



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4005**

June 30, 2004

MEMORANDUM TO: Charles Miller, Director
Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety
NMSS

FROM: Elmo E. Collins, Director **/RA/**
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety, RIV

SUBJECT: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE REQUEST, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR
FORCE BURIAL OF DU TANKS UNDER 10 CFR 20.2002

Licensee: US Department of the Air Force (MML)

License/Docket/TAC Nos: 42-23539-01AF 030-28641 A10254

Letter dated: June 23, 2004

Enforcement Action being held in abeyance: None

Issue:

A TAR Panel was conducted on February 2, 2004, at which time Region IV discussed the U.S. Department of the Air Force (AF) request to bury, at US Ecology Idaho, four (4) US Army M-47 tanks that are contaminated with depleted uranium (DU) through use as training targets. The TAR Panel decided that the AF should submit the request under 10 CFR 20.2002, "Method of obtaining approval of proposed disposal procedures." Region IV subsequently held a teleconference on April 8, 2004, between the AF, Christopher McKenney, Division of Waste Management, and Rachel Browder from the Region IV office. The purpose of the teleconference was to discuss the documentation and type of analyses which the AF should submit in order to meet the agency's expectations for alternate disposal methods under 20.2002.

Action Requested:

Please review the June 23, 2004, US Department of the Air Force submittal (ML041810555) which requests approval of the burial of four (4) tanks containing unimportant quantities of materials at the US Ecology Hazardous Waste Treatment and Disposal Facility in Idaho. If the request is adequate and you concur with the documentation submitted under 10 CFR 20.2002, then please send us a memo stating your concurrence and indicating any conditions which may be necessary at this time. If the request is insufficient, please respond with a list of additional information needs. To facilitate the US Department of the Air Force's request, we ask that you respond by August 4, 2004.

Recommended Action: Approve

TARs addressing similar issues: Mallinckrodt (ML021910478)

Please provide the information requested below and return a completed copy to the Licensing Assistant (LA) or Project Manager (PM).

Name of Reviewer: _____

Projected Completion Date: _____

Branch Chief Signature: _____

Contacts: PM: Rachel Browder, (817) 276-6552
LA: Colleen Murnahan, (817) 860-8103

The above TAC No. should be referenced for future correspondence related to this request and on the HRMS Report for recording staff time expended on this effort.

Docket No.: 030-28641
License No.: 42-23539-01AF

bcc:

BSMallett, RA

PGwynn, DRA

EECollins, D/DNMS

CLCain, TA/DNMS

JEWWhitten, C/NMLB

DBSpitzberg, C/FCDB

RSBrowder, NMLB

MThaggard, NMSS/DWMEP/EPAD (w/enclosure)

CAMcKenney, NMSS/DWMEP/EPAD (w/enclosure)

IMNS Secretary

ADAMS: X Yes

X Non-Publicly Available

Initials: __rsb____

X Non-Sensitive

DOCUMENT NAME: C:\ORPCheckout\FileNET\ML041820450.wpd

RIV:DNMS:NMLB	C:NMLB	C:FCDB	D:DNMS
RSBrowder	JEWWhitten	DBSpitzberg	EECollins
/RA/	/RA/	/RA/	/RA/
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