



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
2000 NAVY PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20350-2000

IN REPLY REFER TO

5104  
Ser N455C/N5U9011376  
06 July 2005

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Region I  
475 Allendale Road  
King of Prussia, PA 19406-1415  
(Attn: Ms. O. Bailey)

Ladies and Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: DECOMMISSIONING OF THE FORMER NAVAL MEDICAL RESEARCH  
CENTER (NMRC), BETHESDA, MD

The former Naval Medical Research Center (NMRC), Bethesda, Maryland was authorized to possess and use licensed radioactive materials under Naval Radioactive Materials Permit (NRMP) No. 19-32398-41NP in accordance with the NRC Master Materials License Number 45-23645-01NA.

The Navy's letter of November 29, 1999 submitted a decommissioning plan (DP) for NMRC. Your response of February 29, 2000 recommended the Navy separate the decommissioning activities for NMRC into two separate decommissioning plans; one for Building 150 and its surrounding grounds, and one for the balance of the NMRC facilities. You stated if Navy agreed with this approach, decommissioning activities for all NMRC facilities, except Building 150 and its surrounding grounds, could proceed under the submitted DP. A characterization survey of Building 150 and its surrounding grounds was requested in order to establish a basis for determining what additional actions needed to be addressed before decommissioning of that facility continued.

The Navy agreed to follow the conditions of your letter and has decommissioned all NMRC facilities with the exception of Building 150 and its surrounding grounds. However, during this time the Navy identified two underground storage tanks (USTs), located near Building 17B, which were used as holding tanks for the discharge of radioactive liquids by NMRC. These USTs were not addressed in the NMRC decommissioning plan and the Navy did not include the USTs in the decommissioning of NMRC facilities other than Building 150.

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NAVSEADET RASO directed the characterization survey of Building 150 and its surrounding area, and the USTs. To reduce overall project cost, the characterization survey was planned as a final status survey to include remediation and removal of any radioactive contamination. Small areas of contamination inside and one small area outside of Building 150 were identified and removed. The USTs, which contained small concentrations of tritium in the sludge at the bottom of the tanks, were removed and the surrounding soils sampled. No radioactive contamination was measured in the soil around or under the tanks.

Enclosure (1) documents results of the decommissioning of Building 150 and its surround grounds, and the UST site. The results of the surveys demonstrate that the sites meet the 10 CFR 20, Subpart E criteria for unrestricted use. The Navy Radiation Safety Committee requests you review enclosure (1) and recommend, if necessary, how to proceed with decommissioning activities.

If you have any further question regarding the survey report, please contact Dr. Steven Doremus at NAVSEADET RASO: (757) 887-7745 or doremussw@raso.navy.mil.

Sincerely,



L. L. FRAGOSO  
By direction

Enclosure: 1. New World Technology Final Report, Building  
150/Underground Storage Tank Decommissioning  
Project, Bethesda National Naval Medical Center,  
Revision 3 of 6 January 2004

Copy to (w/o encl):  
COMNAVSEASYSKOM (04N)  
BUMED (M342)  
NNMC (5400)  
NAVENVHLTHCEN  
NAVSEADET RASO

This is to acknowledge the receipt of your letter/application dated

7/6/2005, and to inform you that the initial processing which includes an administrative review has been performed.

AMEND. 45-28645-DINA  
There were no administrative omissions. Your application was assigned to a technical reviewer. Please note that the technical review may identify additional omissions or require additional information.

Please provide to this office within 30 days of your receipt of this card

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A copy of your action has been forwarded to our License Fee & Accounts Receivable Branch, who will contact you separately if there is a fee issue involved.

Your action has been assigned **Mail Control Number** 137326.  
When calling to inquire about this action, please refer to this control number.  
You may call us on (610) 337-5398, or 337-5260.