

April 5, 2005

Mr. James Moore, CPG
Project Manager, Colonie FUSRAP Site
Department of the Army
New York District, Corps of Engineers
Jacob K. Javits Federal Building
New York, NY 20278-0090

Dear Mr. Moore:

I am writing to you in response to our telephone conversation of March 9, 2005. In our conversation, we discussed my March 4, 2005, letter responding to your February 2, 2005, letter about waste blending at the Colonie, New York, Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP) site.

SECY-04-0035 concluded that the intentional mixing of materials to meet a disposal facility's waste acceptance criteria (WAC) was consistent with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) practice. This was affirmed in the Commission's Staff Requirements Memorandum approving the conclusions in the SECY Paper. The NRC has approved blending of similar waste streams to meet disposal facility WAC to achieve cleanup goals at sites undergoing decommissioning. The NRC approved the blending of similar waste streams to meet disposal facility WAC for the Kaiser Aluminum site on September 15, 2003. We also plan to approve soon another similar blending operation's technical basis, although I cannot specify the facility because the license amendment to approve all of the licensee's actions has not been issued.

Although I have not thoroughly reviewed the technical details of the blending of waste streams at Colonie, the proposed approach appears consistent with blending operations that the NRC has approved to meet disposal facility WAC.

I hope this letter clarifies the information provided in my March 4, 2005, response. If I can be of any further assistance, please contact me at (301) 415-7295.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Daniel M. Gillen, Deputy Director
Decommissioning Directorate
Division of Waste Management
and Environmental Protection
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

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*See previous concurrence

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