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

MAY 31 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR: George Bidinger, Chief, Uranium Fuel Section, IMNS
FROM: Donald J. Sreniawski, Fuel Facilities and Decommissioning Sites Group, Region III
SUBJECT: ABB-COMBUSTION ENGINEERING/HEMATITE FACILITY REQUEST

This refers to ABB-Combustion Engineering's (ABB-CE) letter dated May 14, 1990 (copy attached) requesting approval to fill the evacuated soil floor of Building 253 at its Hematite Facility. The construction plan calls for the area to be then covered by concrete.

In a May 18, 1990 telephone discussion, Mr. James Rode, the Hematite facility plant manager stated that records of the extent of the uranium contamination in the soil below the Building 253 floor will be maintained as required by (10 CFR Part 70.25(g)).

The Region III Fuels Facilities and Decommissioning Sites Group recommends that ABB-CE be allowed to fill the floor area of Building 253 based on the following evaluations:

1. The facility is not being released for unrestricted use, it will be included as part of the eventual entire facility's decommissioning.
2. The remedial work has reduced the levels of uranium soil contamination in the new construction area to concentrations lower than those in the adjoining area. Current levels reach a maximum of 82 pCi/gm versus original readings of 680 pCi/gm.
3. The licensee has concerns that further evacuation to remove contaminated soil could endanger the building structures.

Since the commitment to refrain from filling the excavated area until the NRC approves was made to your section, the release to permit ABB-CE to backfill the Building 253 area should also be from your section as per our May 23, 1990 discussion.

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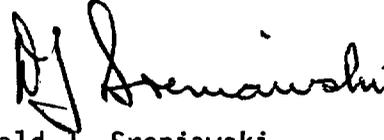
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George Bidinger

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MAY 31 1990

If I can be of any assistance, please inform me.



Donald J. Sreniawski
Fuel Facilities and Decommissioning
Sites Group

Attachment: 1tr dtd 5/14/90

cc w/o attachment:
C. Haughney, NMSS
G. France, RIII
W. Axelson, RIII