

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[DOCKET NO. 30 - 7022]

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission

ACTION: Notice of intent to remove the RTI Inc., Rockaway, New Jersey site from the
NRC Site Decommissioning Management Plan.

SUMMARY:

This notice informs the public that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission intends to remove the RTI Inc., Rockaway, New Jersey site from the list of contaminated sites in NRC's Site Decommissioning Management Plan (SDMP). Remediation of residual radioactive contamination in areas of the facility has successfully been completed and the facility meets the current NRC criteria for release for unrestricted use.

DATES:

The NRC hereby provides notice of an opportunity to comment on the proposed NRC action. Comments must be submitted within thirty (30) days of the date of publication of this **Federal Register** notice. Comments received after this date will be considered if it is practical to do so, but the Commission is able to assure consideration only for comments received on or before this date.

ADDRESSES:

Written comments should be sent to USNRC, Region I, Attn: Anthony Dimitriadis, 475 Allendale Road, King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406. Hand deliver comments to 475 Allendale Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406 between 7:45 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. on Federal workdays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Anthony Dimitriadis, Division of Nuclear Materials Safety, USNRC, Region I, 475 Allendale Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406, Telephone: (610) 337-6953.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

The RTI site in Rockaway, New Jersey, was identified in 1988 by the NRC as a site where significant residual radioactive contamination was present as a result of past operations. RTI is licensed by NRC to perform irradiation of commercial products using a cobalt-60 in-air irradiator. Leakage from the cobalt-60 sources in the 1970's contaminated the irradiator storage pool. Disposal of contaminated waste and effluent discharge caused contamination of soil outside the irradiator.

RTI identified radioactive contamination at various locations inside and outside the fenced area of the site. As a result, NRC included this site in the list of contaminated sites contained in the Site Decommissioning Management Plan (SDMP) in 1990 to ensure that remediation of the areas was accomplished in a timely manner. The site was listed in the SDMP because it satisfied the criterion of large amounts of contaminated soil or burial

grounds that may be difficult to decommission.

RTI has remediated residual contamination in the various areas on the site property, performed radiological surveys in those areas, and requested by letter dated June 14, 1996, that the NRC remove the Rockaway, New Jersey site from the SDMP. The staff of the NRC's Region I Division of Nuclear Materials Safety has reviewed and approved various remediation activities since 1987. The staff has also reviewed various records of past activities at the site and the radiological surveys performed by RTI and their contractor and conducted confirmatory radiological measurements at the site. Based on these reviews and independent measurements, the NRC staff has determined that the facility meets the requirements for release of these areas for unrestricted use.

The SDMP describes four criteria that make a site eligible for removal from the SDMP list, including (1) termination of a license after successful remediation, (2) completion of remediation of an inactive area and modification of the active license to reflect the remediation, (3) completion of remediation at an unlicensed site, or (4) transferral of regulatory jurisdiction for remediation. The RTI site has satisfied the second criterion because the licensee has successfully remediated the inactive, contaminated portion of the site. Licensed irradiation operations are planned to continue at the site. Consequently, the NRC staff intends to remove the RTI site in Rockaway, New Jersey, from the SDMP.

4

For further details with respect to this action, documents are available for inspection at the NRC's Region I offices located at 475 Allendale Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406. Persons desiring to review documents at the Region I Office, should call Ms. Cheryl Buracker at (610) 337-5093 several days in advance to assure that the documents will be readily available for review.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland this 5th day of July, 1996

FOR THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Original Signed By

Michael F. Weber, Chief
Low-Level Waste and Decommissioning
Projects Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

DISTRIBUTION:

Central File LLDP r/f MFederline NMSS r/f PSobel
MBell LBell JSurmeier TCJohnson PUBLIC
DFauver ADimitriadisRBellamy DChawaga CWHehl
RFonner

DOCUMENT NAME:s:\dwm\lldp\mfw\RTI

OFC	R I/DNMS	LLDP				
NAME	<i>by phone + email for MRoberts / JJoynes</i>	<i>MWeber</i>				
DATE	07/05/96	07/05/96		1 / 96		

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

ACNW: YES NO
IG : YES NO
LSS : YES NO

Delete file after distribution: Yes No

JUL 15 1996