



DOCKET NUMBER PR Misc. Notice
PROPOSED RULE (54 FR 47617)

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SPECIALTY CHEMICALS GROUP

RHONE - POULENC INC.
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December 11, 1989

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OFFICE OF DOCKETING AND SERVICES
DOCKETING & SERVICES
BRANCH

Secretary of the Commission
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Attn: Docketing and Services Branch

Re: Proposed Amended Agreement Between the
Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the
State of Utah

The following comments are submitted by Rhone-Poulenc Inc. regarding the above rule.

Rhone-Poulenc Inc. is a manufacturer of rare earth compounds at our Freeport, Texas facility. Rare Earth compounds are used in a wide variety of applications including catalytic convertors used for pollution control of automobiles, petroleum cracking catalysts, glass polishing powders, super strength magnets, and in the new field of superconductors. The production of rare earth compounds at our facility generates two NORM radioactive waste streams which require disposal. The NORM radioactive waste streams generated are low activity, high volume and contain Uranium and Thorium in a small percentage.

Amending Article I of the Agreement of March 29, 1984 between the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the state of Utah to add land disposal of source, by-product and special nuclear material received from other persons to the list of materials covered by the Agreement will enable Rhone-Poulenc Inc. to dispose of our NORM radioactive waste streams at the Envirocare of Utah, Inc. facility. A review of the Envirocare of Utah, Inc. facility by Rhone-Poulenc Inc. representatives shows that it provides a disposal site which meets (NRC) disposal criteria and protects the public health and safety. The design and operation of the Envirocare site provides the generators of low activity, high volume waste streams a safe, disposal site.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff has determined that the State of Utah meets the requirements of Section 274 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954. The Utah regulations contain provisions relating to the disposal of radioactive materials and are essentially uniform with the regulations in

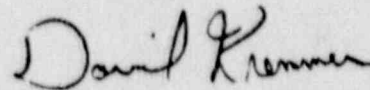
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10 CFR Part 20 as well as meet the technical requirements set out in 10 CFR Part 61. The Utah Bureau of Radiation Control has the appropriate programs, guidelines, and personnel in place to govern the disposal of radioactive waste to be compatible with NRC requirements. Therefore it is appropriate the state of Utah be given regulatory authority for permanent disposal of low-level waste containing the material for which Utah has assumed regulatory authority under the 1984 agreement between the NRC and the state of Utah.

Sincerely,

RHONE-POULENC INC.



David C. Kremmer
Radiation Safety Officer

DCK:kq

cc: R. Briggs
M. Duffy
B. Farran
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