

Eber R. Price, Assistant Director
Division of Licensing and Regulation

SEP 22 1961

Leo Dubinski, Assistant Director
for Materials
Division of Compliance
ENGELHARD INDUSTRIES, INC. (DOCKET 70-139)
ATTLEBORO, MASSACHUSETTS
LICENSES NOS. SUB-185 AND SUB-172
ALLEGED DEFICIENCIES IN WASTE DISPOSAL SYSTEM

Original Signed by
Leo Dubinski

CO:LD

In a memorandum dated August 23, 1961 from R. Lowenstein to L. D. Low, in connection with the above subject, a request was made to check on the situation indicated in the letter by Dr. W. H. Taylor, Department of Public Health, Boston, Massachusetts. This has been done by the NY Compliance Area and attached is a copy of the memo from R. W. Kirkman to me dated September 19, 1961, furnishing preliminary information on the basis of telephone inquiries. You will note that Dr. Taylor was contacted and Mr. Kirkman expects to hear further from him. When we get additional information it will be forwarded to you.

An enforcement letter requiring a 30-day reply was sent to the licenses on August 4, 1961. Presumably enforcement action should be completed at an early date. It is quite possible that a followup of enforcement action, reinspection and the need for any further looking into the matter raised by the Health Department could all be accomplished at the same time within the near future.

Attachment:
Cpy memo NY to CO
dtd 9/19/61

cc: R. W. Kirkman, NY

RECEIVED

SEP 22 1961

NYCO COMPLIANCE DIVISION

CO

Dubinski:em

9/22/61

Leo Dubinski, Assistant Director for
Materials, Division of Compliance, HQ.

SEP 19 1961

Robert W. Kirkman, Director
New York Compliance Area

ENGELHARD INDUSTRIES, INC., ATTLEBORO, MASSACHUSETTS;
LICENSE NOS. ~~SME-185~~ AND SUB-172 - ALLEGED DEFICIENCIES
IN WASTE DISPOSAL SYSTEM (YOUR MEMO, 8/29/61, CO:EGO)

SNM-185

CO-NY:PBK

Mr. Norton M. Weiss, Manager of Health Physics, Engelhard Industries, was tele-contacted on 9/9/61 regarding the alleged deficiencies in the subject licensee's waste disposal system. Weiss made reference to a letter sent to him from Worthen H. Taylor, Director, Division of Sanitary Engineering, dated August 9, 1961, concerning the radioactive liquid waste disposal system at Engelhard Industries. He stated that the mode of discharging of wastes is the same as reported during our inspection of his facility. He added that the incident reported in the letter of 8/9/61 occurred when wash waters and laundry waste were discharged to several leaching pits. A scum, consisting of detergents, lint, etc., had formed in one of the pits, thus blocking it and causing some of the waste waters to overflow onto the surrounding ground. Weiss stated he added sulphuric acid to the pits, and the action of the sulphuric acid dissolved the scum and corrected the deficiency of the pits. He added that, on August 15, he visited the Division of Sanitary Engineering, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and spoke to Messrs. Richard Powers and Roger Leopold regarding the action taken in response to their letter. He stated that they agreed that proper corrective action appeared to have been taken.

Weiss stated that all waste waters to the leaching pits were only released if they met the provisions of Part 20. He stated that records of disposal to the pits are maintained, and that the average liquid effluent disposed to the pits was 4.5×10^{-6} uc U/ml.

OFFICE ▶	COMPLIANCE				
SURNAME ▶	KLEVIN, <i>RM</i>	KIRKMAN			
DATE ▶	9/18/61				

On 9/8/61, Worthen H. Taylor, Director, Division of Sanitary Engineering, was contacted regarding the aforementioned occurrence. Taylor stated that Weiss had been up to see Powers and Leopold, but that both men were not presently available. He stated that he intended to send one of his inspectors back to Engelhard to check whether the disposal system is now satisfactory. He added that he will contact this office as soon as this inspection is made. As soon as we receive the report from Mr. Taylor, we will forward same to Headquarters.

No other action is contemplated by this office at this time. However, a full review of the licensee's waste disposal system and this occurrence will be reviewed during the course of the next regularly scheduled inspection.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : R. W. Kirkman, Director
New York Compliance Area

DATE: AUG 29 1961

FROM : Leo Dubinski, Assistant Director 
for Materials

SUBJECT: Division of Compliance, Headquarters
ENGELHARD INDUSTRIES, INC., ATTLEBORO,
MASSACHUSETTS; LICENSE NOS. SNM-185 AND
SUB-172 - ALLEGED DEFICIENCIES IN WASTE
DISPOSAL SYSTEM

CO:EGO

Attached is a copy of a memorandum dated August 23, 1961, in which L&R requests that an investigation be conducted with regard to alleged deficiencies in subject licensee's waste disposal system.

Also attached is a copy of a letter sent by the Massachusetts State Department of Health to the licensee and dated August 9, 1961. The State letter alleges the deficiencies and withdraws approval of the licensee's waste disposal system.

It is requested that an investigation be made relative to the disposal system.

Attachments:

1. Cpy L&R memo to CO
dtd 8/23/61
2. Cpy ltr fm Mass. State
Dept. of Health to
Licensee dtd 8/9/61

Memorandum

DATE: 8/23/61

SUBJECT: REGISTERED MAIL BUSINESS, INC., DDC 65-70-139

1. This is a copy of a letter dated August 2, 1961, which was

sent to the Director of the FBI by the Attorney General, Department of Justice.

2. The letter contains information regarding the registration of

mail carriers and the purpose of this information.

3. It is requested that you advise the Bureau of the results of

any investigation conducted in light of the information as to whether or not the information is in compliance with regulations and license conditions of the postal system.

COPY

August 9, 1961

D. E. Makepeace Division
Engelhard Industries, Inc.
Pine and Dunham Streets
Attleboro, Massachusetts

Re: PLAINVILLE
Radioactive Liquid Waste
Disposal System at
Engelhard Industries,
D. E. Makepeace Division,
Route 152

Gentlemen:

A recent examination by an engineer from this Department revealed that the waste disposal system at the Engelhard Industries Plant, D. E. Makepeace Division, Route 152, Plainville, was not operating satisfactorily. It was noted that when a load was applied to the system, liquid wastes containing radioactive material overflowed to the surface of the ground.

The Department is informed that during the month of April 1961, the leaching pits were pumped out by the Hall Sanitary Pumping Service, 585 Bungy Road, North Attleborough, and that this waste is said to have been eventually disposed of at the North Attleborough Sewage Treatment Plant.

The examination further disclosed that the requirements of this Department, as outlined in a communication to you dated February 4, 1960, at the time of installation of a second leaching pit, have not been complied with. No high water alarm had been installed to warn against possible overflow of radioactive wastes to the surface of the ground.

The Department of Public Health hereby withdraws approval of the waste disposal system regarding the subject plant and requires that your company engage the services of a qualified engineer to design and submit plans to this Department for approval for adequate waste treatment facilities. Pending the approval of plans for the new facilities and their installation, at no time may wastes be allowed to overflow onto the surface of the ground.

The Department requires that it be notified of your action in this matter before September 1, 1961.

Very truly yours,

Worthan M. Taylor
Director
Division of Sanitary Engineering

C-Board of Health
Plainville

C-Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D. C.

COPY

HYDRO COMPLIANCE DIVISION

AUG 30 1961

RECEIVED

Contacted N.M. Weiss 9/8

One flow in one cess pools - primarily wash & laundry waste - discharged into several leaching pits - One of pits blocked -

Visited Boston - about 15 Aug spoke to Richard Powers & Logan Leopold -

put ^{H₂SO₄} acid in pit. and cleaned up mess (detergents, scum etc) which dissolved ~~off~~ i.e.

varies daily 2000 d/m/l → 3500 d/m/l
aver. 10,000 d/m/l

$$10 \times 10^3 \times 4.55 \times 10^{-3} \times 10^{-7}$$
$$4.55 \times 10^{-6}$$

9/8

W. Taylor - laundry wastes

did say that N. Weiss was up to see Powers & Leopold who were not available. Did not know whether disposal system is satisfactory, will check to see if condition still exist

MEMO ROUTE SLIP
Form AEC-93 (Rev. May 14, 1947)

See me about this.
Note and return.

For concurrence.
For signature.

For action.
For information.

Paul

TO (Name and unit)		INITIALS	REMARKS
L. Dubinski Compliance C-428			<u>COPY</u>
		DATE	RE: ENGLEHARD INDUSTRIES, ATTLEBORO, MASSACHUSETTS; LICENSE NO. SNM-185
TO (Name and unit)		INITIALS	REMARKS
			Please refer to your memo of 8-17-61 with the same subject. A letter requiring a 30-day reply was sent to the licensee on 8-4-61. Copies have been forwarded to your office and the appropriate field office. We are presently awaiting an answer.
		DATE	
TO (Name and unit)		INITIALS	REMARKS
		DATE	
FROM (Name and unit)		REMARKS	
R. E. Cunningham LR:Enforcement Br. C-233			
			<u>COPY</u>
PHONE NO.	DATE		
3668	8-21-61		
		<u>From CO • Hdqrs.</u>	

AUG 23 1961

USE OTHER SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL REMARKS

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1957-O-422007