

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : James McCallum, Division of Licensing
and Regulation, Washington

DATE: January 4, 1960

FROM : William A. Brobst, Radiological Physicist, *3366*
Health and Safety Division, Chicago Operations
Office

SUBJECT: D. E. MAKEPEACE COMPANY REQUEST FOR AMENDMENT TO LICENSE

SYMBOL: HS:WAB

I received a copy of a letter written by D. E. Makepeace Company to Mr. Lyall Johnson, in which they requested an amendment to their SNM License No. 185 to allow the incineration of combustible low-level waste material. As you probably know, they have been operating as an accountability station under our office for a couple of years, and through our visits there, we are quite familiar with their operations and facility.

They have been burning small amounts of combustible scrap during the past year, all of which was generated under our AEC contracts. They have had good experience in this process, and I have no doubts about their capabilities to incinerate this scrap safely. There is one problem I would like to point out to you, however; this is the one I discussed with you briefly over the telephone recently.

The small lake nearby (I believe it is called Turnpike Lake) is very popular in the summer months for boating, swimming and fishing. In the winter it is infrequently used for ice fishing. With the lake shore just on the other side of the fence from the incinerator, there could be severe public relations problems should it become known that the company is burning radioactive materials and the smoke is drifting out over the lake. Sampling downwind, as DEM say's it will do, is essentially impossible if the wind is blowing towards the lake. Considering the material DEM will be burning, there is probably very little, if any, actual hazard involved. However, due to the uncertainties in monitoring, and the possible adverse public relations, I would like to request that if permission is given DEM to incinerate their waste, it should be with the provision that no burning operations be conducted when the wind is blowing over the lake. This could be worded in such a manner that certain arcs are forbidden, perhaps a sector including the lake and fifteen degrees on either side, as measured from the incinerator.

Handwritten initials and date: H/10

I would also like to point out an error in Paragraph 2 on Page 2. The MPC for this type of material should be 1×10^{-13} uc/cc rather than 1.7×10^{-12} as listed. This is the change in the proposed Part 20, and is the one which DEM is now bound by in their AEC contract operations (AEC Manual Chapters 0550 and 0524). Although Part 20 has not been actually revised, this MPC should be specified.

I would appreciate your letting me know what action will be taken on this request for amendment to the license.

*note: Will be taken care of
when new part 20
goes into effect. 1/21/60*