

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : File 19-1398-29

DATE: AUG 26 1966

FROM : J. C. Glynn *JCG*
Irradiated Fuels Branch, DML

SUBJECT: MARTIN-MARIETTA REQUEST FOR AN AMENDMENT TO AUTHORIZE DECONTAMINATION OF QUEHANNA FACILITY

In a letter, ACC-498 dated August 16, 1966, Martin-Marietta requested that Byproduct Material License No. 19-1398-29 be amended to authorize the decontamination of their facility at Quehanna, Pennsylvania in connection with the termination of production activity at the facility. The general operations that Martin-Marietta plans on carrying out are:

- (1) Removal of processing and support equipment installed in the cells and isolation rooms including removal of piping and tanks, as necessary,
- (2) Removal of the stationary overhead transfer system,
- (3) General decontamination of the facility to contamination levels defined by the contractual relations of the parties concerned, and
- (4) Disposition of equipment and material as dictated by contractual agreement.

Martin-Marietta has stated that the following precautions will be in effect:

- (1) The decontamination effort will be accomplished in compliance with procedures which are presently authorized by Byproduct Material License No. 19-1398-29,
- (2) All operations will be conducted under the direct supervision of experienced Quehanna personnel and under the overall surveillance of the resident health physics group,
- (3) Planning and indoctrination meetings will be conducted prior to non-routine work to familiarize all personnel in the assignments to be accomplished and in the precautions to be taken,



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- (4) Back-up support equipment and personnel as may be required by the work to be done will be available, (telephone conversation of 8-26-66 with C. Keller - standby personnel to continue an operation if necessary, supply of fresh air if needed, additional instrumentation as a standby.)
- (5) Extensive radiation surveys will be conducted before authorizing personnel access to highly hazardous areas in order to establish radiation rates and to set occupancy times such that personnel exposure may be controlled in accordance with established radiation protection standards. Radiation dose rates will be minimized when possible through the use of remote handling tools.

In addition to the decontamination techniques previously approved under the existing license, Martin-Marietta has indicated that sandblast and grinding equipment may be used to remove strongly adherent and/or impregnated contaminants.

My review of the information that Martin-Marietta has submitted in support of this request for an amendment indicates that the decontamination operations can be carried out safely for the following reasons.

- (1) The decontamination techniques, excluding the sandblasting and grinding, have been previously reviewed and found to be acceptable from a health and safety standpoint,
- (2) The sandblasting and grinding technique of decontamination should not present any serious hazard since the ventilation system will prevent an uncontrolled spread of contamination. Also, the use of air-masks previously approved for use will protect personnel from the inhalation of airborne contamination.
- (3) Aside from the decontamination techniques, the precautions that will be in effect during these operations, as listed above, appear to be quite adequate to safely handle any normal or abnormal situation that may arise.

Consequently, I believe that the decontamination operations proposed by Martin-Marietta can be performed without any undue hazard to the health and safety of the general public and recommend that the requested amendment be issued.