

October 29, 2003

Mr. Bill Vinzant
Project Manager, KACC
Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corporation
9141 Interline Avenue, Suite 1A
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

SUBJECT: DISPOSAL REQUEST FOR UNIMPORTANT QUANTITIES OF SOURCE
MATERIAL FROM THE TULSA FACILITY

Dear Mr. Vinzant:

This letter responds to your September 15, 2003, request regarding the processing and disposal of unimportant quantities of thorium contaminated material. Your letter states that Kaiser Aluminum (Kaiser) will dispose of all material greater than 31.1 pCi/g Th-232 off-site, at an approved disposal facility. This approach is consistent with the approved decommissioning plan (DP). The request also states that, on average, the material above 31.1 pCi/g meets the definition of exempt material in 10 CFR 40.13 (less than 0.05% by weight source material) and therefore, is suitable for disposal at RCRA - permitted disposal facilities such as Waste Control Specialists (WCS) or U.S. Ecology. However, in order to meet the waste acceptance criteria (WAC) for each waste container, on-site waste processing (blending) may be required.

On-site waste processing, or blending, is an acceptable method for meeting disposal facility WAC requirements. As you have correctly stated in your letter, blending is not acceptable for the purpose of avoiding off-site disposal.

Prior to sending any waste to a RCRA - permitted disposal facility, Kaiser must perform and submit a dose analysis to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) which determines the potential dose consequence to members of the public from the proposed disposal. NRC inspectors will examine your waste shipment records and observe the on-site waste processing operations during future inspections.

If you have questions concerning this letter, please contact John Buckley at (301) 415-6607.

Sincerely,

/RA/
Daniel M. Gillen, Chief
Decommissioning Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No. 040-2377
License No. STB-472 (Terminated)

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