

10-1-1



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20585-0001

April 22, 1996

Mr. Donald Chabot, Senior Environmental
Engineer
Engineered Materials Group
Engelhard Corporation
Route 152
Plainville, MA 02762

Dear Mr. Chabot:

We have reviewed your latest submittal, dated January 2, 1996, in which you provide supplemental information in support of the "Interior Radiological Health and Safety Plan," for decommissioning of the Plainville, Massachusetts, facility. Specifically, the information you provided forms the bases for analysis of alpha and beta surface radioactivity at the site. This information adequately responds to our concerns about the measurement of alpha and beta surface radioactivity at Plainville.

The health and safety plans for building interior decontamination and for radiological exterior characterization now meet with our approval. The health and safety plan for building interior decontamination was the only remaining portion of the interior decommissioning plan which had not received NRC approval. As this issue is now resolved, NRC hereby approves of Engelhard's entire interior decommissioning plan dated April, 1993, to cleanup radiological contamination within facilities at the Plainville site. Supplements to the decommissioning plan, including addition of, and supplements to, the health and safety plans, are dated November 1993, August 1994, January 1995, August 1995, November 1995, and January 1996.

Before you begin decommissioning activities at the site, please forward a copy of your decommissioning schedule to us. After you complete decommissioning and preliminary survey activities, we recommend that, prior to initiating final survey activities, you submit to NRC for review the characterization and other supporting data that you used for selecting alpha to beta ratios for application in your final survey. Engelhard may commence final survey activities without NRC response or review. However, we encourage you to seek our involvement prior to final survey work as our review may help you avoid additional, costly survey work in the event that NRC disagrees with the technical basis for your selection of the alpha to beta ratios.

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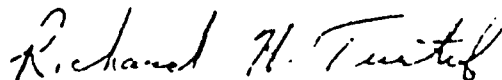
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D. Chabot

- 2 -

I look forward to working with you to affect a timely cleanup of the Engelhard facility. I may be reached at (301) 415-6721 should you have questions concerning this letter.

Sincerely,



Richard H. Turtill, Project Manager
Low-Level Waste and Decommissioning
Projects Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No. 070-00139

cc: Engelhard Corporation dist. list

D. Chabot

- 2 -

I look forward to working with you to affect a timely cleanup of the Engelhard facility. I may be reached at (301) 415-6721 should you have questions concerning this letter.

Sincerely,

[ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:]

Richard H. Turtil, Project Manager
Low-Level Waste and Decommissioning
Projects Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No. 070-00139

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Engineer
 Engineered Materials Group
 Engelhard Corporation
 Route 152
 Plainville, MA 02762

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After you complete decommissioning and preliminary survey activities, we recommend that, prior to initiating final survey activities, you submit characterization and other supporting data to NRC for review. Engelhard may commence final survey activities without NRC response or review. However, we encourage you to seek our involvement prior to final survey work as our review may help you avoid additional, costly survey work. Final survey activities initiated without our prior review will be performed at your own risk.

I look forward to working with you to affect a timely cleanup of the Engelhard facility. Please contact me at (301) 415-6721 should you have questions concerning this letter.

Sincerely,

[ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:]

Richard H. Turtill, Project Manager
 Low-Level Waste and Decommissioning
 Projects Branch
 Division of Waste Management
 Office of Nuclear Material Safety
 and Safeguards

Docket No.: 070-00139

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