

APR 8 1986

Ref: SA/JOL

25

Mr. Terry Lash, Director  
Department of Nuclear Safety  
1035 Outer Park Drive  
Springfield, Illinois 62704

Dear Mr. Lash:

Kerr-McGee Chemical Corporation has requested an amendment to their license, No. STA-553 to permit storage of thorium bearing material from the sewage treatment plant and Reed-Keppler Park on the West Chicago facility site. A copy of a document entitled "Thorium Removal Program" is enclosed.

I would like to point out that the materials proposed for transfer from the sewage treatment plant and Reed-Keppler Park are considered to be source material, much of which has a concentration greater than 0.05% by weight. Therefore, under the Section 27Ab agreement currently proposed by Illinois, regulatory responsibility for these materials would become Illinois' upon the effective date of such agreement, whether such materials are located at the present sites or the Kerr McGee West Chicago facility, as proposed.

Should your Department have any views on this amendment request, please convey them to Mr. William T. Crow, Division of Fuel Cycle and Material Safety, NRC, Washington, D.C. 20555 with a copy to me.

Sincerely,

Original signed by:  
D. Nussbaumer

Donald A. Nussbaumer  
Assistant Director for  
State Agreements Program  
Office of State Programs

Enclosure:  
As stated

Distribution:  
SA R/F S Lewis, ELD, w/encl.  
Dir P/F  
JOLubenau  
WCrow, FC, w/encl  
RLickus, RIII, w/encl. see previous concurrences

OFFICE ▶	SA	SA	ELD	FC		
SURNAME ▶	JOLubenau/bh	DANussbaumer	SLewis	WCrow		A/H
DATE ▶	4/8/86	4/9/86	4/ /86	4/ /86		

**ROUTING AND TRANSMITTAL SLIP**

Date **3-24-86**

TO: (Name, office symbol, room number, building, Agency/Post)	Initials	Date
1. Steve Lewis - Concurrence	SL	3/26/86
2. William Crow - Concurrence	WFC	3/31/86
3. Brenda Hill		
4. Brenda -		
5. <i>Please finalize - see Tracy</i>		

Action	File	Note and Return
Approval	For Clearance	Per Conversation
As Requested	For Correction	Prepare Reply
Circulate	For Your Information	See Me
Comment	Investigate	Signature
Coordination	Justify	

**REMARKS**

Please pass on to William Crow after you have concurred.  
Thank you.

865735

DO NOT use this form as a RECORD of approvals, concurrences, dispositions, clearances, and similar actions

FROM: (Name, org. symbol, Agency/Post)

Room No.—Bldg.

*Don Weinbauer*

Phone No. *27767*

5041-102

OPTIONAL FORM 41 (Rev. 7-76)  
Prescribed by GSA  
FPMR 41 CFR 101-11.608

Ref: SA/JOL

Mr. Terry Lash, Director  
Department of Nuclear Safety  
1035 Outer Park Drive  
Springfield, Illinois 62704

Dear Mr. Lash:

Kerr-McGee Chemical Corporation has requested an amendment to their license, No. STA-553 to permit transfer of thorium bearing material from the ~~waste water~~ treatment plant and residential properties to the West Chicago facility. A copy of a document entitled "Thorium Removal Program" is enclosed.

I would like to point out that the materials proposed for transfer from the ~~waste water~~ treatment plant and residential properties are considered to be source material, which concentrations are greater than 0.05% by weight. Therefore, under the Section 274b agreement currently proposed by Illinois, regulatory responsibility for these materials would become Illinois' upon the effective date of such agreement, whether such materials are located at the present sites or the Kerr McGee West Chicago facility, as proposed.

Should your Department have any views on this amendment request, please convey them to Mr. William T. Crow, Division of Fuel Cycle and Material Safety, NRC, Washington, D.C. 20555 with a copy to me.

Sincerely,

Donald A. Nussbaumer  
Assistant Director for  
State Agreements Program  
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Enclosure:  
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WCrow, FC, w/encl.  
RLickus, RIII, w/encl.  
SLewis, ELD, w/encl.

*subject to changes made  
as changed by SAL.*

OFFICE	SA	SA	ELD	FC
SURNAME	JOLubenu/bh	DANussbaumer	SLewis	WCrow
DATE	3/24/86	3/24/86	3/26/86	3/21/86



9/16/86

(1)

Jaef

Bill Crew called re our memo on ARES book. He says there's some material stored at the two N'Gee West Chicago site and it is covered under the NAC site license (which also includes byproduct material, H'Gee). It came from the homes and sewer treatment plant in West Chicago. We'll need to cover that in the Transportation arrangements since the State will need to issue a special material license. He also noted that the State gets Red-Keppler Park which also contains some material. NMSS response to our memo will cover all of this.

Jim  
9/16/86

A/S

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(Press Services Inc.)  
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Springfield, IL 62704  
217 523 6095

WEST CHICAGO  
Press  
4 800 W

DEC 1986

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## State could have jurisdiction over radioactive wastes

By Dave Shabelman

Jurisdiction for disposing a portion of low-level radioactive wastes from the Kerr-McGee Chemical Corp. plant in West Chicago would switch from the federal government to the state of Illinois if a proposal by Gov. James Thompson is approved by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

In a letter to the chairman of the NRC, Thompson requested an agreement between the NRC and the state to take jurisdiction of thorium wastes removed from residential areas and the sewer treatment plant in West Chicago and stored at the Kerr-McGee site at Ann and Factory streets. Processed thorium sand at one time was used as fill material.

Thompson's proposal would not include thorium waste at the plant that was not removed from off-site locations. The off-site material is minor in amount compared with a 30-year accumulation of processed thorium sand at the plant. The decision of how to dispose of this mountain of waste has been the obstacle in a 10-year effort to decommission

the no-longer wanted plant.

At a Monday night City Council meeting, Mayor A. Eugene Rennels told aldermen the city should oppose the governor's request because the bulk of wastes at the factory would not be covered in the agreement.

If the program were approved, Rennels said, off-site wastes collected from Kress Creek, the DuPage River and Reed-Keppler Park and off-site wastes moved to the factory site from residential property and the sewer treatment plant would be put under the jurisdiction of the state and stored at a location in the state that is no closer than a mile-and-a-half from a municipality.

The city, however, would rather see the NRC give the state jurisdiction over all the byproducts, the mayor said.

But Rennels suggested "half an apple is better than no apple."

He said the city will press for a solution which includes all thorium wastes in the city but would view that state's proposal as an acceptable partial answer if no better concili-

ation can be reached.

If the state has jurisdiction, Rennels said, the timetable for removal could be reduced. But thorium wastes will remain a city problem "another 20 or 25 years," he predicted.

Rennels also told the council of plans by Kerr-McGee for permanent waste disposal in West Chicago. In plans developed during the early stages of a state lawsuit against Kerr-

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n/b

# Kerr-McGee

--Continued from Page 1

McGee, Rennels said, the company proposes to increase the size of the disposal cell mound from 20 feet high to 45 feet to allow for source material now outside city limits.

Rennels directed the Finance and Administration Committee to review the developments and asked the council to create a policy statement by the end of December. According to Rennels' letter to the council, aldermen should determine the city's official position on the increase in the cell size, if the city should inform the MRC that by-product material should not be excluded from the proposed agreement with the state, and if the city should make a demand on the state and Kerr-McGee to "preclude the intermixing of on-site, off-site material which will prolong the matter if the state's request for exemption is sustained."

"If we're going to do anything, now's the time to do it," the mayor said.

In other business at Monday's meeting, the council:

- Heard first reading of an ordinance regulating banners, flags and pennants. The ordinance allows flags, banners, streamers, pennants, balloons or other similar devices to be flown for up to one 30-day period per year with a permit. Exceptions are the American flag, state flag, municipal flag, or corporate flag.

- Approved a resolution concerning recent rate increases by Centel Cable Television. Basic service rates increased by 51 percent and premium services were raised by 18 percent. According to the resolution, the city "vigorously opposes such an increase of such magnitude and suggests Centel reconsider the increase; and the city will be most diligent in enforcement of the Cable TV Ordinance, particularly in the areas of public access and service requests.

- Heard a first reading of a special use permit to allow construction of a service station at 1030 W. Roosevelt Road.