

Mr. Arthur Block
 Sr. Regional Representative
 ATSDR/Region II
 1600 Clifton Road, N.E. (E-28)
 Atlanta, Georgia 30333

MAR 29 1994

Dear Mr. Block:

SUBJECT: SHIELDALLOY METALLURGICAL CORPORATION (NEWFIELD, NEW JERSEY)

In your letter dated March 18, 1994, you request advice on how to gather data from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission regarding Shieldalloy Metallurgical Corporation's (Shieldalloy) facility located in Newfield, New Jersey. This information will be used by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry to investigate health concerns relative to the radioactive slag piles currently stored at the Shieldalloy facility.

Enclosed is a copy of the "Radiological Survey of the Shieldalloy Corporation, Newfield, New Jersey" (ORAU 88/G-79), that you referenced in your letter. Also, Shieldalloy has submitted numerous environmental reports that may help in your investigation. These documents are available under Docket 40-7102 in the NRC Public Document Room located at the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW, Washington, DC, and the local public document rooms located in Salem, New Jersey, and Pennsville, New Jersey.

In addition, your agency may be interested in participating as a "cooperating agency" in the development of the Environmental Impact Statement for the Newfield facility under the National Environmental Policy Act. As stated in 10 CFR 51.29, one of the purposes of the scoping process is to identify cooperating agencies. NRC regulation 10 CFR 51.14 describes cooperating agency as "Any federal agency other than the NRC which has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to any environmental impact involved in a proposal (or a reasonable alternative) for legislation or other major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment."

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (301) 504-2667.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
 Gary C. Comfort, Jr.
 Licensing Section 2
 Licensing Branch
 Division of Fuel Cycle Safety
 and Safeguards, NMSS

Enclosure: ORAU 88/G-79

Distribution: w/incoming
 Docket 40-7102
 FCSS r/f
 Region I

PDR
 FCLB r/f

NRC File Center
 FCLS2 r/f

NMSS r/f
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NAME	GCComfort	VTharpe	MTokar <i>mt</i>	JAustin <i>JA</i>	RCPierson <i>RC</i>
DATE	03/29/94	03/29/94	03/29/94	03/29/94	03/29/94

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Agency for Toxic Substances
and Disease Registry
Atlanta GA 30333

March 18, 1994

Mr. Gary Comfort
Fuel Cycle Licensing Branch
Mail Stop 4-E4
U.S. Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Subject: Shield Alloy Corporation Site,
Newfield, Gloucester County, NJ

Dear Mr. ^{Gary} Comfort:

In February we had the opportunity to discuss the reason the ATSDR Regional Office had been contacting your office. In our conversation I advised that ATSDR had been contacted and petitioned by the Vineland Department of Health to investigate community health concerns relative to the radioactive slag piles that are concurrently stored on site. I had conversations that I had spoken with the Environmental Protection and Energy (NJDEP) Ms. Donna Gaffigan. Donna indicated that in its possession any slag pile sampling the NRC had 1988 contracted with Oak Ridge radioactive slag piles. The ATSDR will not address the community concerns without having data to evaluate health issues, if any exist.

As we discussed you advised that the Shield Alloy lead site and currently not on the Federal Superfund list under superfund legislation is mainly responsible for public health in and around federal superfund sites inclusive of federal facilities that are National Priority List (NPL). ATSDR does interface and work with state lead sites on a national basis as I have in Region II with both New York State and New Jersey.

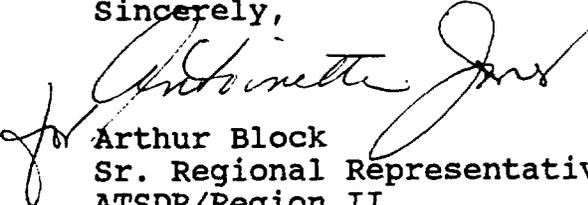
The intent of ATSDR in attempting to secure Oak Ridge data and or any new data generated from the upcoming Environmental Impact Statement would be to access all available data in health consultation format and respond back to the petitioner(s). Please advise on how we can proceed and if your legal office has any issues/concerns about releasing the Oak Ridge data to us. If so, our legal office may be able to assist in clarifications, if required.

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March 18, 1994
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I have enclosed fact sheets about ATSDR and the health consultation process. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Arthur Block

Sr. Regional Representative
ATSDR/Region II

Enclosures

cc:

George Buynoski/OAA/ORO
Robert Williams/DHAC/OD

Health Consultations

This fact sheet was developed to provide the public with information about ATSDR Health Consultations. ATSDR hopes it is useful to you in understanding what a Health Consultation is and how it can help you. You may have questions the fact sheet doesn't answer or need more information about ATSDR and its activities. A contact person is listed at the end of the fact sheet.

What is ATSDR?

ATSDR is the **Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry**, a federal public health agency. ATSDR is part of the Public Health Service in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. ATSDR is not a regulatory agency like the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Created by Superfund legislation in 1980, ATSDR's mission is to **prevent or mitigate adverse human health effects and diminished quality of life resulting from exposure to hazardous substances in the environment**. Through its programs -- including surveillance, registries, health studies, environmental health education, and applied substance-specific research -- and by working with other federal, state, and local government agencies, ATSDR acts to protect public health.



What is a Health Consultation?

An ATSDR Health Consultation is **not** the same thing as a medical exam, a community health study, or a Public Health Assessment. It can sometimes lead to those things, as well as other public health activities.

A Health Consultation provides advice on a specific public health issue related to real or possible human exposure to toxic material. Anyone can request a Health Consultation. ATSDR receives the most requests from EPA and state and local health and environmental departments, and provides about 1,000 Health Consultations per year.

A Health Consultation is a way for ATSDR to respond quickly to a need for health information on toxic substances and make recommendations for actions to protect the public's health. ATSDR staff evaluate information available about toxic material at the site, determine whether people might be exposed to it, and report what harm exposure might cause. Health Consultations may consider —

- ❑ what the levels (or "concentrations") of hazardous substances are
- ❑ whether people might be exposed to contamination and how (through "exposure pathways" such as breathing air, drinking or contacting water, contacting or eating soil, or eating food)
- ❑ what harm the substances might cause to people (or the contaminants' "toxicity")
- ❑ whether working or living nearby might affect people's health
- ❑ other dangers to people, such as unsafe buildings, abandoned mine shafts, or other physical hazards

What Happens After the Health Consultation?

Every Health Consultation includes ATSDR's conclusions about public health hazards and recommendations for actions to protect the public's health. ATSDR's recommendations can cover many activities by EPA and state environmental and health agencies, as well as by ATSDR. For example, ATSDR recommendations can contribute to —

- site cleanup
- keeping people away from contamination and physical dangers — for example, by fencing the site
- giving residents acceptable drinking water
- relocating exposed people
- community environmental health education for residents and health care providers to inform them about site contaminants, harmful health effects, and ways to reduce or prevent health effects
- an ATSDR or state health study

In addition, a Health Consultation can lead to other ATSDR activities -- specifically, a **Public Health Assessment** or **Public Health Advisory**.

ATSDR Public Health Assessments report on sites but in more detail. They rely on three main types of information —

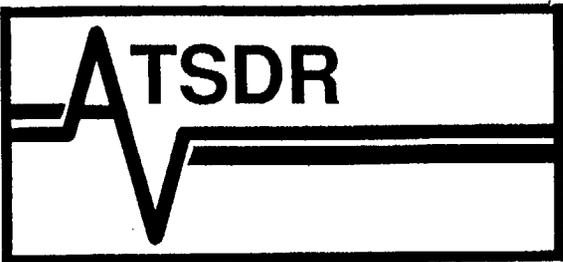
- **environmental data**, such as information available on contaminants and how people could come in contact with them
- **health data**, including available information on community-wide rates of illness, disease, and death compared with national and state rates
- **community concerns**, such as reports from the public about how the site affects their health or quality of life

Public Health Advisories are notices from ATSDR's administrator to EPA's administrator. They are used when sites pose an immediate and significant threat to people.

Fact sheets are available on Public Health Assessments, Public Health Advisories, and other ATSDR activities. If you want to know more about ATSDR, or if you have health concerns about a site or information to share about ways people might have been or might now be exposed to hazardous substances, please contact the person listed below.

For more information, call or write:

Karen Holmes-Westwood
Community Involvement Specialist
ATSDR-Division of Health Assessment
and Consultation
1600 Clifton Road, NE (E32)
Atlanta, Georgia 30333
1-800-447-4784; then dial 329-1175



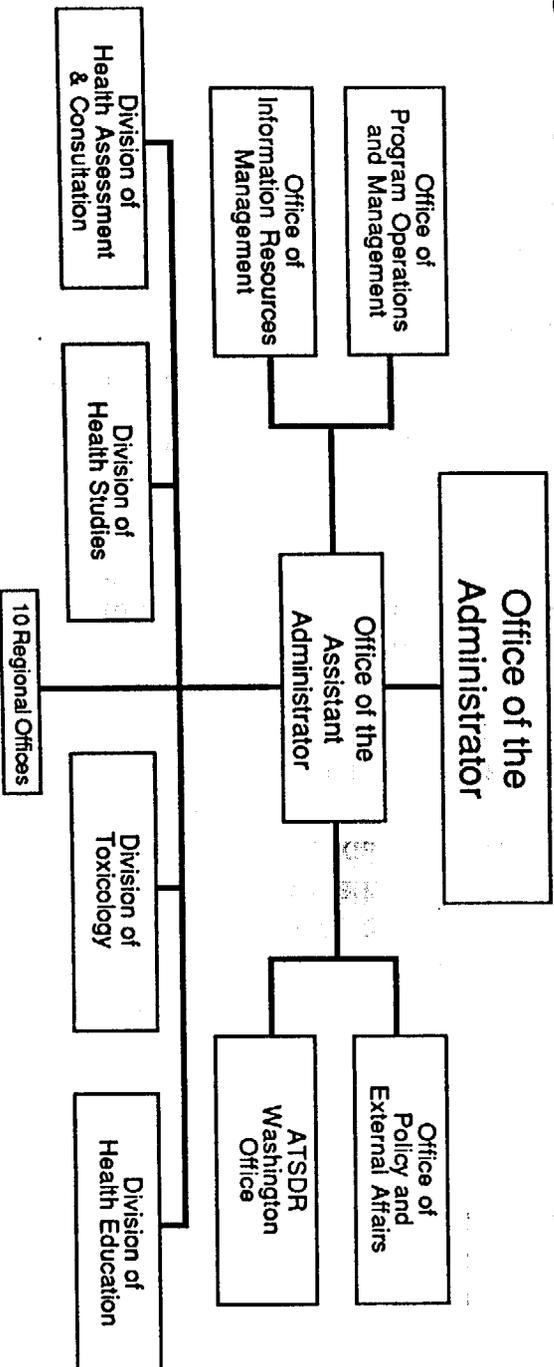
Fact Sheet

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) is a federal public health agency located in Atlanta, Georgia. It is part of the Public Health Service within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Created by Superfund legislation in 1980, ATSDR's mission is to prevent or mitigate adverse human health effects and diminished quality of life resulting from exposure to hazardous substances in the environment.



ATSDR
1600 Clifton Road, N.E. (E-28)
Atlanta, Georgia 30333

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry



To carry out its mission and to serve the needs of the American public, ATSDR conducts activities in the following areas:

PUBLIC HEALTH ASSESSMENTS

- Evaluate data and information on the release of hazardous substances into the environment to assess any current or future impact on public health, develop health advisories or other health recommendations, and identify studies or actions needed to evaluate and mitigate or prevent human health effects. ATSDR conducts health assessments for all waste sites on the National Priorities List and in response to petitions from concerned individuals and organizations.

HEALTH INVESTIGATIONS

- Increase our understanding of the relationship between exposure to hazardous substances and adverse human health effects, through epidemiology, surveillance, and other studies of toxic substances and their effects.

EXPOSURE AND DISEASE REGISTRY

- Establish and maintain a registry of persons exposed to hazardous substances and a registry of serious diseases and illnesses in persons exposed to hazardous substances in the environment.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

- Provide health-related support to states, local agencies, and health care providers in public health emergencies involving exposure to hazardous substances, including health consultations on request and training for first responders.

TOXICOLOGICAL PROFILES

- Summarize and make available to the public data on the health effects of hazardous substances, identify significant gaps in knowledge, and initiate research in toxicology and health effects where needed.

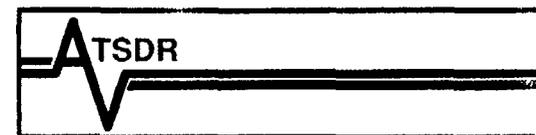
HEALTH EDUCATION

- Develop and disseminate to physicians and other health care providers materials on the health effects of toxic substances, establish and maintain a publicly accessible inventory of hazardous substances, and maintain a list of sites closed or restricted to the public because of hazardous substance contamination.

APPLIED RESEARCH

- Conduct or sponsor research to increase scientific knowledge about the effects on human health of hazardous substances released from waste sites or of other releases into the environment.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:



ATSDR
1600 CLIFTON ROAD, N.E. (E-28)
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30333
(404) 639-0727
