



November 7, 2005

Document Center
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Dear Sir or Madam:

Attached is a letter mailed to neighbors about the Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corporation's Thorium Project in Tulsa, Oklahoma. A similar letter is being sent to Kaiser's employees and retirees in Tulsa. A copy also will be placed in the public repository at the Nathan Hale Library in Tulsa.

Sincerely,

J. W. (Bill) Vinzant, P.E.
Manager, Corporate Environmental Affairs

enclosures

cc: Mr. John T. Buckley
Mr. Dwight Chamberlain
Ms. Pamela Bishop

NimSS01



November 7, 2005

Dear Neighbor:

Work is continuing at Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corporation's thorium remediation project located at 7311 East 41st Street in Tulsa. My purpose in writing is to provide you an update on progress at the site.

The work involves excavating thorium-containing soil, processing, testing and analyzing the material, and verifying results. Material that exceeds criteria set by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is loaded on rail cars and transported to an approved disposal facility. Soil with acceptable levels of thorium concentration and clean soils brought from an off-site location are being used to backfill excavated areas. Since field work began in Spring 2004, more than 160,000 tons of soil have been processed.

The soil around the perimeter of the property has been fully processed and tested, and these areas have been backfilled. In August, the last remaining building in the former operations area was demolished. Workers are now excavating and processing soil in the center area. The soil excavation and processing is about 75 percent complete.

Performing the work safely, thoroughly, and with minimum impact on the community continues to be Kaiser's primary objective. Air monitoring equipment is located around the site and in work areas to assure dust does not exceed acceptable levels. There have been no exceedences detected. Also, with more than 75,000 man-hours worked, there have been no safety incidents. The NRC conducts regular inspections, and all work is in compliance with procedures and with the approved Decommissioning Plan.

We anticipate completing the soil excavation and processing mid 2006. After the excavated areas are backfilled, the entire site will be graded, and vegetation will be planted.

We appreciate your patience. If at any time you have questions, please call our Community Relations Coordinator, Roberta Fowlkes, toll free, at (800) 576-0032. Also, if you are interested in more detailed information, the Decommissioning Plan is available for public inspection in the Reference Department of the Nathan Hale Library, 6038 East 23rd Street, Tulsa.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Vinzant". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

J. W. (Bill) Vinzant
Manager, Corporate Environmental Affairs