



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Veterans Health Administration
National Health Physics Program
2200 Fort Roots Drive
North Little Rock, AR 72114

DEC 13 2010

In Reply Refer To: 598/115HP/NLR

Kevin Null
Division of Nuclear Material Safety
Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), Region III
2443 Warrenville Road, Suite 210
Lisle, Illinois 60532-4352

Dear Mr. Null:

In reference to NRC Master Materials License 03-23853-01VA, we are requesting release, for unrestricted use, of an incinerator and associated smoke stack adjacent to Building 4 at VA Medical Center, Kansas City, Missouri. The facility holds Permit Number 24-00496-06 under our master materials license. Pending approval by NRC and a permit amendment by VHA National Health Physics Program (NHPP), the permittee plans to demolish the incinerator building and associated stack. We are enclosing supporting information and closeout surveys that were performed by the permittee to support release of the structures. We request an expedited review of this request by NRC, if possible, since the permittee states the stack poses "a safety hazard to approaching and departing ambulance helicopters."

We request that the Derived Concentration Guideline Levels (DCGLs) published in Federal Register Vol. 63, No. 222, and consistent with Federal Register Vol. 65, No. 114, be applied as the release criteria. Using these criteria, the enclosed documents provide information consistent with 10 CFR 30.36 to evaluate these buildings for decommissioning action, and we conclude the enclosed survey results demonstrate that the areas are acceptable for unrestricted use in accordance with regulatory criteria in 10 CFR 20.1402.

If you have any questions or comments or need additional information to support your review, please contact Thomas E. Huston, Ph.D., NHPP, at 501-257-1578.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "G E Williams".

Gary E. Williams
Director, National Health Physics Program

Enclosures (5)

RECEIVED DEC 17 2010

Enclosure 1

Permittee letter dated November 22, 2010, requesting release of structures and providing closeout survey information



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Medical Center
4801 Linwood Boulevard
Kansas City, MO 64128

November 22, 2010

To: National Health Physics Program (115HP/NLR)
Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
2200 Fort Roots Drive, Bldg 101, Room 208
North Little Rock, AR 72114

11-29-10 11:16 IN

From: Les Morrison, RSO
Kansas City VAMC
4801 E. Linwood Blvd
Kansas City, MO 64128

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Les Morrison".

Subject: Decommissioning of Incinerator and smoke stack

The Kansas City VA Medical Center, permit number 24-00496-06 is requesting decommissioning approval of an incinerator and an associated brick smoke stack. The approximate dimensions of the incinerator are 7 ft wide x 27 ft long x 8 ft high. The incinerator was installed approximately 1998 and operated until September 2000. This incinerator was operated under a previous NRC Limited Scope License, # 24-00496-06. The incinerator was used for incinerating low level radioactive waste, including animal carcasses. There is no indication that it was used for the incineration of hazardous chemicals.

The associated smoke stack is a red brick stack, approximately 250 ft in height and was in use prior to the installation of the incinerator as part of the boiler plant. The removal of the smoke stack is important because it is a safety hazard for approaching and departing ambulance helicopters.

Richard Poelling, a consultant Health Physicist to the KCVA from 2000 to 2004, performed a close out survey of the incinerator chamber in November, 2003. This was over 3 years since the incinerator was used last. According to Mr. Poelling's report, H-3 and I-125 were the only isotopes which were incinerated during the last 2 years of the incinerator's operation. Samples from the fire brick were taken and analyzed by liquid scintillation. Windows for H-3 and I-125 protocols were used. An open window protocol was used to detect any unknown isotopes which might have been involved. He found no indication of any contamination.

Isotopes which were used included H-3, C-14, P-32, P-33, S-35, Cl-36 and I-125. The data for the H-3 and I-125 is in Mr. Poelling's report. In the event that the other isotope may have been incinerated, P-32, P-33 and S-35 all have half lives of less than 90 days. The C-14 and Cl-36 which have long half lives, would have been detected in the open window channel in the event they were present. The survey procedure was determined with the verbal consultation of the NHPP staff.

The removal and demolition of the incinerator and smoke stack is anticipated as soon as funding is available.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact me at Leslie.Morrison@VA.GOV or at 816-861-4700 ext 57699.

Attached: Richard Poelling's Incinerator Close out Survey report dated November 20, 2003

**Department of
Veterans Affairs**

Memorandum

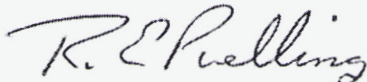
Date: November 20, 2003

From: Richard E. Poelling (Consulting Health Physicist)

To: Radiation Safety Officer

Subj: Close out survey of Building 4 Incinerator Chamber

1. On November 6, 2003 a confined space entry was performed with the support of Jeff Muehlmann, Industrial Hygienist and Robert Kent, Safety Technician into the incinerator chamber to collect scrappings of the fire brick surface and measure for residual radioactive material. The incinerator was taken out of service on September 6, 2000.
2. The exposure rate of the incinerator room and out side of the steel chamber was less than or equal to 0.02 mR/hr using a ludlum-3 GM survey meter with pancake probe. The internal chamber exposure was consistently about 0.03 to 0.04 mR/hr on the surface of the firebrick throughout the unit. Firebricks from the same lot that line the chamber were not available to determine background exposure readings. The consistent exposure rate about twice background was uniform throughout the chamber and probably represents a natural radioactive material within the firebrick.
3. The surface of the chamber firebricks were scraped and the particles were analyzed in a liquid scintillation counter along with calibrated standards. No residual radioactive material contamination was note on any of the twenty seven samples.
4. The incinerator chamber does not appear to have any residual radioactive material contamination.



RICHARD E. POELLING
Consulting Health Physicist

Attachments: Closeout Survey Questionnaire
Closeout Survey Grid Information
Sample data and raw counts

cc: Decommissioning File (Radiation Safety Office)

Closeout Survey Questionnaire

Building 4: Boiler Plant Incinerator Chamber

1. List radionuclides used in the room, circle form used (**S**ealed, **U**nsealed, or **G**as): *

Radionuclides Used	Form Used	First Use Date	Last Use Date
Hydrogen-3	S <u>U</u> G	Unknown	Sept 6, 2000
Iodine-125	S <u>U</u> G	Unknown	Sept 6, 2000
	S U G		
	S U G		
	S U G		

A review of the available documentation for the last two years of radioactive material incineration indicated that microcurie quantities of I-125 from the radioimmunoassay laboratory and some H-3 were incinerated.

2. Did a major spill occur in the room which resulted in residual radioactivity?

☒ No [] Yes (if yes, attach description)

3. Did any sealed sources stored or used in the room leak or fail a leak test?

☒ No [] Yes (if yes, attach description)

4. Were sealed sources which required a leak test transferred or relocated from the room?

☒ No [] Yes (if yes, attach regulatory current test results)

5. Were all radioactive materials, sources, and equipment removed?

[] No ☒ Yes (if no, attach description)

Incinerator was completely cleaned out of residual ash

6. What survey instruments were used?

A) Exposure Rate Measurements:

Ludlum-3 with pancake probe
SN 119621 Calibrated: Jan 31, 2003
Background reading: <0.02 mR/hr

B) Surface Scans for Fixed Radioactivity:

Ludlum-3 with pancake probe
SN 119621 Calibrated: Jan 31, 2003
Background reading: <0.02 mR/hr

C) Swipe Surveys for Removable Radioactive Contamination:

Beckman LS-6000 Liquid Scintillation Counter (EE589-10841)
Sample Container: 20 ml LS glass vials
Counting Cocktail: Packard OptiFluor (10 ml)
Sample: 0.2 to 0.6 g of firebrick surface scrapings
Area Scraped: 100 cm²

³ H Standard (Unquenched)				¹⁴ C Standard (Unquenched)			
106,000 dpm on 4/11/2001				101,600 dpm on 4/11/2001			
Count Window: ³ H ¹²⁵ I ¹⁴ C ³⁵ S ³² P Wide				Count Window: ³ H ¹²⁵ I ¹⁴ C ³⁵ S ³² P Wide			
Background	13.3 cpm			Background	36.1 cpm		
Standard	54827 cpm		91657 dpm	Standard	97074 cpm		101568 dpm
Effic:	59.8 %	MDA	9.0 dpm	Effic:	95.5 %	MDA	9.3 dpm

8. Were any swipe survey results greater than applicable release criteria in NUREG 1556, Volume 11, Table S.5?

☒ No ☐ Yes (if yes, attach description) 

Acceptable Surface Contamination Levels in Unrestricted Areas			
Nuclide	Average	Maximum	Removable
I-125, I-129	100 dpm/100cm ²	300 dpm/100cm ²	20 dpm/100cm ²
I-126, I-131, I-133, Sr-90	1,000 dpm/100cm ²	3,000 dpm/100cm ²	200 dpm/100cm ²
Beta-Gamma Emitters	5,000 dpm/100cm ²	15,000 dpm/100cm ²	1,000 dpm/100cm ²

Contamination found in unrestricted areas should be immediately decontaminated to background levels. When it is not possible to get to background levels, the licensee must ensure that the amounts do not exceed the contamination levels listed above.

9. Information attached (other than listed above):

- ☐ Room diagram
- ☒ Survey grid
- ☒ Counting system calibration / quality assurance results
- ☒ Other (specify) Raw data counts

10. Point of contact Name: Richard E. Poelling, Health Physicist Consultant


Phone: (573) 814-6000 Ext. 2590

Fax: (573) 814-6600

E-mail: richard.poelling@med.va.gov

11. Survey performed by: R. E. Poelling 11/20/2003

12. Survey approved by: [Signature] Date: 12-19-03

 See NHPP reviewer note
for item 8 in Enclosure 5.
[Signature]
12/13/2003

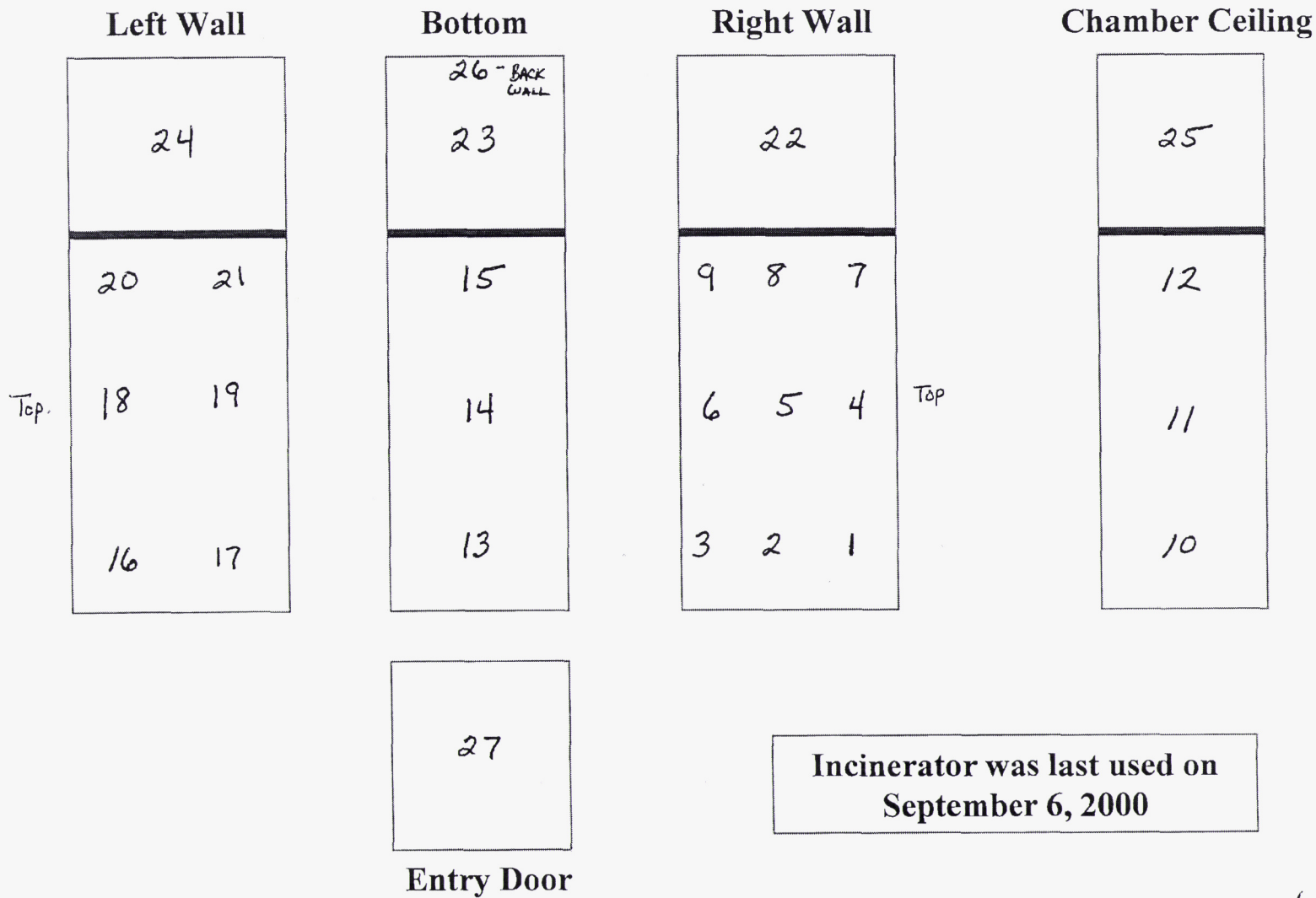
Closeout Survey Grid Information For Incinerator Chamber

Location: Building 4, Boiler Plant

Date Surveyed: November 6, 2003

1. The sample number in each box corresponds to a grid number on the chamber diagram.
2. Exposure rate measurements in mR per hour. Background readings: <0.02 mR/hr
3. Dpm swipe survey results, in disintegrations per minute per 100 cm² for three energy levels. The firebrick surface was scraped in the specified areas in an area of about 4" x 4". The scraped particles were placed in individual glass vials for future processing. Each sample was weighed and placed in a clean 20 ml glass scintillation vial with 10 ml of Packard "Opti-Fluor counting cocktail and allowed to settle in the dark for 2 days. A Beckman liquid scintillation counter was used to count each sample for 10 minutes in a ³H, ¹²⁵I, and wide window setting. Each sample was counted 3 times and the data was averaged.
4. See attached diagram and spread sheet for data.

Building 4 Boiler Plant Incinerator Chamber Fire Brick Sampling Diagram



11/6/03 R.P.

**Kansas City VA Medical Center
Kansas City, Missouri**

Building 4 Incinerator Close Out Survey Data Sheet

Sample Number	Sample Type	Firebrick Sample Wt (g)	H-3 Window		I-125 Window		Wide Window		Surface Exposure mR/hr
			cpm	dpm	cpm	dpm	cpm	dpm	
1	Scraping	0.25	13.9	0	10.7	0	44.9	0	<0.04
2	Scraping	0.14	11.4	0	8.5	0	38.2	0	<0.04
3	Scraping	0.54	16.0	0	10.8	0	54.3	0	<0.04
4	Scraping	0.27	14.2	0	11.0	0	45.0	0	<0.04
5	Scraping	0.16	10.9	0	7.7	0	35.3	0	<0.04
6	Scraping	0.23	11.3	0	7.4	0	39.4	0	<0.04
7	Scraping	0.19	13.3	0	8.0	0	40.4	0	<0.04
8	Scraping	0.32	11.3	0	7.8	0	36.6	0	<0.04
9	Scraping	0.26	12.2	0	7.6	0	42.0	0	<0.04
10	Scraping	0.41	14.2	0	12.3	0	54.8	0	<0.04
11	Scraping	0.60	13.5	0	11.3	0	52.5	0	<0.04
12	Scraping	0.53	14.2	0	8.1	0	47.1	0	<0.04
13	Scraping	0.24	9.7	0	6.6	0	35.5	0	<0.04
14	Scraping	0.17	8.8	0	7.0	0	33.3	0	<0.04
15	Scraping	0.45	8.6	0	6.9	0	35.4	0	<0.04
16	Scraping	0.26	14.9	0	10.5	0	46.4	0	<0.04
17	Scraping	0.26	12.0	0	8.3	0	38.7	0	<0.04
18	Scraping	0.28	12.0	0	9.2	0	43.4	0	<0.04
19	Scraping	0.71	12.0	0	8.8	0	41.8	0	<0.04
20	Scraping	0.52	14.4	0	11.0	0	51.0	0	<0.04
21	Scraping	0.32	12.3	0	7.7	0	38.8	0	<0.04
22	Scraping	0.52	13.3	0	8.4	0	43.7	0	<0.04
23	Scraping	0.30	9.0	0	7.0	0	35.2	0	<0.04
24	Scraping	0.28	11.7	0	8.7	0	40.6	0	<0.04
25	Scraping	0.40	13.5	0	8.3	0	41.9	0	<0.04
26	Scraping	0.46	12.3	0	8.8	0	44.2	0	<0.04
27	Scraping	0.43	9.5	0	8.6	0	38.2	0	<0.04
28	Bkg	0.22	17.5		9.7		49.3		0.02
29	Bkg	0.43	21.5		11.9		60.6		0.02
30	Bkg	0.64	27.5		15.8		69.7		0.02
31	H-3 Std		54827.0	59.80%	816.0	0.90%	55663.0	60.70%	
32	C-14 Std		17669.0	17.40%	49337.0	48.60%	97074.0	95.60%	
33	Unq Bkg		13.3		4.9		36.1		

Sample Quench Range (H#) 114-158

Background Quench Range (H#) 104-109

Exposure rate of the incinerator room was consistently <0.02 mR/hr

The outside of the incinerator housing was consistently <0.02 mR/hr

Inside the incinerator chamber next to the firebrick was consistently 0.03 to 0.04 mR/hr

The firebrick appears to contain sometype of natural radioactive material.

BECKMAN LS-6000 LIQUID SCINTILLATION COUNTER.

SN EE10,841 TRUMAN VA.

PAGE: 1

9 NOV 2003 11:39

ID: KEMAMC INCIN.

USER: 6

COMMENT: FIRE BRICK SCRAPE

PRESET TIME : 10.00

DATA CALC : CFM H# : YES SAMPLE REPEATS: 3 PRINTER : STD

COUNT BLANK : NO ICH : NO REPLICATES : 1 RS232 : OFF

TWO PHASE : NO ACC : YES CYCLE REPEATS : 1

SCINTILLATOR: LIQUID LUMEX: YES LOW SAMPLE REJ: 0

LOW LEVEL : NO HALF LIFE CORRECTION DATE: none

ISOTOPE 1: 3H %ERROR: 0.20 FACTOR: 1.0000 BKG. SUB: 0

ISOTOPE 2: 125I %ERROR: 0.20 FACTOR: 1.0000 BKG. SUB: 0

WIDE OPEN WINDOW %ERROR: 0.20 FACTOR: 1.0000 BKG. SUB: 0

SAM NO	POS	TIME MIN	H#	3H		125I		WIDE		LUMEX %	ELAPSED TIME
				CPM	%ERROR	CPM	%ERROR	CPM	%ERROR		
1 **	-1	10.00	120.4	14.40	16.67	9.60	20.41	44.20	9.51	0.03	10.62
1 **	-1	10.00	120.3	13.90	16.96	12.00	18.26	45.60	9.37	0.01	21.04
1 **	-1	10.00	121.6	13.50	17.21	10.50	19.52	44.90	9.44	0.02	31.56
			Repeat Average CPM for	3H		13.93	COEF. OF VAR:	3.236			
			Repeat Average CPM for	125I		10.70	COEF. OF VAR:	11.331			
			Repeat Average CPM for	WIDE		44.90	COEF. OF VAR:	1.558			
2 **	-2	10.00	121.5	11.20	18.90	8.20	22.09	35.80	10.57	0.04	42.29
2 **	-2	10.00	124.4	10.30	19.71	9.00	21.08	38.30	10.22	0.03	52.70
2 **	-2	10.00	123.0	12.80	17.68	8.40	21.82	40.40	9.95	0.03	63.14
			Repeat Average CPM for	3H		11.43	COEF. OF VAR:	11.075			
			Repeat Average CPM for	125I		8.53	COEF. OF VAR:	4.879			
			Repeat Average CPM for	WIDE		38.17	COEF. OF VAR:	6.034			
3 **	-3	10.00	120.2	14.90	16.38	10.00	20.00	53.10	8.68	0.02	73.85
3 **	-3	10.00	118.0	15.90	15.86	11.30	18.81	54.50	8.57	0.01	84.27
3 **	-3	10.00	118.8	17.20	15.25	11.00	19.07	55.30	8.50	0.01	94.69
			Repeat Average CPM for	3H		16.00	COEF. OF VAR:	7.208			
			Repeat Average CPM for	125I		10.77	COEF. OF VAR:	6.322			
			Repeat Average CPM for	WIDE		54.30	COEF. OF VAR:	2.051			
4 **	-4	10.00	121.4	15.50	16.06	10.50	19.52	45.10	9.42	0.02	105.42
4 **	-4	10.00	122.8	12.70	17.75	11.00	19.07	43.80	9.56	0.01	115.84
4 **	-4	10.00	122.2	14.30	16.72	11.50	18.65	46.20	9.30	0.01	126.25
			Repeat Average CPM for	3H		14.17	COEF. OF VAR:	9.916			
			Repeat Average CPM for	125I		11.00	COEF. OF VAR:	4.545			
			Repeat Average CPM for	WIDE		45.03	COEF. OF VAR:	2.668			
5 **	-5	10.00	114.7	10.50	19.52	6.70	24.43	34.50	10.77	0.03	137.10
5 **	-5	10.00	114.2	12.80	17.68	7.20	23.57	37.00	10.40	0.01	147.63
5 **	-5	10.00	113.8	9.50	20.52	9.10	20.97	34.40	10.78	0.02	158.06
			Repeat Average CPM for	3H		10.93	COEF. OF VAR:	15.477			
			Repeat Average CPM for	125I		7.67	COEF. OF VAR:	16.516			
			Repeat Average CPM for	WIDE		35.30	COEF. OF VAR:	4.173			
6 **	-6	10.00	123.7	12.20	18.11	8.00	22.36	39.50	10.06	0.05	168.77
6 **	-6	10.00	125.6	10.10	19.90	6.10	25.61	38.30	10.22	0.04	179.20
6 **	-6	10.00	124.8	11.50	18.65	8.10	22.22	40.30	9.96	0.04	189.62
			Repeat Average CPM for	3H		11.27	COEF. OF VAR:	9.491			
			Repeat Average CPM for	125I		7.40	COEF. OF VAR:	15.229			
			Repeat Average CPM for	WIDE		39.37	COEF. OF VAR:	2.557			
7 **	-7	10.00	125.1	16.70	15.48	8.10	22.22	43.00	9.64	0.03	200.35
7 **	-7	10.00	124.7	13.10	17.47	7.80	22.65	41.20	9.85	0.02	210.77

SAM NO	POS	TIME MIN	HH	3H		125I		WIDE		LUMEX %	ELAPSED TIME	
				CFM	%ERROR	CFM	%ERROR	CFM	%ERROR			
7	**	-7	10.00	124.4	10.20	19.80	8.20	22.09	36.90	10.41	0.02	221.21
			Repeat: Average CFM for		3H	13.33	COEF. OF VAR:	24.422				
			Repeat: Average CFM for		125I	8.03	COEF. OF VAR:	2.591				
			Repeat: Average CFM for		WIDE	40.37	COEF. OF VAR:	7.764				
8	**	-8	10.00	120.2	11.90	18.33	8.10	22.22	36.70	10.44	0.04	231.94
8	**	-8	10.00	121.5	10.70	19.33	6.10	25.61	32.40	11.11	0.02	242.36
8	**	-8	10.00	121.4	11.30	18.81	9.30	20.74	40.60	9.93	0.02	252.79
			Repeat: Average CFM for		3H	11.30	COEF. OF VAR:	5.310				
			Repeat: Average CFM for		125I	7.83	COEF. OF VAR:	20.637				
			Repeat: Average CFM for		WIDE	36.57	COEF. OF VAR:	11.217				
9	**	-9	10.00	127.1	13.80	17.03	7.50	23.09	44.30	9.50	0.04	263.51
9	**	-9	10.00	126.8	13.00	17.54	7.40	23.25	40.80	9.90	0.03	273.94
9	**	-9	10.00	127.2	9.70	20.31	8.00	22.36	40.90	9.89	0.03	284.46
			Repeat: Average CFM for		3H	12.17	COEF. OF VAR:	17.863				
			Repeat: Average CFM for		125I	7.63	COEF. OF VAR:	4.211				
			Repeat: Average CFM for		WIDE	42.00	COEF. OF VAR:	4.744				
10	**	-10	10.00	116.3	13.20	17.41	12.70	17.75	53.40	8.65	0.02	295.18
10	**	-10	10.00	113.5	13.70	17.09	11.10	18.98	55.00	8.53	0.01	305.60
10	**	-10	10.00	115.4	15.60	16.01	13.20	17.41	55.90	8.46	0.01	316.02
			Repeat: Average CFM for		3H	14.17	COEF. OF VAR:	8.938				
			Repeat: Average CFM for		125I	12.33	COEF. OF VAR:	8.894				
			Repeat: Average CFM for		WIDE	54.77	COEF. OF VAR:	2.312				
11	**	-11	10.00	115.8	13.50	17.21	12.60	17.82	52.80	8.70	0.01	326.76
11	**	-11	10.00	114.4	12.50	17.89	10.20	19.80	50.10	8.94	0.01	337.18
11	**	-11	10.00	114.4	14.60	16.55	11.10	18.98	54.70	8.55	0.01	347.61
			Repeat: Average CFM for		3H	13.53	COEF. OF VAR:	7.762				
			Repeat: Average CFM for		125I	11.30	COEF. OF VAR:	10.729				
			Repeat: Average CFM for		WIDE	52.53	COEF. OF VAR:	4.400				
12	**	-12	10.00	110.4	14.00	16.90	7.80	22.65	48.00	9.13	0.02	358.32
12	**	-12	10.00	110.8	14.30	16.72	8.70	21.44	49.20	9.02	0.01	368.86
12	**	-12	10.00	110.9	14.30	16.72	7.90	22.50	44.10	9.52	0.01	379.28
			Repeat: Average CFM for		3H	14.20	COEF. OF VAR:	1.220				
			Repeat: Average CFM for		125I	8.13	COEF. OF VAR:	6.065				
			Repeat: Average CFM for		WIDE	47.10	COEF. OF VAR:	5.662				
13	**	-1	10.00	150.0	9.30	20.74	6.10	25.61	34.50	10.77	0.10	390.13
13	**	-1	10.00	153.0	9.40	20.63	6.70	24.43	34.20	10.81	0.09	400.56
13	**	-1	10.00	152.1	10.50	19.52	7.10	23.74	37.90	10.27	0.09	410.99
			Repeat: Average CFM for		3H	9.73	COEF. OF VAR:	6.841				
			Repeat: Average CFM for		125I	6.63	COEF. OF VAR:	7.588				
			Repeat: Average CFM for		WIDE	35.53	COEF. OF VAR:	5.784				
14	**	-2	10.00	149.7	8.00	22.50	7.50	23.09	34.30	10.81	1.08	421.76
14	**	-2	10.00	149.3	9.70	20.52	6.10	25.61	32.40	11.15	1.21	432.23
14	**	-2	10.00	147.7	8.60	21.82	7.30	23.41	33.30	10.99	1.26	442.70
			Repeat: Average CFM for		3H	8.77	COEF. OF VAR:	9.834				
			Repeat: Average CFM for		125I	6.97	COEF. OF VAR:	10.869				
			Repeat: Average CFM for		WIDE	33.33	COEF. OF VAR:	2.851				
15	**	-3	10.00	153.0	7.70	22.79	7.70	22.79	34.80	10.72	0.17	453.43
15	**	-3	10.00	156.3	9.40	20.63	5.20	27.74	34.80	10.72	0.15	463.98
15	**	-3	10.00	154.2	8.70	21.44	7.80	22.65	36.50	10.47	0.15	474.41

SAM NO	POS	TIME MIN	HH	3H		125I		WIDE		LUMEX %	ELAPSED TIME
				CPM	%ERROR	CPM	%ERROR	CPM	%ERROR		
				Repeat Average CPM for 3H		8.60	COEF. OF VAR:	9.935			
				Repeat Average CPM for 125I		6.90	COEF. OF VAR:	21.349			
				Repeat Average CPM for WIDE		35.37	COEF. OF VAR:	2.775			
16	**4	10.00	124.1	15.80	15.91	9.10	20.97	44.10	9.52	0.03	485.27
16	**4	10.00	125.1	14.80	16.44	10.70	19.33	46.50	9.27	0.03	495.69
16	**4	10.00	126.1	14.00	16.90	11.60	18.57	48.60	9.07	0.03	506.11
				Repeat Average CPM for 3H		14.87	COEF. OF VAR:	6.066			
				Repeat Average CPM for 125I		10.47	COEF. OF VAR:	12.098			
				Repeat Average CPM for WIDE		46.40	COEF. OF VAR:	4.853			
17	**5	10.00	126.5	12.70	17.75	8.30	21.95	40.80	9.90	0.02	516.84
17	**5	10.00	126.2	11.00	19.07	9.30	20.74	39.20	10.10	0.02	527.25
17	**5	10.00	126.9	12.40	17.96	7.40	23.25	36.10	10.53	0.02	537.67
				Repeat Average CPM for 3H		12.03	COEF. OF VAR:	7.541			
				Repeat Average CPM for 125I		8.33	COEF. OF VAR:	11.405			
				Repeat Average CPM for WIDE		38.70	COEF. OF VAR:	6.174			
18	**6	10.00	118.5	13.30	17.34	11.40	18.73	45.00	9.43	0.01	548.51
18	**6	10.00	117.3	11.20	18.90	8.70	21.44	43.90	9.55	0.01	558.93
18	**6	10.00	118.0	11.40	18.73	7.60	22.94	41.30	9.84	0.01	569.35
				Repeat Average CPM for 3H		11.97	COEF. OF VAR:	9.685			
				Repeat Average CPM for 125I		9.23	COEF. OF VAR:	21.177			
				Repeat Average CPM for WIDE		43.40	COEF. OF VAR:	4.378			
19	**7	10.00	127.7	11.90	18.33	9.40	20.63	40.70	9.91	0.04	580.18
19	**7	10.00	130.0	12.40	17.96	9.50	20.52	44.80	9.45	0.03	590.61
19	**7	10.00	130.8	11.60	18.57	7.50	23.09	39.80	10.03	0.04	601.04
				Repeat Average CPM for 3H		11.97	COEF. OF VAR:	3.377			
				Repeat Average CPM for 125I		8.80	COEF. OF VAR:	12.806			
				Repeat Average CPM for WIDE		41.77	COEF. OF VAR:	6.381			
20	**8	10.00	118.6	15.60	16.01	12.60	17.82	53.00	8.69	0.01	611.77
20	**8	10.00	121.6	13.10	17.47	10.00	20.00	49.40	9.00	0.01	622.20
20	**8	10.00	120.4	14.40	16.67	10.30	19.71	50.60	8.89	0.01	632.62
				Repeat Average CPM for 3H		14.37	COEF. OF VAR:	8.703			
				Repeat Average CPM for 125I		10.97	COEF. OF VAR:	12.971			
				Repeat Average CPM for WIDE		51.00	COEF. OF VAR:	3.594			
21	**9	10.00	124.5	14.00	16.90	7.30	23.41	40.30	9.96	0.02	643.35
21	**9	10.00	125.5	11.00	19.07	6.80	24.25	36.00	10.54	0.01	653.88
21	**9	10.00	128.9	11.90	18.33	8.90	21.20	40.10	9.99	0.01	664.30
				Repeat Average CPM for 3H		12.30	COEF. OF VAR:	12.516			
				Repeat Average CPM for 125I		7.67	COEF. OF VAR:	14.308			
				Repeat Average CPM for WIDE		38.80	COEF. OF VAR:	6.255			
22	**10	10.00	117.2	15.00	16.33	9.50	20.52	48.10	9.12	0.01	675.04
22	**10	10.00	115.1	10.70	19.33	8.20	22.09	39.90	10.01	0.01	685.45
22	**10	10.00	113.8	14.10	16.84	7.50	23.09	43.00	9.64	0.01	695.87
				Repeat Average CPM for 3H		13.27	COEF. OF VAR:	17.095			
				Repeat Average CPM for 125I		8.40	COEF. OF VAR:	12.082			
				Repeat Average CPM for WIDE		43.67	COEF. OF VAR:	9.482			
23	**11	10.00	135.5	10.70	19.33	7.70	22.79	36.30	10.50	0.02	706.60
23	**11	10.00	134.9	8.00	22.36	6.00	25.82	32.50	11.09	0.02	717.02
23	**11	10.00	134.4	8.30	21.95	7.30	23.41	36.90	10.41	0.02	727.45

SAM NO	POS	TIME MIN	H#	3H		125I		WIDE		LUMEX %	ELAPSED TIME
				CFM	%ERROR	CFM	%ERROR	CFM	%ERROR		
				Repeat Average CFM for	3H	9.00	COEF. OF VAR:	16.443			
				Repeat Average CFM for	125I	7.00	COEF. OF VAR:	12.697			
				Repeat Average CFM for	WIDE	35.23	COEF. OF VAR:	6.772			
24	**12	10.00	114.5	11.80	18.41	7.70	22.79	41.20	9.85	0.02	738.19
24	**12	10.00	112.9	11.60	18.57	8.10	22.22	39.50	10.06	0.01	748.60
24	**12	10.00	114.9	11.70	18.49	10.30	19.71	41.10	9.87	0.01	759.03
				Repeat Average CFM for	3H	11.70	COEF. OF VAR:	0.854			
				Repeat Average CFM for	125I	8.70	COEF. OF VAR:	16.092			
				Repeat Average CFM for	WIDE	40.60	COEF. OF VAR:	2.350			
25	**1	10.00	104.5	15.20	16.22	7.90	22.50	44.30	9.50	0.01	769.86
25	**1	10.00	105.7	13.10	17.47	8.40	21.82	42.50	9.70	0.01	780.29
25	**1	10.00	105.6	12.20	18.11	8.70	21.44	38.90	10.14	0.01	790.70
				Repeat Average CFM for	3H	13.50	COEF. OF VAR:	11.404			
				Repeat Average CFM for	125I	8.33	COEF. OF VAR:	4.850			
				Repeat Average CFM for	WIDE	41.90	COEF. OF VAR:	6.562			
26	**2	10.00	111.4	13.20	17.41	7.60	22.94	43.90	9.55	0.01	801.43
26	**2	10.00	114.1	12.30	18.03	9.30	20.74	45.40	9.39	0.01	811.85
26	**2	10.00	113.5	11.40	18.73	9.40	20.63	43.30	9.61	0.01	822.27
				Repeat Average CFM for	3H	12.30	COEF. OF VAR:	7.317			
				Repeat Average CFM for	125I	8.77	COEF. OF VAR:	11.539			
				Repeat Average CFM for	WIDE	44.20	COEF. OF VAR:	2.447			
27	**3	10.00	153.2	8.30	21.95	8.10	22.22	37.10	10.38	0.03	833.01
27	**3	10.00	149.1	10.10	19.90	9.30	20.74	39.10	10.11	0.02	843.42
27	**3	10.00	148.7	10.00	20.00	8.40	21.82	38.30	10.22	0.03	853.97
				Repeat Average CFM for	3H	9.47	COEF. OF VAR:	10.686			
				Repeat Average CFM for	125I	8.60	COEF. OF VAR:	7.262			
				Repeat Average CFM for	WIDE	38.17	COEF. OF VAR:	2.637			
28	**4	10.00	103.7	16.60	15.52	9.10	20.97	45.50	9.38	0.01	864.68
28	**4	10.00	104.3	18.20	14.82	11.00	19.07	52.60	8.72	0.00	875.10
28	**4	10.00	104.8	17.70	15.03	9.00	21.08	49.90	8.95	0.00	885.54
				Repeat Average CFM for	3H	17.50	COEF. OF VAR:	4.677			
				Repeat Average CFM for	125I	9.70	COEF. OF VAR:	11.618			
				Repeat Average CFM for	WIDE	49.33	COEF. OF VAR:	7.264			
29	**5	10.00	107.7	21.80	13.55	12.70	17.75	61.10	8.09	0.01	896.26
29	**5	10.00	107.0	22.10	13.45	11.40	18.73	62.50	8.00	0.00	906.69
29	**5	10.00	106.5	20.70	13.90	11.60	18.57	58.20	8.29	0.00	917.21
				Repeat Average CFM for	3H	21.53	COEF. OF VAR:	3.423			
				Repeat Average CFM for	125I	11.90	COEF. OF VAR:	5.883			
				Repeat Average CFM for	WIDE	60.60	COEF. OF VAR:	3.619			
30	**6	10.00	109.1	27.50	12.06	13.70	17.09	67.60	7.69	0.01	927.93
30	**6	10.00	108.5	26.20	12.36	18.00	14.91	70.10	7.55	0.00	938.35
30	**6	10.00	109.0	28.80	11.79	15.70	15.96	71.30	7.49	0.00	948.79
				Repeat Average CFM for	3H	27.50	COEF. OF VAR:	4.727			
				Repeat Average CFM for	125I	15.80	COEF. OF VAR:	13.619			
				Repeat Average CFM for	WIDE	69.67	COEF. OF VAR:	2.710			
31	**7	10.00	1.2	54868.80	0.27	835.50	2.19	55724.40	0.27	0.00	959.77
31	**7	10.00	0.6	54694.30	0.27	806.00	2.23	55521.80	0.27	0.00	970.48
31	**7	10.00	0.1	54917.00	0.27	805.40	2.23	55744.00	0.27	0.00	981.17

Bkg Brick
0.22 g.

Bkg Brick
0.43 g.

Bkg Brick
0.64 g.

SAM NO	POS	TIME MIN	H#	3H		125I		WIDE		LUMEX %	ELAPSED TIME	
				CPM	%ERROR	CPM	%ERROR	CPM	%ERROR			
Repeat Average CPM for				3H	54826.70	COEF. OF VAR:	0.214	<i>3H STD.</i>				
Repeat Average CPM for				125I	815.63	COEF. OF VAR:	2.110					
Repeat Average CPM for				WIDE	55663.40	COEF. OF VAR:	0.215					
32	**	-8	10.00	-0.7	17628.80	0.48	49305.70	0.28	97103.20	0.20	0.00	992.30
32	**	-8	10.00	-1.1	17701.20	0.48	49383.60	0.28	97106.40	0.20	0.00	1003.10
32	**	-8	10.00	-1.0	17677.50	0.48	49321.70	0.28	97013.70	0.20	0.00	1013.90
Repeat Average CPM for				3H	17669.17	COEF. OF VAR:	0.210	<i>14C STD.</i>				
Repeat Average CPM for				125I	49337.00	COEF. OF VAR:	0.086					
Repeat Average CPM for				WIDE	97074.44	COEF. OF VAR:	0.033					
33	**	-9	10.00	11.1	10.70	19.69	4.40	30.15	31.20	11.40	2.19	1024.77
33	**	-9	10.00	10.6	14.80	16.66	5.00	28.28	39.40	10.13	1.52	1035.31
33	**	-9	10.00	10.6	14.30	16.78	5.40	27.22	37.60	10.33	0.99	1045.82
Repeat Average CPM for				3H	13.27	COEF. OF VAR:	16.860	<i>UNQUENCHED BACKGROUND.</i>				
Repeat Average CPM for				125I	4.93	COEF. OF VAR:	10.203					
Repeat Average CPM for				WIDE	36.07	COEF. OF VAR:	11.949					

Radioactive Decay Calculator For Sealed Sources

Todays Date 11/9/2003

Isotope	Activity	Calibration Date	Days of Decay	Remaining Activity	Activity Units	I.D. No.	Decay Factor (Days)
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E-Vial Reference Sources

Co-57	5.329	10/1/2002	404	1.902	mCi	146	271.79
Co-57	5.608	10/15/2000	1120	0.323	mCi	133	271.79
Ba-133	250	5/9/1985	6758	74.001	uCi	H-5	3847
Ba-133	272	11/3/1998	1832	195.544	uCi	126	3847
Cs-137	201	8/14/1984	7026	128.850	uCi	B-28	10950

Gamma Reference Disc Source Set (NES-101S)

Na-22	1.1	2/28/1994	3541	0.08310	uCi		950
Mn-54	1.16	8/2/1994	3386	0.00064	uCi		312.7
Co-57	0.9959	9/15/2002	420	0.34129	uCi		271.79
Co-57	1.18	6/29/1994	3420	0.00019	uCi		271.79
Co-60	0.84	6/29/1993	3785	0.21488	uCi		1924
Cd-109	8.5	2/23/1994	3546	0.04260	uCi		464
Ba-133	1.05	6/18/1993	3796	0.52992	uCi		3847
Cs-137	1.02	1/31/1994	3569	0.81378	uCi		10950

GM Calibration Source

Cs-137	135	1/31/1984	7222	85.474	mCi		10950
Sr-90	9.879	9/15/2002	420	9.606	uCi		10402.5
Sr-90	0.022	2/11/1976	10133	0.011	uCi		10402.5
C-14	0.182	2/9/1976	10135	0.181	uCi		2091450

12x75 Well Counter Sources

Co-57	213000	4/21/2003	202	126827	dpm		270
I-125	264000	4/17/2003	206	24645	dpm		60.2
I-129	107000	1/27/2003	286	107000	dpm		6205000000
Co-57	213000	8/14/2002	452	66764	dpm		270
I-125	213000	8/14/2002	452	1098	dpm		59.46
Co-57	222000	4/24/2000	1294	8016	dpm		270
I-125	262000	4/12/2000	1306	0	dpm		59.46

Unquenched Liquid Scintillation Standards (Beckman 9696)

H-3	106000	4/11/2001	942	91657	dpm		4490
C-14	101600	4/11/2001	942	101568	dpm		2091450

Enclosure 2

NHPP memorandum dated December 3, 2010, requesting additional information

**DEPARTMENT OF
VETERANS AFFAIRS**

Memorandum

Date: DEC 03 2010

From: Director, VHA National Health Physics Program (NHPP) (115HP/NLR)

Subj: Request for Information for VHA Permit Number 24-00496-06 (for radioactive materials use)

To: Director (589/00), VA Medical Center, Kansas City, Missouri

1. We are responding to a memorandum from your Radiation Safety Officer (RSO) that was dated November 22, 2010, and requested decommissioning approval (i.e., release for unrestricted use) of an incinerator and associated smoke stack which were historically used to incinerate wastes containing radioactivity.

2. Due to the circumstances of the release (viz., historical use of radionuclides with half-lives greater than 120 days and plans for demolition of these structures), we will need to defer this request to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) for their review and approval before we can approve a permit amendment to release the structures for unrestricted use. The NRC review process often takes up to 60 days, depending on their priorities and any follow-up questions.

3. As additional information for our review, please provide a site diagram showing the location of the structures to be released relative to other existing buildings and site boundaries. The diagram may be provided in hardcopy format or electronically to our group e-mail at vhconhpp@va.gov. Please provide this information within 30 days from the date of this memorandum. After we receive this information, we will forward a request to the NRC to release structures. We will provide a copy of the submittal to your RSO as information.

4. Please note 10 CFR 30.36(d) requires notifications to NHPP/NRC within specific timeframes for circumstances involving an inactive separate building where residual radioactivity above release levels could exist. In this case, we received no notification about status of these inactive structures until receipt of the RSO memorandum dated November 22, 2010. Also, the release survey for the structures appears to have been completed about a year after the notification window closed. As a mitigating factor, the radiation surveys that were provided by the RSO appear to support the absence of residual radioactivity in these structures. To identify whether other similar circumstances might exist and to prevent recurrence of this apparent deficiency, you should evaluate whether additional corrective actions are warranted. NHPP will likely follow up on this item during your next routine facility inspection.

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Request for Information for VHA Permit Number 24-00496-06 (for radioactive materials use)

5. Please note that, as a limited-scope research permittee, a permit amendment from NHPP is required to add new areas of radioactive material use and to release, for unrestricted use, areas in which radioactive materials were previously used.

6. If you have any questions about this memorandum, please contact Thomas E. Huston, Ph.D., NHPP, at 501-257-1578.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "G E Williams", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Gary E. Williams

Enclosure 3

Permittee e-mail dated December 3, 2010, with attached facility diagram and requesting expedited review

(Note: Item 2 in that e-mail references a different area and is not included in this request.)

mayo, kenny

From: Morrison, Leslie (KCVA)
Sent: Friday, December 03, 2010 2:00 PM
To: VACO NHPP
Cc: Hill, Kent D. (SES- KCVA)
Subject: Requested diagram plus more information
Attachments: KANSAS CITY VA SITE PLAN.pdf

Attached is a copy of the site diagram that you requested. It is a PDF format so you should be able to view and print the diagram easily. There are 2 points that I need to bring to your attention on this diagram.

1. The smoke stack that we are requesting decommissioning of is the circle, located in the lower right hand corner. It is just above the upper left corner of Building 4. The incinerator that we are requesting to be decommissioned is located in an extension of Building 4, just to the right of the smoke stack. The structure between the smoke stack and the extension of Building 4 is an above ground walkway.

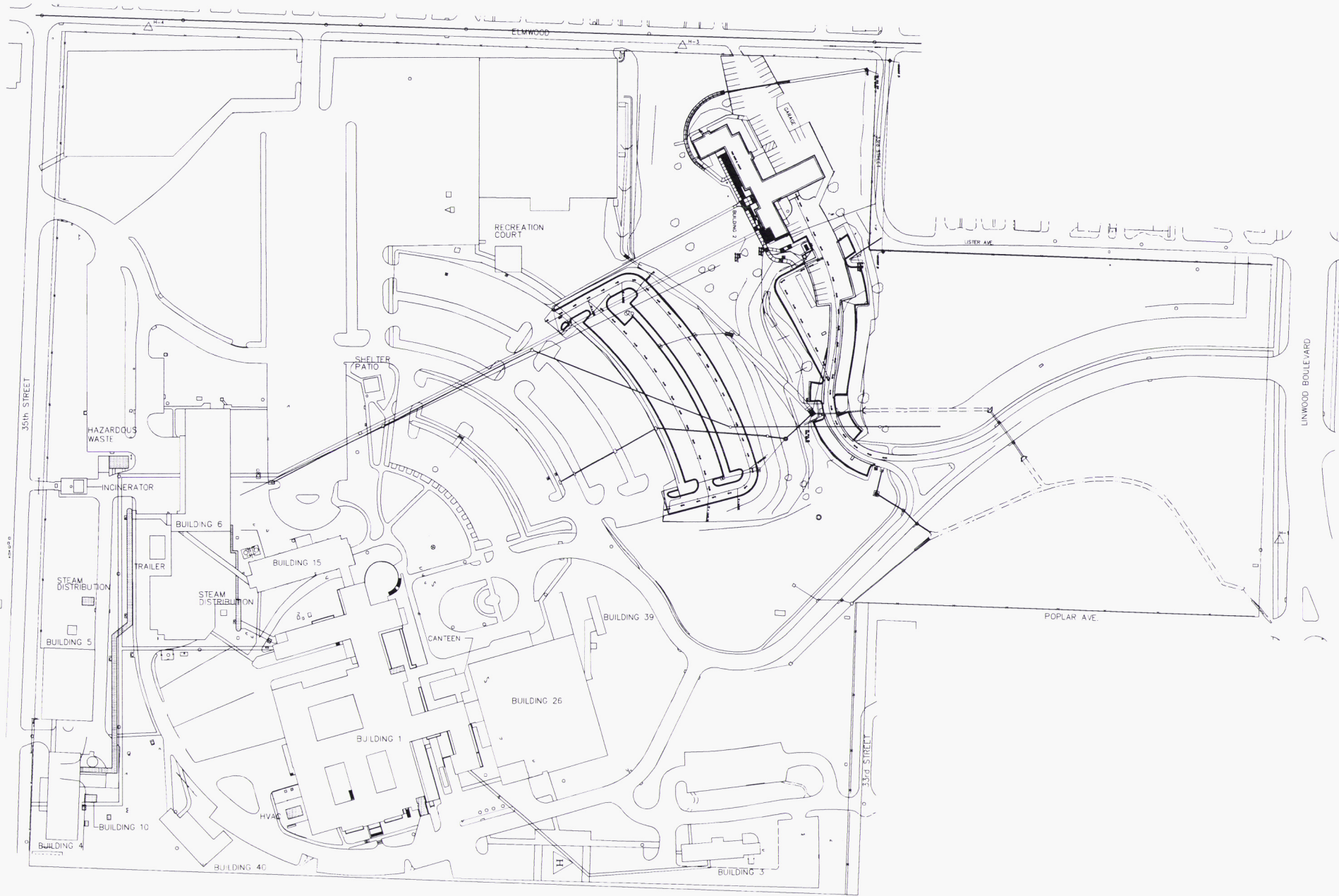
2. If you look at the bottom of the diagram and towards the middle, you will see a small building structure that is labeled, "Incinerator". This building is a small 2 level building. I have found out that this building housed an incinerator, which was used for the incineration of radioactive waste prior to the current incinerator that we are requesting decommissioning of. This previous incinerator started operation approximately 1975, was located in the lower part of the building. This incinerator was approved by the NRC for incineration of radioactive material in May of 1980, as part of Amendment #41. This incinerator was removed many years ago and the building has been used for storage. I have not been able to find any records of what materials were actually burned. According to a March 28, 1980 request, the anticipated isotopes to be incinerated were: H-3, C-14, I-125, P-32, V-48, S-35, Fe-55, Fe-59 and Se-75. Animal carcasses (rabbits, rats and mice) would be used with an anticipated activity range of 1- 10 uCi per animal would be incinerated as well as flammable liquid scintillation cocktail. I have not been able to find, at this point in time, any information pertaining to the release of this building by the NRC.

We would like to request, if possible, for an expedited review of our original request so that the contract for the removal of the current incinerator in Building 4 can proceed.

We are also requesting guidance on how to procedure with the former incinerator building.

Thank you.

Les Morrison, Radiation Safety Officer
Kansas City VAMC
816-861-4700 ext 57699



Enclosure 4

Additional e-mail correspondence between NHPP and permittee dated December 6, 2010, with clarifying details to identify structures involved in this request

-----Original Message-----

From: Morrison, Leslie (KCVA)
Sent: Monday, December 06, 2010 9:49 AM
To: Huston, Thomas E.
Cc: Hill, Kent D. (SES- KCVA); VACO NHPP
Subject: RE: Requested diagram plus more information

Yes, the two areas are marked appropriately.

Les Morrison, RSO

-----Original Message-----

From: Huston, Thomas E.
Sent: Monday, December 06, 2010 9:43 AM
To: Morrison, Leslie (KCVA)
Cc: Hill, Kent D. (SES- KCVA); VACO NHPP
Subject: RE: Requested diagram plus more information

Les,

Thank you for the information.

I am attaching an annotated version of your drawing to identify more clearly for NRC the stack and incinerator subject to the current request for release. Please confirm (by email back to me) that I have correctly marked those two areas.

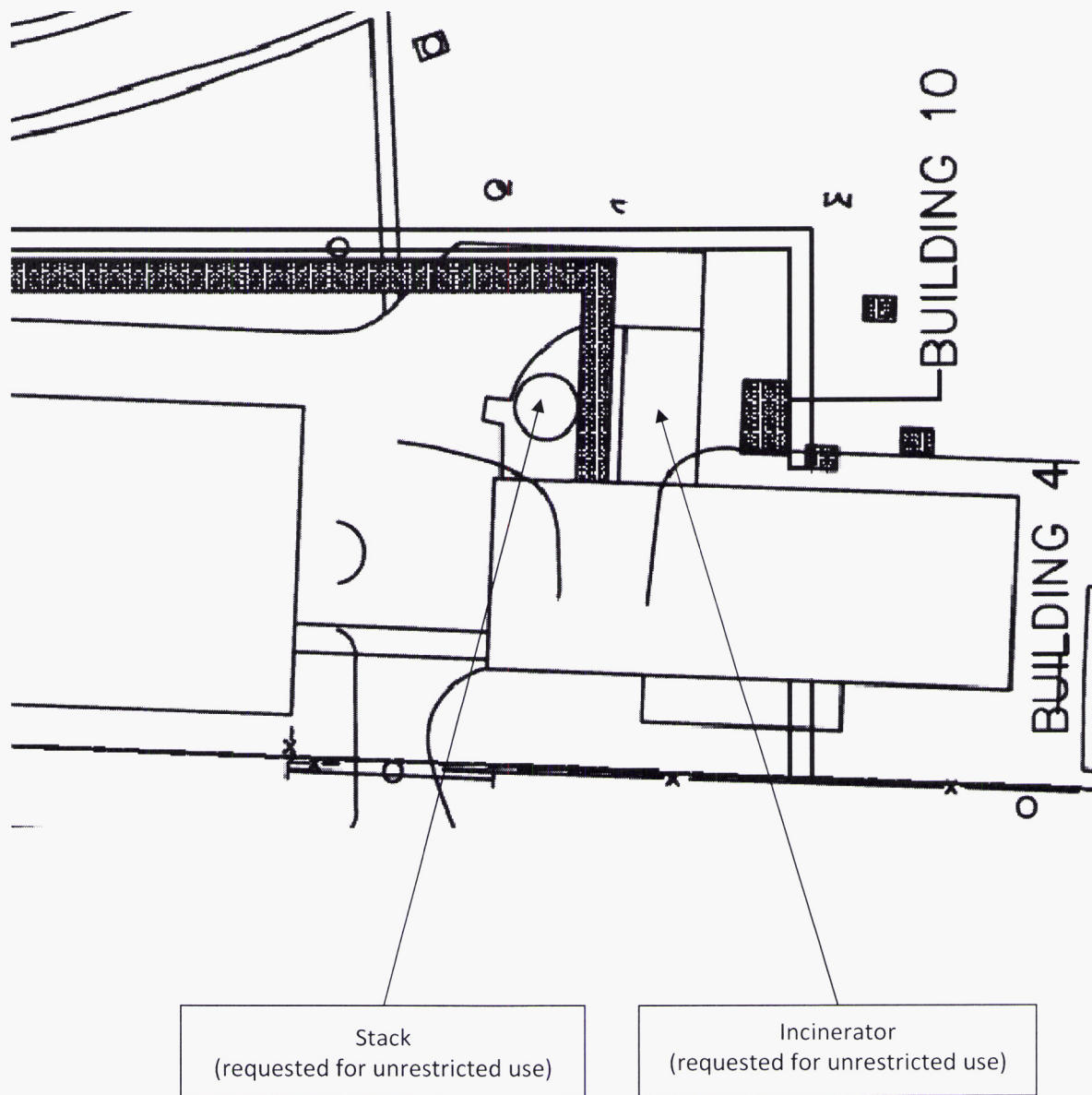
We will submit your request to release, for unrestricted use, the incinerator and stack adjacent to Building 4, to NRC for review.

In our submittal to NRC, we will note our desire for an expedited review; however, we cannot control NRC's timetable for these types of review.

NRC might have follow-up questions or requests for information that could delay the review/approval process.

For the other former incinerator building (referenced in item 2 of your the email below), if you are not able to find any information that the building was released for unrestricted use by NRC (NHPP's permit file information only dates back to around 1984), then our advice is that you all perform a decommissioning quality survey of the area and submit that information to NHPP for review for unrestricted use.

Thomas E. Huston, PhD, CHP
National Health Physics Program (115/HP) Veterans Health Administration
Wk: 501-257-1578; Cell: 501-454-7264; Fax: 501-257-1570



Prepared December 6, 2010

Enclosure 5

NHPP reviewer notes on specified items in closeout survey report included as Enclosure 1.

NHPP reviewer notes on survey report dated November 20, 2003:

Item 1. Comments about radionuclides of concern:

Only H-3 and possibly C-14 and Cl-36 appear to be radionuclides of concern. Assuming a residual hold-up activity of 1000 uCi for other short-lived nuclides (< 120 day half life) at the time of last use (i.e., P-32 (14.3 d), P-33 (25.3 d), S-35 (87.5 d), and I-125 (59.4 d), no residual activity from these nuclides would be expected after 10 years decay (10 year decay of 1000 uCi for longest half-life of 87.5 days $\rightarrow 2.8\text{E-}10$ uCi).

Item 7. Comments about exposure rate and surface scan results:

Please disregard the comments in the survey report for this item. Exposure rate measurements and surface scans were less than or equal to about two times background, or 0.04 mR/hr, using a GM pancake detector. Typical background level for a Ludlum Model 44-9 GM pancake probe is around 0.02 mR/hr or about 60 cpm. It is very likely that the brick and construction materials used for the incinerator provided a natural background level higher than simple ambient instrument background measured outside the incinerator. This opinion is supported by the lack of measureable activity for the wipe samples. However, the surveyor did not identify a natural background level for the incinerator construction materials. Using the lower instrument background of 0.02 mR/hr does not alter the overall conclusions that the area appears free from residual contamination above unrestricted release levels.

For C-14, the two-times-background level corresponds to a contamination level of around 1200 dpm-net for C-14 assuming a 5% (4-pi) efficiency (i.e., 120 cpm gross \rightarrow (60 cpm net/0.05 cpm/dpm) \rightarrow 1200 dpm-net). For a typical window area of 15 cm^2 , the "two times background" level corresponds to about 8000 dpm/100cm² (1200 dpm/15cm² * 100cm²). The two-times-background level is well below 1% of the NRC screening level for C-14 in NUREG-1757, Vol. 1, Rev. 2 (3,700,000 dpm/100cm²). For higher energy beta emitters (e.g., Cl-36), the detection efficiency is significantly higher than that for C-14, and two-times-background would correspond to a much lower level. A general conclusion is that the total residual activity is well below the screening levels for C-14 (3,700,000 dpm/100cm²) and Cl-36 (500,000 dpm/100cm²).

While the scanning technique would not have detected H-3, the wipe results did not indicate any removable H-3 activity. It is unlikely that elevated H-3 activity would be present at or near screening levels in Federal Register Vol. 63, No. 222 (i.e., 120,000,000 dpm/100 cm²) and none be removable. Therefore, a conclusion is that no removable or fixed H-3 is present at levels approaching the screening level release criteria.

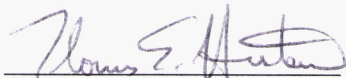
Item 8. Comments about release criteria for removable activity:

Please disregard reference to NUREG-1556, Volume 11, Table S.5. We are currently requesting use of screening level criteria published in Federal Register Vol. 63, No. 222, and consistent with Federal Register Vol. 65, No. 114, as basis for release of the area for unrestricted use. The

screening level values are: H-3 (120,000,000 dpm/100cm²), C-14 (3,700,000 dpm/100cm²), and Cl-36 (500,000 dpm/100cm²). The screening level derivation assumes 10% of the activity is removable. No removable activity was detected in wipe surveys.

Additional Comment about Stack:

We acknowledge that the surveys pertain to the incinerator area only. The absence of any measureable activity in the incinerator supports a position that the stack is also free of residual activity.

NHPP reviewer:  Date: 12/13/2010
Thomas E. Huston, Ph.D., CHP

KELLY MAYO 5012571571 VHA NATIONAL HEALTH PHYSICS PR 2200 FT ROOTS DR B101 R208D NORTH LITTLE ROCK AR 72114		0.0 LBS LTR	1 OF 1
SHIP TO: KEVIN NULL 5012571571 NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION REGION 3 DIVISION OF NUCLEAR MATERIALS SAFET 2443 WARRENVILLE RD, SUITE 210 LISLE IL 60532-4352			
		IL 603 9-03 	
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BILLING: P/P			
Reference # 1: KRM			
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