



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I
475 ALLENDALE ROAD
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406-1415

September 10, 2002

Robert Simeone
Technical Manager
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New England District
696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742-2751

SUBJECT: GSA PROPERTY, WATERTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS

Dear Mr. Simeone:

This letter is a followup to our August 29, 2002 site visit, discussions with you and contractor staff, and representatives from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts regarding final remediation activities for the GSA Watertown property. The site is on the NRC Site Decommissioning Management Plan list of contaminated sites which require some degree of remediation or involve regulatory issues that must be resolved before being released for unrestricted use.

Prior site characterizations have identified residual depleted uranium contamination in soil. The June 2002, "Focused Uranium Tailings Investigation" report submitted by your contractor, Harding ESE, provided a review of previous remedial activities and additional characterization of certain site locations, which indicated data for thorium and radium concentrations in ratios not representative of depleted or natural uranium. The report shows areas which should be evaluated for the presence of uranium tailings to determine whether additional remediations are necessary.

Your proposed sampling activities appear sufficient to identify remaining site contamination not included in previous site characterizations. After sample results are evaluated, we expect you to submit plans to complete final site sampling, survey, and cleanup which consider remediation to the site-specific derived concentration guideline level (DCGL) identified in our May 10, 2001 letter (enclosed). An NRC confirmatory survey will be performed on the property to ensure that contractor survey results are accurate and the site can be released for unrestricted use. Please inform us when final surveys will be performed so that we may coordinate site visits, and provide a schedule of followup actions planned through December 31, 2002, including estimated date for you to complete any required remediations.

R. Simeone
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

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Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Original signed by Craig Z. Gordon

Craig Z. Gordon
Sr. Health Physicist
Decommissioning and Laboratory Branch
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

cc: w/ enclosure
Tom O' Connell, MADPH
Craig Durrett, MADEP
Micheal Strobel, GSA
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Hans Hanerlah, USACE
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Jeff Lively, MACTEC

R. Simeone
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

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