



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

August 7, 1997

Mr. Jess Larsen, Vice President  
Cimarron Corporation  
P.O. Box 25861  
Oklahoma City, OK 73125

Dear Mr. Larsen:

I am responding to your letter of August 1, 1997, regarding confirmatory surveys at the BTP Option 2 disposal cell. As noted in my June 10, 1996, letter to you, pending the results of its review of data and activities associated with the emplacement of the first lift of the Pit #3 disposal cell, NRC staff would provide guidance for all subsequent lifts. That guidance is provided in this letter.

On March 26, 1997, NRC collected ten soil samples from the first lift for independent analysis and comparison with the results of Cimarron's soil analysis. NRC Inspection Report 70-925/97-02, dated July 31, 1997, noted that (1) Cimarron's soil measurement methods and counting times were acceptable, (2) there were no significant bias or statistical errors between Cimarron's and NRC's results, and (3) soil placed in Pit #3 was well within the concentration limits for BTP Option 2 disposal.

Based on these results, NRC staff may decide that it is unnecessary to perform confirmatory sampling for each lift. However, NRC is requesting that Cimarron take the following actions:

1. Cimarron should provide the NRC project manager with at least seven (7) days notice before beginning emplacement of soil in each lift along with an estimate of when emplacement in that lift will be completed;
2. Cimarron should submit, to NRC staff, final survey data for each lift as soon as possible. These data need not be in final report form, but should undergo a QA review before it is submitted to NRC staff; and
3. Cimarron should retain 20 randomly selected split samples from each lift for possible NRC analysis.

Please note that NRC staff reserves the right to collect independent samples from the lifts. Any significant divergences between NRC and Cimarron results

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Letter dated 8/7/97

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Cimarron Corporation  
PO Box 315  
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Mike Broderick  
Radiation Management Section  
Waste Management Division  
Department of Environmental Quality  
1000 NE Tenth  
Oklahoma City, OK 73117-1212

or evidence of emplacement of soil exceeding BTP Option 2 limits may necessitate additional sampling.

Please contact me at (301) 415-6664 if you have any questions about this letter.

Sincerely,

[Original signed by]

Kenneth L. Kalman, Project Manager  
Facilities Decommissioning Section  
Low-Level Waste and Decommissioning  
Projects Branch  
Division of Waste Management  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 70-925  
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Ticket Number LLDP-70155

DOCUMENT NAME:s:\dwm\lldp\klk\lift.1tr

OFC	LLDP		LLDP <i>ynch</i>		LLDP		OGC		LLDP	
NAME	KKalman/cv <i>KLK</i>		JCopeland <i>fa</i>		TJohnson <i>TJ</i>		RFonner <i>smut</i> <i>no Legal Objection</i>		ABickey <i>for</i>	
DATE	8/5/97		8/5/97		8/6/97		8/4/97		8/7/97	

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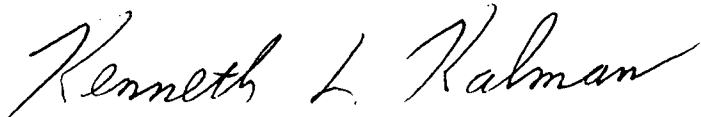
J. Larsen

- 2 -

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Please contact me at (301) 415-6664 if you have any questions about this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kenneth L. Kalman".

Kenneth L. Kalman, Project Manager  
Facilities Decommissioning Section  
Low-Level Waste and Decommissioning  
Projects Branch  
Division of Waste Management  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No. 70-925  
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