October 3, 1994

MEMORANDUM TO:

John Austin, Chief

Low-Level Waste and Decommissioning Projects Branch, DWM

FROM:

Margaret Federline, Chief

Performance Assessment and Hydrology Branch, DWM

SUBJECT:

CONCLUSIONS FROM NUCLEAR METALS INCORPORATED ANALYSIS

At your request, M. Rose Byrne and Richard Codell of this Branch have conducted an analysis of the Nuclear Metals site in response to the questions: (1) Should the contaminated sludge in the holding basin be removed in the near future or allowed to stay on-site for 7-8 years; and (2) Will existing levels of contaminants in the groundwater require remediation before the site is released to unrestricted use? Correlations of rainfall rate and uranium concentrations at this time do not allow any conclusions about the effectiveness of the holding basin cover. They conclude however that there is the potential for existing groundwater contamination of uranium to migrate off-site in concentrations exceeding the current EPA standards. They request additional data and analyses in order to study options for decommissioning of the site prior to its release for unrestricted use. Please address your questions and comments to M. Rose Byrne (415-6609) or Richard Codell (415-8167).

Attachment: As stated

Timothy C. Johnson cc:

LSS

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