

RECEIVED Region 1 500 Point Breeze Road Flemington, NJ 08822-9111 Tel: (908) 782-5800 Fax: (908) 782-7768

Creating the Future of Zirconium Chemicals

2002 JUN 14 AM 11: 22

June 11, 2002

Ronald Bellamy United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission Region I 475 Allendale Road King of Prussia, PA 19406-1415

Certified Mail Article Number 7000 0600 0024 7089 0153 Return Receipt Requested

Re: Inspection 04008984/2002001

Dear Mr. Bellamy:

As outlined in MEI's January 31, 1995 letter to Mr. Charles Gaskin of the Licensing Branch of the USNRC, our facility instituted a process change to ensure that concentrations of uranium and thorium remain below the 500 ppm standard. Upon implementation of this process, MEI agreed to perform "regular" analysis of the source material (also known as "SCN – Silica Co-Neutralized"). In order to gather sufficient data to establish a baseline, this analysis was performed once per shift for approximately one year. Upon review of the data, which indicated concentrations well below the 500 ppm threshold, sampling and analysis was scaled back to once a week, then once per month and finally once per year.

In order to satisfy your offices request for a sampling plan, and based on the fact that MEI's process that generates the above-referenced SCN material has not changed since 1995, MEI would like to perform quarterly analysis of the material which will be analyzed by an outside testing laboratory. In order to avoid a duplication of effort, this sampling plan will be identical to the sampling that is currently conducted for MEI's Ground Water Protection Plan through the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

Please contact me at (908)-782-5800 extension 1124, should you have any questions ore require additional information.

Sincerely,

John F. Beaupre Manager, Environmental Health and Safety Compliance

NMSS/BG-N-004