



U.S. Department of Energy

Grand Junction Office
2597 B 3/4 Road
Grand Junction, CO 81503

WM-42

MAR 26 2003

Ms. Jill Caverly, Site Manager
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Fuel Cycle Facilities Branch, NMSS
Mail Stop T7C6
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Subject: Request to Remove the Strangford Road Access Gate and Sign at the Burrell,
Pennsylvania, Disposal Site - WM-42

Dear Ms. Caverly:

During the 2002 annual inspection of the Burrell, Pennsylvania, disposal site, the access gate at Strangford Road was found to be in disrepair, as shown on the enclosed Photos 1 and 2. The presence of a gate at that location does not add to site protectiveness or security, and creates an unnecessary maintenance obligation. Therefore, the Department of Energy Grand Junction Office (DOE-GJO) requests a change in the site long-term surveillance plan (LTSP) regarding removal of the gate and its entrance sign.

The double-swing chain link gate is 6 feet tall and has a typical entrance sign mounted to it. It is located at the beginning of the perpetual easement leading to the disposal site. The DOE allowed the railroad to install a padlock in series with the Long-Term Surveillance and Maintenance Program lock to provide access to their right-of-way. Since that was done, however, the lock and chain have been repeatedly missing during site visits. Two gas wells were installed, since the completion of the disposal site, and are also accessed by others through this gate.

The entrance to the disposal site will remain controlled at the site boundary as shown on the enclosed Photo 3. This control has not been violated and has proven to be adequate in providing site protectiveness and security.

In the discussion of site surveillance features, the LTSP does not specify that a gate or entrance sign be maintained at Strangford Road. The LTSP does show these features on a map. The LTSM program is seeking NRC concurrence for removal of the gate and sign and corresponding changes to the LTSP.

Please call me at (970) 248-6037 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Art Kleinrath
Program Manager

NMSS08

Enclosures

cc w/enclosures:

C. Jacobson, Stoller

R. Johnson, Stoller

Project File LBUR 5.7 thru A. Temple

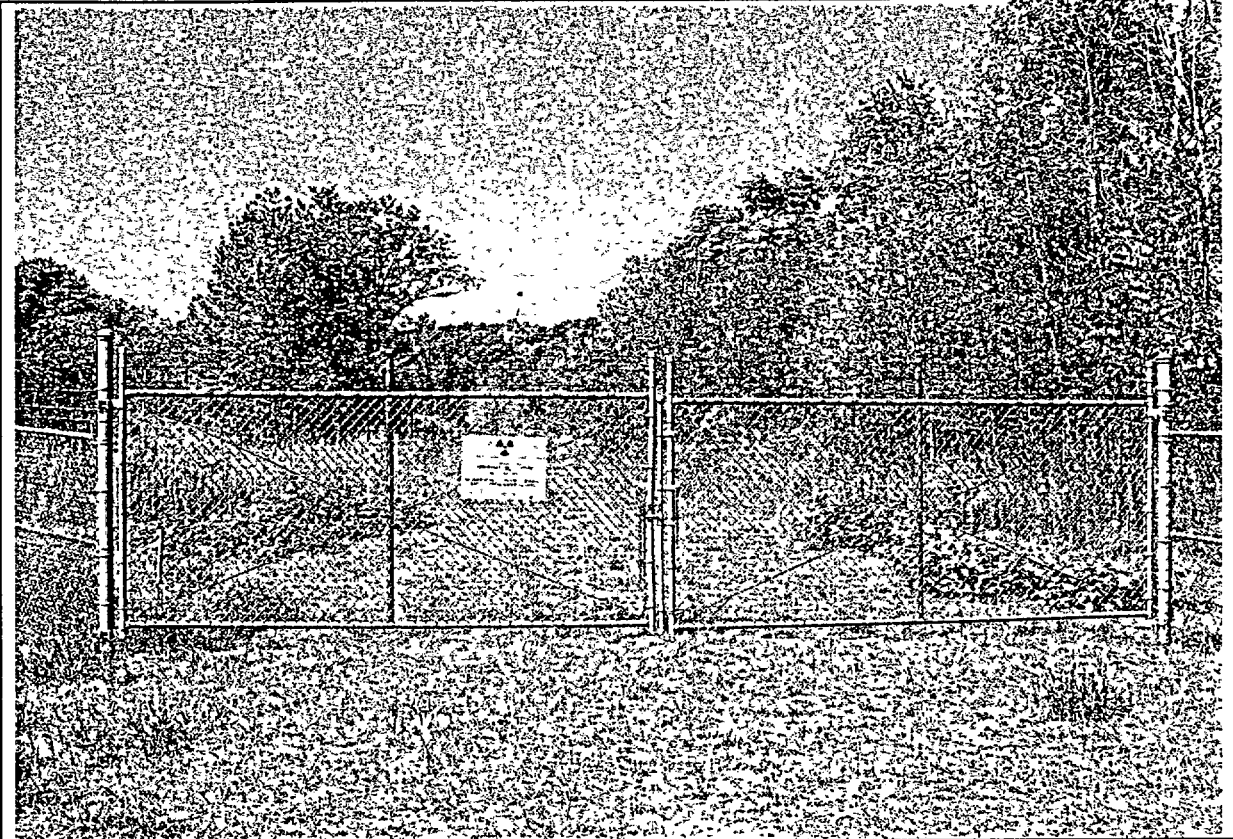
awk/2BUR Gate Removal to NRC doc



9/2002. Photo 1. East gatepost of access gate at Strangford Road, Burrell, Pennsylvania, disposal site.



9/2002. Photo 2. West gatepost of access gate at Strangford Road, Burrell, Pennsylvania, disposal site.



9/2002. Photo 3. Entrance gate at the DOE property boundary, Burrell, Pennsylvania, disposal site.