

Telephone Conversation Record

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Licensee: Department of the Army
TACOM Life Cycle Management Command

License No: 21-32838-01

Docket No.: 030-38500

Mail Control No.: 576576

Caller: Lionel Rodriguez, Reactor Inspector (Decommissioning)
NRC Region III, Division of Nuclear Materials Safety
Materials Control, ISFSI, and Decommissioning Branch 

Date of Call: July 12, 2013

SUBJECT: CALL BETWEEN NRC AND LICENSEE ON STATUS OF
DECOMMISSIONING LICENSE AMENDMENT REQUEST FOR THE
ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL FACILITY (MAIL CONTROL NO. 576576)

On July 12, 2013 the licensee and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) RIII had a telephone conversation discussing a decommissioning license amendment request (Mail Control No. 576576) for the Rock Island Arsenal facility. The NRC reviewer discussed the status of the review. The responses dated October 4, 2012 to the request for additional information dated August 22, 2012 had been received and were currently under review by the NRC. The NRC reviewer also stated that the NRC was nearing the completion of the review and anticipated issuing the license amendment within a week.

The NRC reviewer discussed with the licensee Nuclear Materials Event Database (NMED) item number 960355 which occurred on July 9, 1996. Although the event was reported by another Army licensee (License No. 12-00722-10), the event documents leaking tritium sources that originated from the Rock Island Arsenal licensee (License No. 21-32838-01). The licensee informed the reviewer that the leaking tritium sources from the event did indeed originate from a building at the Rock Island Arsenal. The NRC reviewer determined that sufficient documentation for the decommissioning of the building was provided by the licensee in the responses to the request for additional information.

The NRC reviewer also discussed the continued license mission at Rock Island Arsenal if the need arose. In the response to question number six of the request for additional information (RAI), the licensee stated that there could be a need to install new fire control devices into artillery systems at the Rock Island Arsenal facility in the future. The licensee confirmed that the installation activities would not be considered "depot level maintenance." Therefore, the Rock

Island, Illinois facility would not be required to be named on condition 11.C. of the NRC license for the licensee to perform these activities.

The NRC reviewer also discussed the licensee's final status survey approach as it relates to the guidance in NUREG 1757. In their response to question number 11 of the RAI, the licensee states that the surveys were performed in alignment with MARSSIM guidance and the simplified survey procedure in NUREG 1757, Volume 1 Revision 2, page 8-2. While the reviewer agrees that the surveys conducted are adequate to demonstrate the areas meet the radiological criteria for unrestricted use (10 CFR 20.1402), the reviewer informed the licensee that they were not fully implemented in accordance with the guidance in MARSSIM and NUREG 1757 which requires 100% scans to be performed in the areas of the facility where licensed material was used or stored. For tritium, one of the radionuclides addressed in the licensee's survey, scanning is not practical because of the low beta energy emitted by the radionuclide. In this case, the biased sampling conducted by the licensee and the fact that all the results were negative, provide reasonable assurance that the areas meet the radiological criteria for unrestricted use.

Finally, the NRC reviewer discussed the NRC's process for making information available to the public. The licensee informed the reviewer that the material provided, as part of the license amendment request, contains Security-Related Information in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 and its disclosure to unauthorized individuals could present a security vulnerability. Therefore, the material related to the license amendment request will not be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or in the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

No further discussion. End of conversation Record.