



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

April 4, 2019

Mr. Darryl Maslak  
Litchfield County Industrial Space, LLC  
310 Carter Road  
Thomaston, CT 06787

SUBJECT: PROPERTY AT 242 ELM STREET – SECOND REQUEST FOR INITIAL SITE VISIT AND TO PERFORM RADIOLOGICAL SURVEYS

Dear Mr. Maslak:

I am writing to follow-up on previous attempts made by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff to contact you regarding our interest in the property at 242 Elm Street, Thomaston, Connecticut. As discussed in our initial letter dated July 2, 2018,<sup>1</sup> our records indicate that the property was previously used by the Seth Thomas Clock Company as part of a larger operation for the manufacturing of clocks which may have contained radium-226 (Ra-226). Ra-226 is a radioactive substance that was commonly used in the painting of clocks in the early 1900's and, in certain quantities, may pose a risk to public health and safety.

As we didn't hear from you, the NRC staff hand delivered the July 2, 2018, letter on November 7, 2018, which included a Radium Backgrounder and an Overview of the NRC. On November 19, 2018, the NRC staff contacted your staff and requested access to your property to survey it, but that request was declined. During that discussion, it was indicated to the NRC staff that you would be interested in allowing the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEP) to survey the property. Subsequently, staff from CT DEEP contacted you to gain access to survey your property, which was declined. It has been a few months since our last discussion regarding the NRC staff's request to survey your property, and I wanted to follow-up with you again regarding this request. In the event that you are no longer the owner of the property, please let us know.

The area of interest at the property is inside and outside of the building that was previously used by the Seth Thomas Clock Company. The NRC staff has experience with similar sites where products were manufactured with Ra-226, and surveys conducted have identified Ra-226 contamination at some, but not all, of these sites. The NRC staff does not know whether radium was used specifically at your property. Therefore, we are requesting access to the property to perform radiological surveys and to collect samples to determine whether there is any residual contamination and to confirm that there is no concern for public health and safety. This testing will not damage your property and these tests will be conducted at no cost to you.

If you would prefer either a teleconference or an in-person meeting with the NRC staff to further discuss your property and our experience surveying similar properties, we can work to arrange this.

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<sup>1</sup> Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML18164A141.

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Section 2.390 of the NRC's "Agency Rules of Practice and Procedure," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

If, within one year following the date of this letter, you would like the NRC staff to perform this survey at the property, or if you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Mr. Stephen Koenick, Chief, Low-level Waste and Projects Branch, Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery and Waste Programs, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, at 301-415-6631, or Mr. Richard Chang, Project Manager, at 301-415-5888. Subsequent to one year from the date of this letter, it is important to note that you will be responsible for assessing any issues related to radium contamination on the property.

I hope that we can work together to resolve this issue and determine the current radiological status of the property. Absent working together, you should be aware that the uncertainty related to radium contamination associated with your property will remain in the public domain.

Sincerely,

***/RA B. PHAM FOR/***

John R. Tappert, Director  
Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery  
and Waste Programs  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

Docket No.: 03039094

REGISTERED LETTER – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

SUBJECT: PROPERTY AT 242 ELM STREET – SECOND REQUEST FOR INITIAL SITE VISIT AND TO PERFORM RADIOLOGICAL SURVEYS  
**DATE: April 4, 2019**

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