DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY CHEMICAL SCHOOL
401 MANSCEN LOOP
FORT LEONARD WOOD, MISSOURI 65473-8926

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

21 DEC 2001

Health Physics Office

Mr. Douglas M. Collins, Director
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region II
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety
Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Building
61 Forsyth Street SW Suite 23T85
Atlanta, GA 30303-8931

Dear Sir:

This is the written response to the Confirmatory Action Letter from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission dated December 18, 2001. The methods by which the three items in the Confirmatory Action Letter will be accomplished are as follows.

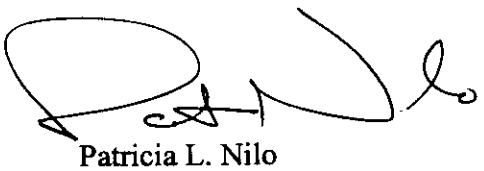
a. Maintain the licensed material secured from unauthorized removal or access. **Response**: The material (soil containing hot particles) was secured on December 14, 2001. Mr. Wade Fillingame of Allied Technology Group (ATP) secured the material by placing it within lead barriers within the trailer located on site. The trailer remains locked when the contractors are not on site.

b. Fully characterize and dispose of the licensed material. **Response**: The material was characterized and the activity determined on December 19, 2001. The material is 10 bags of soil containing hot particles. The particles are about the size of the end of a pencil lead. One of the bags contained what appears to be a discrete source. This source was approximately 3/8 inch in diameter and ½ inch long. Radionuclide identification was performed using an Exploranium portable gamma spec. Only Cobalt 60 gamma peaks were identified. The total activity of all 10 bags was determined using the formula 6CEn where R/hr@1ft = 6CEn. The total activity of all 10 bags is 27.31 milliCuries of Co-60. Activities and dose rates of each source are attached. An amendment request in attached to this memorandum. This material will be shipped off site for disposal by January 15, 2002.

c. Provide additional oversight of the decommissioning activities at Fort McClellan. **Response**: Mr. John May, the Chemical School Radiation Safety Officer, or in his absence a designated health physicist will contact the contractor weekly to determine the status of the decommissioning effort. The Radiation Safety Officer will visit the decommissioning site monthly. The tentative dates of the upcoming visits are January 2-6, February 4-8, and March 4-8, 2002.

If you have any questions or require clarification on any of the information above, contact Mr. John May at (573) 596-0131 extension 3-6224.

Sincerely,



Patricia L. Nilo
Brigadier General, U.S. Army
Commandant

Enclosures

Ft. McClellan, Pelham Range Discrete Sources found during Excavation.

The following activities have been calculated using the formula referred to as 6CEn

Where : R/hr@1ft=6CEn
C= Number of Curies
E= Gamma Energy in MeV
n= gamma constant

Radionuclide identification was performed by Mike Grey of OSC using an Exploranium portable gamma spec. unit. Only Co-60 gamma peaks were identified.

Item #	1 Ft reading in mR/hr	Activity in mCi	
1	3	0.3200131	
2	50	5.3335518	
3	3	0.3200131	
4	40	4.2668414	
5	5	0.5333552	
6	5	0.5333552	
7	100	10.667104	
8	15	1.6000655	
9	30	3.2001311	
10	5	0.5333552	
		27.3078	Total Co-60 Activity

Enclosure

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Dear Sir:

Request that NRC Materials License number 01-02861-05, docket number 030-17584, be amended. The amendment is to increase the amount of cobalt 60 to 50 milliCuries. This amendment is to cover the additional material found during excavation at the decommissioning site at Fort McClellan. The material is in the form of small particles and a small source, along with highly contaminated soil.

If you have any questions or require clarification, contact Mr. John May at (573) 596-0131 extension 3-6224.

Sincerely,

Patricia L. Nilo
Brigadier General, U.S. Army
Commandant