



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

December 10, 1990

Docket No. 70-8

MEMORANDUM FOR: Charles J. Haughney, Chief  
Fuel Cycle Safety Branch  
Division of Industrial and  
Medical Nuclear Safety, NMSS

FROM: Peter Loysen  
Advanced Fuel and Special  
Facilities Section  
Fuel Cycle Safety Branch  
Division of Industrial and  
Medical Nuclear Safety, NMSS

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF 11/20/90 MEETING WITH BATTELLE COLUMBUS  
DIVISION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

On November 20, 1990, we met with representatives of Battelle Columbus Division and the Department of Energy, Chicago Operations Office and Headquarters. A list of the meeting attendees is enclosed. The purpose of the meeting was to review the status of decommissioning activities at Battelle's King Avenue and West Jefferson, Ohio sites, Battelle's plans for continuing licensed activities at the sites, the authorities and responsibilities of NRC and DOE for decommissioning, and funding for decommissioning, including DOE's commitment and Battelle's submittal of financial assurance to the NRC.

Battelle provided a brief description of the status of activities. They explained that some of the many buildings scheduled to be decommissioned had already been radiologically characterized, and a few had been decontaminated. The work is being managed by Battelle, with DOE oversight, using contractors only for tasks requiring services or equipment not available at Battelle. The decommissioning program is expected to take about eight years to complete. Battelle plans to continue its tracer studies, radiography, and other byproduct material work in the facilities currently licensed for those purposes, not only while decommissioning of its other facilities progresses, but thereafter as well. Therefore, Battelle will not request termination of its license. As a result, this case should not be considered for transfer to LLWM, and we should proceed with license renewal.

DOE described briefly its long-standing contract with Battelle for nuclear materials research and development, dating back to the Manhattan Project. In 1984, DOE decided to terminate the research and development, and subsequently modified the contract for surveillance and maintenance. The contract has now been modified for decontamination and decommissioning, and DOE is funding the work under its Surplus Facilities Management Plan. DOE had proposed to NRC in 1987 that it be the sole U.S. agency for overseeing the decontamination and decommissioning effort. We agreed, but pointed out that NRC would have to retain certain responsibilities regarding inspections, decommissioning plans, and confirmatory radiological surveys, and that changes in the standards and criteria contained in the DOE/Battelle contract modification may be necessary.

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Battelle's recent submittal of an informational decommissioning plan and DOE's forwarding of an environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact on the decontamination and decommissioning effort provide impetus for reaching written agreement between the two agencies on their respective responsibilities. In order to accomplish this, the 1987 letter to DOE clearly needs to be updated, and we agreed to do so, after finalizing our positions on the responsibilities and changes in standards and criteria. We would expect written acknowledgement by DOE of the arrangements stated in the updated letter, and the two letters would constitute an agreement between NRC and DOE for oversight of the Battelle decontamination and decommissioning effort.

Battelle's submittal for financial assurance for decommissioning is twofold. The first is a current certification in the amount of \$1,500,000, provided by two trust funds and a bank letter of credit. This arrangement is straight-forward. The second is for the future and involves an exemption from NRC regulations to authorize assurance by DOE's statement of intent to provide about 90 percent of the cost of decommissioning under the Surplus Facilities Management Plan, with the remainder coming from revised trust funds. LLWM and OGC staff had little prior notice to review the financial assurance plans; therefore, their questions and comments were mostly for information. After detailed review, any questions and comments regarding the plans will be forwarded to Battelle for response.

Original Signed By

Peter Loysen  
 Advanced Fuel and Special  
 Facilities Section  
 Fuel Cycle Safety Branch  
 Division of Industrial and  
 Medical Nuclear Safety, NMSS

Enclosure:  
 List of Attendees

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- LBykoski, LLWM
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[BATTELLE/DOE MEETING]

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: IMAF	: IMIF	: IMAF	: IMSB	:	:
: PLoysen:ls	: FBrown	: JSwift	: CLaughney	:	:
: 12/13/90	: 12/4/90	: 12/4/90	: 12/4/90	:	:

ENCLOSURE

LIST OF ATTENDEES

BATTELLE

Joseph Ray  
Harley Toy

DOE

Donald Barnes - HQ  
Alan Handwerker - CH  
Martin Langsam - CH  
Jeffrey Roberts - CH  
William Scott - Roy F. Weston

NRC

Louis Bykoski - LLWM  
Charles Haughney - IMNS  
Michael Finkelstein - OGC  
Peter Loysen - IMNS  
Jerry Swift - IMNS