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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION III  
799 ROOSEVELT ROAD  
GLEN ELLYN, ILLINOIS 60137

May 23, 1984

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Region III File  
FROM: George M. France, III, Fuel  
Facility Inspector  
SUBJECT: TRIP REPORT - NRC STAFF FAMILIARIZATION VISITS TO  
ALLIED CHEMICAL COMPANY (DOCKET NO. 04003392),  
COMBUSTION ENGINEERING CORPORATION (DOCKET NO. 07000036),  
AND KERR MCGEE NUCLEAR CORPORATION (DOCKET NOS. 07000925  
AND 07001193)

During the period May 8 - 10, 1984, Messrs. Hind, Paperiello, Greger, and France of the Region III staff, visited Allied Chemical Company's Metropolis uranium conversion facility, Combustion Engineering Corporation's Hematite fuel fabrication facility, and Kerr McGee Nuclear Corporation's Cimarron plutonium and uranium fuel fabrication facilities. The site visits were made to orient new Region III management personnel to the fuel facility sites and personnel, to discuss recent developments within NRC concerning fuel facility licensing activities, and to review current licensee activities to evaluate regional inspection needs.

Tour of the Allied facility began about 2 p.m. on May 8. Mr. A. Cipolla, Plant Manager, and Mr. R. Yates, Plant Health Physicist were the principal persons contacted. Mr. Cipolla noted that Allied, producing at only two-thirds capacity, is concerned about the lack of future contracts for ore conversion to UF<sub>6</sub>, especially in the international market. The following areas of concern were noted as future inspection items.

- . Calculation of dose to the nearest residence.
- . Trends in environmental uranium concentrations in the restricted and unrestricted areas.
- . Adequacy of liquid and gaseous effluent monitoring.
- . Criteria for release of material from the site.
- . Radium-226 and thorium-230 levels in plant processes.

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The NRC staff arrived at Combustion Engineering on May 9, at about 10 a.m. for a tour of the facility. The Plant Manager, J. Rode, and the Nuclear Criticality and Accountability Officer, H. Eskridge, were the principal persons contacted. Mr. Rode explained that the C.E. Hematite operation is an exclusive customer for the C.E. Windsor operation. He indicated that other than a small pellet operation scheduled to begin in May the short term outlook is for a slow down in operation of the facility. He then expected the facility to resume normal operational levels for 1 to 2 years depending on orders for replacement fuel.

The following areas of concern were noted as future inspection items.

- . Disposal surveys of spent limestone rock (HF scrubbers).
- . Calculation of dose to the nearest residence.

The NRC staff began a tour of Kerr McGee's fuel fabrication facilities at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 10. Executive Vice President, R. Luke; Contract Director, R. Adkisson; Plant Manager, W. Norwood; and other staff and plant personnel were present for discussions of both facilities. Mr. Luke stated that decommissioning activities were scheduled through 1986 with completion by 1987. He indicated that Kerr McGee is interested in finding alternative uses for both the plutonium and uranium buildings following decontamination. Mr. Norwood submitted graphic presentations describing the current status of decommissioning activities at the plutonium facility. The NRC personnel noted a need for advance Regional planning to target funds to conduct confirmatory measurements for soil contamination during the final phase of Kerr McGee's decommissioning program. The Kerr McGee personnel indicated that decontamination procedures, methods, and findings would be documented in accordance with DOE concerns.

The following areas of concern were noted as future inspection items:

- . "Respiratory Protection Required" posting practices.
- . Resolution of applicability of License Condition 17.

*George M. France, III*  
George M. France, III  
Fuel Facility Inspector

cc: J. A. Hind  
- C. J. Paperiello  
- L. R. Greger