

~~PDR~~  
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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION III  
739 ROOSEVELT ROAD  
GLEN ELLYN, ILLINOIS 60137

AUG 29 1979

Kerr-McGee Chemical Corporation  
ATTN: Mr. M. C. Locke  
Vice President  
Chemical Manufacturing  
Kerr-McGee Center  
Oklahoma City, OK 73125

License No. STA-583

Gentlemen:

We have reviewed your plan to provide radiological health physics surveillance of activities at your Rare Earth Facility in West Chicago, Illinois, submitted in your letter dated July 31, 1979. We have also reviewed your reply dated August 23, 1979, to our letter of August 16, 1979, with comments on your plan. Several other commitments have been made by Kerr-McGee in a telephone conversation on August 28, 1979, between Dr. Carl J. Paperiello of this office and Mr. George Hennegan of your staff. These commitments are enclosed with this letter.

Since your submittals and commitments meet the requirements stated in our letter to you dated July 26, 1976, for the initiation of additional decontamination operations at the West Chicago, Illinois facility, you may initiate the decontamination plan submitted to us on July 31, 1979.

We understand that these activities will be performed in accordance with the submitted plan, your reply dated August 23, 1979, to our letter dated August 16, 1979, and the attached commitments.


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AUG 29 1979

If our understanding of this matter is not correct, please contact this office immediately.

Sincerely,

  
James G. Keppler  
Director

Enclosure: Attachment A

cc w/encl:

W. Crow, NMSS

D. Sly, IE

J. Sniezek, IE

J. Strasma, RIII, NRC

G. Hennegan, Kerr-McGee

G. Sinke, Kerr-McGee

E. Rennels, Mayor, City of  
West Chicago, IL

C. Grigalauski, USEPA, RV

H. Chinn, Illinois Office  
of the Attorney General

D. Hansell, Illinois Office  
of the Attorney General

M. Neuweg, Illinois Department  
of Radiological Health

W. Child, Illinois EPA

Central Files

Reproduction Unit NRC 20b

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NSIC

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ATTACHMENT A

In addition to those procedures submitted with a letter dated July 31, 1979, and Kerr-McGee's reply dated August 23, 1979, to our letter dated August 16, 1979, the following additional procedures will be implemented by Kerr-McGee at the Facility in West Chicago, Illinois during decontamination.

1. Of the six fixed air samplers to be placed around the facility, fixed monitors will be placed to the East to the West of Building 9 in the residential areas.
2. Surface runoff in the storm sewers will be monitored when water is present. Analyses will be performed for gross alpha, chloride ions, sulfate ions, pH, and total dissolved solids.
3. A contingency plan will be developed to isolate the storm sewer in the event that levels of radioactivity or nonradiological pollutants exceed either the NRC 10 CFR 20 limits or Illinois Pollution Control Board limits, respectively. The detailed contingency plan will be available at the site for NRC review and will be sent to appropriate State of Illinois agencies.
4. The following chemicals are to be removed from the areas to be decontaminated.
  - a. Ion Exchange Resin
    - 208 - 44 gallon drums
    - 45 - 55 gallon drums
    - 5 - 22 gallon drums
    - 2 - 30 gallon drums
  - b. Seven - 15 gallon drums of glass polish - rare earth material
  - c. Fifteen - 15 gallon drums of Barnesite polish - rare earth material
  - d. Forty - 100 pound bags of Morton salt
  - e. 120 jars, each less than one gallon, of assorted laboratory chemicals
  - f. 30 pint jars of assorted process samples
  - g. One-half gallon of sulfuric acid

- h. Five quarts of silver nitrate
- i. Seven and one-half gallons of a pH controller called Deady Algicide
- j. One tank in a cellar containing hydrochloric acid

The above materials will be either transferred to a facility that can use them after they are determined to be free of radioactive contamination or transferred to Building 19 on site. Material in Building 19 will either be transferred to a user or disposed of in a safe manner in accordance with Federal, State, and local regulations and in a method approved by the Illinois EPA.