

July 17, 2001

Mr. William P. Dornsife
Vice President-Nuclear Affairs
Waste Control Specialist, LLC
1710 W. Broadway
Andrews, Texas 79714

SUBJECT: COMMENTS ON RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Dear Mr. Dornsife:

In a letter dated June 15, 2001, you responded to a request for additional information (dated May 8, 2001) for your request for an exemption from 10 CFR Part 70. We have reviewed your letter and have the following comments on the proposed procedures. These comments should be addressed along with any comments from the State of Texas in providing supporting information to the amendment request of your state license.

1. The maximum concentration limits in Tables 1 and 2 should be consistent. They should also be consistent with values in the final Order.
2. The measurement uncertainties in Table 1 should be a value (e.g., g SNM per g waste) rather than a percent. They should also be consistent with values in the final Order. This will obviate the need for Footnote 4. Using a fixed value rather a percent will allow greater flexibility for waste with low concentrations of SNM.
3. Table 1 also expresses the maximum concentration in terms of pCi/g instead of g SNM per g waste as in the Order. For the enriched uranium, it should be clarified that this represents the concentration of the U-235 isotope and not total uranium.
4. Table 3 uses the term "mean." This should be changed to "average."
5. In section 4.3.3 of OP-X.Y.Z and elsewhere, additional sampling for non-homogeneous waste should consist of four uniformly distributed aliquots per composite sample. In addition, the requirement not to test when the entire waste stream contains less than the Part 150 mass limits should be deleted. While this requirement would prevent criticality within that waste stream, it does not prevent possibly higher concentrations of SNM from interacting with other waste streams during storage.
6. In Attachment 1 (OP-X.Y.Z) and elsewhere, the forms of soluble plutonium should be added to 2.e, consistent with Condition 4 of the Order.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please contact Tim Harris of my staff at (301) 415-6613.

Mr. W. P. Dornsife

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Sincerely,

/RA/

Charlotte E. Abrams, Chief
Environmental and Low Level Waste Section
Environmental and Performance
Assessment Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

cc: Richard Ratliff, Texas Health Department

Mr. W. P. Dornsife

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Sincerely,

/RA/

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cc: Richard Ratliff, Texas Health Department

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