DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY JOINT MUNITIONS COMMAND
1 ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL
ROCK ISLAND, IL 61299-6000

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

February 26, 2007

Safety/Rad Waste Directorate

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Nuclear Materials Licensing Branch
Region III
2443 Warrenville Road, Suite 210
Lisle, Illinois 60532-4352

Mr. McCann:

During unexploded ordnance removal activities in August 2005, Schofield Barracks personnel discovered the remnants of a 20mm Davy Crockett spotter round containing depleted uranium. After a controlled grass burn during summer 2006, Schofield personnel surveyed a portion of the range and discovered several additional depleted uranium fragments. The following summarizes actions the Army has taken thus far:

a. In November 2006, this office funded the St. Louis District Corps of Engineers to develop a detailed historical archive report. We expect delivery of the Corps report by March 30, 2007. We anticipate the report will show where and how many depleted uranium spotter rounds the Army fired at Schofield. We will provide the report as soon as we receive it.

b. In December 2006, our contractor, Cabrera Services, conducted a limited scoping survey of accessible portions of the Schofield firing range. We have attached a copy of the survey results.

c. We will continue to work with the installation Safety and Environmental Offices to gather available radiological water sampling data.

Our planned next step is to conduct a more detailed and extensive range characterization to support a formal risk assessment. Due to rain and seasonal vegetation growth, we cannot conduct this next phase until July-August 2007. We are analyzing our current year requirements to determine the

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feasibility of reprioritizing other projects to make funds available for this unbudgeted activity.

The Army recognizes the Schofield depleted uranium contamination issue will not be an easy fix. We are exploring whether or not the Army conducted the Schofield training exercise under the Department of Energy's 91b program. We realize either Department of Energy oversight or Nuclear Regulatory Commission licensure seem like the appropriate routes to pursue. We plan to fund the St. Louis District Corps of Engineers to develop an additional historical review of other Army installations that may have trained with the Davy Crockett spotter round. So, we suggest we determine the number of additional Army sites before beginning the license application process.

The point of contact is Mr. Kelly Crooks, AMSJM-SF, (309) 782-0338, electronic mail ROCK-AMSJM-SF@conus.army.mil.

Sincerely,

//signed//

Timothy J. Gallagher
Acting Director
Safety/Rad Waste Directorate

Enclosure

Copy Furnished:

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Region IV, Mr. Spitzberg,
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