

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSIONBEFORE THE PRESIDING OFFICER

In the Matter of

U.S. ARMY

(Jefferson Proving Ground Site)

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Docket No. 40-8838-MLA-2

ASLBP No. 04-819-04-MLA

NRC STAFF STATUS REPORTINTRODUCTION

The Presiding Officer issued a "Memorandum and Order (Calling upon the NRC Staff to Furnish Status Report)," dated June 1, 2004 ("Order"). The requested status report is provided below.

DISCUSSION

The Presiding Officer requested the NRC staff (Staff) to set forth with particularity the present status of the technical review of the current license amendment application and to furnish its best estimate as to when that review will be completed. In Board Notification 2004-01, dated May 26, 2004, the Staff filed with the Presiding Officer and parties its Request for Additional Information (RAI) transmitted to the United States Army (Licensee) by a letter dated May 20, 2004. The Staff stated in its cover letter that the additional information was necessary for the Staff to complete its evaluation of the Environmental Radiation Monitoring (ERM) Program Plan submitted in support of the amendment application. The Staff requested that the Licensee respond within 90 days of the Licensee's receipt date of June 1, 2004. If the Licensee uses that full time, the response would be filed no later than August 30, 2004.

The 90 day response interval reflected the Staff's estimate of the time that would be required for the Licensee to generate the information requested. In setting this time interval, the Staff interacted with the Licensee, so that the allowed time should be sufficient.

Based upon past experience, the Staff's best estimate is that completion of its technical review and issuance of an Environmental Assessment (EA) and Safety Evaluation (SE) setting forth its position on the amendment application will require between four and six months from the receipt of an adequate response to the RAI. Thus, at this point in the review process, the timing of completion of the technical review is dependent upon the actions of the Licensee, as well as the Staff. Assuming that the Licensee provides an adequate response in 90 days, the Staff's current timeline will result in completion of the technical review and issuance of the EA and SE between early January and early March 2005.

CONCLUSION

In accordance with the Order, the Staff submits the above status report.

Respectfully submitted,

/RA/

Stephen H. Lewis
Counsel for NRC Staff

Dated at Rockville, Maryland
this 8th day of June, 2004

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of "NRC STAFF STATUS REPORT" in the above captioned proceeding have been served on the following through deposit in the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's internal Mail system (as indicated by a single asterisk) or by U.S. Mail, first class, and (as indicated by a double asterisk) by e-mail, this 8th day of June, 2004.

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