

Return to WMUR 461-55
WM-40

DISTRIBUTION
WMUR s/f 3426.3 FIN B2217
WMUR w/f
WMUR r/f
WM r/f
NMSS r/f
IE Reg IV
GEadie
HPettengill
RScarano
BFisher
JLinehan
DMartin
RBrowning
JMartin

PDR

FIN B2217/WM-40/GGE/ME/81/11/6

- 1 -

NOV 16 1981

WMUR:GGE
FIN B-2217
WM-40

Mr. Robert W. Ramsey
Program Manager, Remedial Action Programs
Nuclear Waste Management Programs
Office of Nuclear Energy, NE-301
U.S. Department of Energy
Washington, D.C. 20545

Gentlemen:

As you are aware, Battelle Pacific Northwest Laboratories (PNL) is currently conducting extensive radiological surveys throughout Edgemont, South Dakota in order to determine the number of properties containing elevated levels of residual radioactivity. To date, about 50% of the residence units surveyed (i.e., over 358 structures), on the basis of exceeding 0.01 WL on a grab sample, may require long-term radon progeny measurements to determine if the annual average Working Level for that structure would exceed 0.015 WL. However, due to the lack of available equipment to perform long-term surveys in a reasonable time period, the NRC directed its contractor to develop alternate means to determine whether an area around or under a structure contains residual radioactivity. An alternative termed a mini-engineering assessment has been developed and implemented on a trial basis.

Pending peer review and acceptance, the mini-engineering assessment would measurably reduce the number of necessary long-term radon progeny measurements. This technique would, of course, have direct applicability to your remedial action programs and could result in large time and money savings.

Additionally, PNL has already in use a protocol for full-engineering assessments to evaluate the extent of residual radioactivity on a property, and the necessary remedial actions and costs. In fact, with the exception of those residences requiring long-term radon progeny measurements, full-engineering assessments have been completed on almost all of those structures which failed the Ra-226 or gamma radiation level criteria.

DIST:

TICKET NO:

OFC	8112240006 811116	:	:	:	:	:
	PDR WASTE	:	:	:	:	:
	WM-40	:	:	:	:	:
NAME :	PDR	:	:	:	:	:
DATE :	81/11/09	:	:	:	:	:

11/25

NOV 16 1981

Your timely review and comment on both these protocols would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

HS

Harry J. Pettengill, Section Leader
Operating Facilities Section II
Uranium Recovery Licensing Branch
Division of Waste Management

Enclosures:

Mini and Full Engineering Assessment Protocols - See WM044 ltr dtd 11/16/81

cc: John Themelis, Grand Junction, CO

DIST:

TICKET NO:

OFC	: WMUR	: WMUR	: WMUR	:	:	:
NAME	: GFacione	: HPettengill	: RScarano	:	:	:
DATE	: 81/11/00	: 81/11/16	: 81/11/16	:	:	: