



Rachel Carson State Office Building
P.O. Box 8469
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8469
September 8, 2000

Bureau of Radiation Protection

717-787-2480
Fax: 717-783-8965

Mr. Larry Camper, Chief
Decommissioning Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
11545 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852-2738

RE: Cabot Corp., Reading PA SDMP Site

Dear Mr. Camper:

In NRC's recent letter to DEP (George Pangburn to David Allard, August 7, 2000), we were advised that NRC's target date for approval of the Decommissioning Plan for the Cabot Corp. Reading site remains September 2000.

We are reviewing the Cabot Decommissioning Plan and related information, and will provide any significant comments to you shortly. However, as NRC recognized some time ago, the key technical issues are the dose assessments and scenarios that Cabot has utilized to support their proposal that no decommissioning activities are required to terminate the NRC license for this site. It is our understanding that the NRC has these dose assessments and scenarios under review by Sandia Laboratory.

DEP would appreciate an opportunity and adequate time to review the results of Sandia's work, prior to NRC taking action on the Cabot proposal. Our review will be expedited to the maximum possible extent, consistent with satisfying any concerns that DEP may have about the Cabot proposal. Please contact us as soon as the Sandia results are available.

We would also like an update on the status of the requested hearing by September 20, 2000 on the Cabot proposal.

C/S



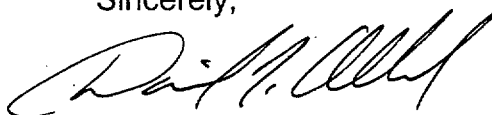
Mr. Larry Camper, Chief

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We appreciate the excellent cooperation that now exists between our two organizations and look forward to working with NRC in the oversight of the remediation of the SDMP sites in the Commonwealth.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Allard". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "A".

David Allard, CHP
Director

cc: Denise Chamberlain, DEP
Robert Nelson, NRC
George Pangburn, NRC