

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

Rachel Carson State Office Building P.O. Box 8469 Harrisburg, PA 17105-8469

November 18, 2008

Bureau of Radiation Protection

717-787-2480 Fax: 717-783-8965

Mr. James J. Burke, Director U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region III 1650 Arch Street Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

Re: Safety Light Corporation Superfund Site

Dear Mr. Burke:

In a letter dated October 3, 2008, the Environmental Protection Agency requested that debris resulting from the demolition of seven buildings at the Safety Light Corporation Superfund Site be exempted from the Safety Light Corporation radioactive material licenses in order to allow disposal of the debris at a permitted hazardous waste landfill in Idaho. A notice of this request was published October 11, 2008, in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* for a 30-day public comment period. The public comment period has expired, and no comments were received. My staff has completed their review of the request, and this letter is our approval.

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has the authority to exempt the material addressed in your request from the Safety Light Corporation licenses. The authority is granted pursuant to 25 *Pa Code*, §§ 215.1 and 219.5 which include by reference both the provisions of 10 CFR 20.2002 for alternative disposal and the authority to issue exemptions under 10 CFR 30.11.

Based on the analyses provided, it has been demonstrated and DEP staff has confirmed that the proposed 10 CFR 20.2002 disposal is expected to result in negligible risk to workers and the public. The scenarios analyzed in your request relied upon conservative analyses, and each of the scenarios evaluated resulted in dose estimates of less than 1 mrem per year total dose. Therefore, DEP approves of this alternate disposal route of the waste as specified in accordance with 10 CFR 20.2002. Furthermore, in accordance with the provisions of 10 CFR 30.11, DEP "may, upon application of any interested person or upon its own initiative, grant such exemptions from the requirements of the regulations . . . as it determines are authorized by law and will not endanger life or property or the common defense and security and are otherwise in the public interest."

Based on the analyses, this material is authorized for disposal as described in the submission because it poses negligible risk to public health and safety and does not involve information or activities that could potentially impact the common defense and security of the

United States. Furthermore, it is in the public interest to dispose of wastes in a controlled environment, such as that provided by a Subtitle C RCRA hazardous waste disposal facility. To the extent that this material may be otherwise licensable, it is acceptable for disposal under this 10 CFR 20.2002 request and is exempt from further DEP licensing requirements under 10 CFR 30.11.

Please feel free to contact Bryan Werner of my staff by e-mail at brwerner@state.pa.us or by telephone at (717) 787-2781 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

David J. Allard, CHP

Director

Bureau of Radiation Protection

cc: Robert Maiers, DEP, BRP Bryan Werner, DEP, BRP Scott Wilson, DEP, SCRO Mitch Cron, EPA