Instruments is a party to the consent order with EPA, NRC believes that there is adequate regulatory consideration of any remaining radioactive material in the landfill.

Based on the actions taken by the licensee, our review of the surveys performed, and the results of the NRC confirmatory survey, the staff concludes that the site now meets the NRC criteria for release for unrestricted use. The staff plans to terminate NRC License No. SNM-23, issued to Texas Instruments, Inc. for the Attleboro, Massachusetts site, and to remove this site from the SDMP. The NRC intends to formally notify the licensee, by letter, and plans no further action on this site. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts is cognizant of the NRC plans and also plans no further action regarding the NRC licensed materials at the site. Mark Roberts of my staff discussed these issues with you on March 5, 1997.

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Mr. Roberts at (610) 337-5094, or me at (610) 337-5200. Your cooperation with us is appreciated.

Sincerely,



Ronald R. Bellamy, Ph. D., Chief
Decommissioning and Laboratory Branch
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

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