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**OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY**

OPERATED BY  
**UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION**  
NUCLEAR DIVISION



POST OFFICE BOX X  
OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE 37830

August 6, 1981

Mr. Robert W. Barber  
Environmental and Safety Engineering Division  
U. S. Department of Energy  
MS-E201  
Washington, D. C. 20545

Dear Bob:

During the most recent survey trip to the Canonsburg area (July 25-31) contact was made by our staff with Bob Cahlan, the manager of the former Superior Steel facility in Carnegie, Pennsylvania. Discussions were held to outline the type of survey effort that would be required at this location and a site visit was conducted to assess the current conditions of these facilities. The highlights of this meeting are as follows:

- (1) Mr. Cahlan has been in discussions with the owner of the facility and with their company lawyer concerning company responsibilities and liabilities with the current tenants of the buildings.
- (2) No discussions at present have been held with the tenants.
- (3) One portion of the facility (approximately 12,000 square feet) has recently been vacated by the previous tenants and is readily accessible for surveying. This is the portion of the facility where the most significant contamination had been located during the preliminary survey. The owner plans either to lease this building in the near future, or utilize it as an additional storage area for his company.
- (4) The major portion of the facility is currently being used for light industrial work where, among other things, coke oven doors are refurbished. This operation has been expanded since the preliminary survey last year, and conditions for surveying within the structure have deteriorated significantly since then. In the present state, only about 20% of the floor area of the facility is open. The remainder of the area is covered by stored materials, large fabricated components and machinery. The coke dust problem on walks and floors has worsened to the point where cleanup of the building to remove

August 6, 1981

this dust and other waste materials would require a significant investment of time and effort (estimated at several weeks). Shut-down of industrial operations during this time as well as during the survey operation would be required. This action did not seem reasonable to Mr. Cahlan.

Due to the condition of the main building area, and the amount of effort, time and money that would be required to make the building accessible, a radiological survey of this area does not seem feasible at this time. The potential for worker exposure in this area is extremely low, based on the results of the preliminary radiological survey and the current facility use. If conditions in the building change (i.e. new tenants or a change in operations), the survey could then be performed.

In the vacated portion of the facility, a full radiological survey could be conducted at this time. Scheduling of this survey would be dependent upon DOE priorities, with consideration of the fact that future leasing of this building could make surveying of this structure difficult. Requiring that the structure remain vacant for an extended period to allow for surveying in a few months would place monetary hardships on the owner that he may not be willing to cover.

We need to obtain direction from the DOE on this matter prior to our scheduling of subcontract services and making survey plans. The basic options that need to be considered are

- (1) delay the entire survey until a time when complete access to the facility can be obtained,
- (2) schedule a survey in the vacant building area in the next month or so, delaying the survey of the other buildings until they become more accessible, or
- (3) attempt to survey the entire facility, with subsequent major interruptions in the present tenants operations.

We will await your decision on this matter before we proceed with future plans for this site.

Sincerely,

*for W.A. Goldsmith*  
W. A. Goldsmith, Ph.D.  
RASCA Program Manager, ORNL

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