

October 8, 2003

Mr. Craig E. Jensen, CHP  
Radiation Safety Officer  
Battelle Memorial Institute  
505 King Avenue  
Columbus, OH 43201-2693

SUBJECT: NRC STAFF REVIEW OF BATTELLE MEMORIAL INSTITUTE'S LETTER  
INDICATING "RELOCATION OF ITS TRU WASTE TO OUTSIDE STAGING  
PAD"

Dear Mr. Jensen:

This refers to your letter dated June 23, 2003, in which you advised the NRC of Battelle Memorial Institute's (BMI) intention to construct a temporary waste staging pad and to move transuranic (TRU) waste presently stored in your JN-1 Building to the pad. You also indicated in the letter that BMI staff had reviewed its license, NRC approved Decommissioning Plan (DP) and Radiation Protection Program Plan (RPP), and had concluded that the construction of the pad and movement of the waste was within the authority of your license. You further indicated that BMI has determined that if TRU waste were to be stored on the pad, there would be no significant change in the amounts of any effluents that may be released offsite, there would be no significant increase in individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure, there would be no significant construction impact, and there would be no significant increase in the potential for or consequences from radiological accidents. Furthermore, BMI will maintain robust security measures for the pad and will exercise firm control over the staged material. You also stated that you would not move the TRU waste from the JN-1 Building until you received NRC concurrence with the BMI decision.

My staff has reviewed your letter, license, DP, RPP, and associated reference material, and have no further questions regarding this action. The NRC agrees with the BMI license interpretation described in your June 23, 2003, letter regarding the storage pad. However, although your correspondence highlights the temporary status of the TRU waste storage on the pad, we emphasize that this waste must be shipped off the site prior to BMI's December 31, 2005, decommissioning schedule completion date.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the NRC's document system (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

Should you have any questions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact me or Mike McCann, at (630) 829-9633 or (630) 829-9856, respectively.

Sincerely,

*/RA/*

Christopher G. Miller, Chief  
Decommissioning Branch

Docket No. 070-00008  
License No. SNM-00007

cc: F. Hood, VP, ESH&S, BMI  
R. Owen, Ohio Department of Health

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