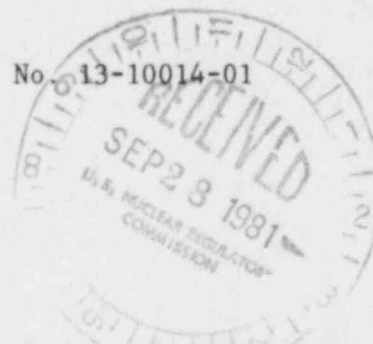


September 24, 1981

U.S. Ecology, Inc.
ATTN: Mr. J. J. Scoville
President
9200 Shelbyville Road
Post Office Box 7246
Louisville, KY 40207

License No. 13-10014-01



Gentlemen:

This refers to the routine safety inspection conducted by Messrs. M. Schumacher and W. Grant of this office on September 8 and 9, 1981, of activities at Sheffield, Illinois authorized by NRC Byproduct Material License No. 13-10014-01 and to the discussion of our findings with Messrs. R. Moore and A. Armbrust at the conclusion of the inspection on September 9, 1981 and by telephone on September 17, 1981.

The enclosed copy of our inspection report identifies areas examined during the inspection. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of a selective examination of procedures and representative records, observations, and interviews with personnel.

During this inspection, certain of your activities appeared to be in noncompliance with NRC requirements, as specified in enclosed Appendix A. A written response, submitted under oath or affirmation, is required.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the Commission's regulations, a copy of this letter, the enclosures, and your response to this letter will be placed in the NRC's Public Document Room. If the enclosures contain any information that you or your contractors believe to be exempt from disclosure under 10 CFR 9.5(a)(4), it is necessary that you (a) notify this office by telephone within seven (7) days from the date of this letter of your intention to file a request for withholding; and (b) submit within twenty-five (25) days from the date of this letter a written application to this office to withhold such information. Section 2.790(b)(1) requires that any such application must be accompanied by an affidavit executed by the owner of the information which identifies the document or part sought to be withheld, and which contains a full statement of the reasons which are the bases for the claim that the information should be withheld from public disclosure. This section further requires the statement

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September 24, 1981

to address with specificity the considerations listed in 10 CFR 2.790(b)(4). The information sought to be withheld shall be incorporated as far as possible into a separate part of the affidavit. If we do not hear from you in this regard within the specified periods noted above, a copy of this letter, the enclosures, and your response to this letter will be placed in the Public Document Room.

We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning this inspection.

Sincerely,

Carl J. Paperiello

for J. A. Hind, Director
Division of Emergency Preparedness
and Operational Support

Enclosures:

1. Appendix A, Notice of Violation
2. IE Inspection Report No. 27-39/81-01

cc w/encls:

DME/Document Control Desk (RIDS)

RIII

Grant
Grant/so
9/21/81

RIII

W.A.
Axelson

RIII

CJP
Paperiello
9/24/81

RIII

CJP
Hind
9/24/81