



SHIELDALLOY METALLURGICAL CORPORATION

August 11, 1998

WEST BOULEVARD
P.O. BOX 768
NEWFIELD, NJ 08344
TELEPHONE (609) 692-4200

Mr. John D. Kinneman, Chief
Division of Nuclear Material Safety Branch 2
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Re: Procedure for Free-release of Equipment and Soils from SMC's Newfield, New Jersey Facility - License No. SMB-743

Dear Mr. Kinneman:

The purpose of this letter is to assure you and your staff that Shieldalloy Metallurgical Corporation's management fully supports the commitments made in the July 31, 1998 letter addressed to you from Mr. David R. Smith, Radiation Safety Officer for our Newfield, NJ facility for which I am the senior corporate official. In addition, Mr. Smith has indicated that it was discussed and agreed during your telephone conversation of August 10, 1998 that the program for the release of soils from the site which SMC's July 31, 1998 letter committed to develop and implement will be in accordance with the following:

10 pci per gram of thorium plus 10 pci per gram of uranium above background, averaged over the entire volume of soil of interest

I understand that this criteria comes directly from USNRC's 1981 Branch Technical Position, "Disposal or Storage On-Site of Residual Thorium or Uranium (as natural ores or without daughters present) from Past Operations". If SMC were to encounter soils that exceed this criteria and SMC wanted to release those soils for a specific use off-site, NRC would be so notified.

If you have any questions regarding this matter please do not hesitate to contact Mr. David R. Smith, RSO, or me.

Sincerely,

Nigel C. Morrison

cc: Mary B. Higgins
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