

## UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

September 5, 2001

Ms. Elaine Davies, Acting Director Office of Emergency and Remediation Response U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 401 M Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20460

Dear Ms. Davies:

This letter is to inform the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is authorizing release of land from NRC license for unrestricted use at the Cabot Corporation, Inc (Cabot) site near Revere, Pennsylvania and removal of the Revere site from License SMC-1562 and the Site Decommissioning Management Plan (SDMP).

The staff is providing this information to EPA in accordance with NRC policy contained in the "Action Plan to Ensure Timely Cleanup of Site Decommissioning Management Plan Sites" (57 FR 13389), which states that NRC will inform EPA about specific decommissioning actions at SDMP sites.

In 1969, the Atomic Energy Commission issued a license to Kawecki Chemical Company - Penn Rare Division (Cabot's predecessor), which authorized the storage of source materials at the Revere, Pennsylvania, site. The license was amended in 1970, authorizing the licensee (then known as Kawecki Berylium Industries) to process ore concentrates containing natural thorium and uranium in the extraction of columbium and tantalum metals. Processing of source-material-bearing ores ceased in 1978, and the license was subsequently amended to authorize storage-only at the Revere site in 1983. Cabot became the licensee of record in 1987. The Cabot Revere site was placed on the SDMP list in 1990.

Cabot has supplied, and NRC has reviewed, site characterization and dose assessment information. NRC has also coordinated with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP), including conducting joint site visits and inspections. A dose assessment, which incorporates site-specific data recently supplied by Cabot and reviewed by NRC staff, demonstrates that the unrestricted release criteria in 10 CFR 20.1402 have been met. A draft environmental assessment, along with a copy of the draft safety evaluation report were also provided to PADEP in March 2001, for its review and comment. PADEP agrees with NRC's determination. Based on a review of these assessments, both NRC and PADEP have concluded that the Revere site meets NRC's regulatory requirements for unrestricted use, and the site is being removed from License SMC-1562, and the SDMP list.

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## E. Davies

The project manager for the Cabot Revere site is Theodore B. Smith. If you have any questions on this matter, please contact him at (301) 415-6721.

Sincerely,

Larry W. Camper, Chief
Decommissioning Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No. 040-09027 License No. SMC-1562

CC:

Mr. David J. Allard, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Mr. Timothy Knapp, Cabot Corporation, Inc.