



October 29, 1993

The Dow Chemical Company
Midland, Michigan 48667

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Washington, DC 20555

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION FOR THORIUM DISPOSAL

The Dow Chemical Company (Dow) met with the NRC on October 12, 1993 to submit its Decommissioning Work Plan. One outcome of that meeting was that in order to facilitate an environmental assessment of the proposed disposal method by NRC, Dow would provide additional environmental information. That information would catalog previously-submitted disposal site characteristics, along with environmental information relative to completion of the assessment by NRC.

An environmental assessment was performed for Dow in August, 1984 to address the impacts of constructing and operating the Salzburg Landfill. The Salzburg Landfill is the proposed disposal site for Dow's thoriated material. The assessment is entitled, *Salzburg Landfill Michigan Act 64 Operating License Reapplication Environmental Assessment*, and three copies of the assessment are attached to this submittal for use by the NRC in preparing its own Environmental Assessment.

Three previous submittals by Dow contain items relative to preparation of the Environmental Assessment. The submittals (along with the attached environmental assessment will be referenced as the Application, Response, Work Plan, and Landfill Assessment as follows:

Application

License Application On-Site Thorium Disposal at the Salzburg Landfill

Response

Response to Comments Dated September 18, 1991 on 10 CFR 20.302 Application for Disposal of Magnesium-Thorium Slag Material at the Salzburg Landfill Disposal Facility

Work Plan

Decommissioning Work Plan for Removal of Magnesium-Thorium Slag from The Chemical Company's Midland and Bay City, Michigan Sites and Disposal at the Salzburg Disposal Facility Under 10 CFR 20.302 in Implementation of Application of October, 1989

Landfill Assessment

Salzburg Landfill Michigan Act 64 Operating License Reapplication Environmental Assessment

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The previously-submitted environmental information can be located as described below. Additional information will also be found in the attached Landfill Assessment.

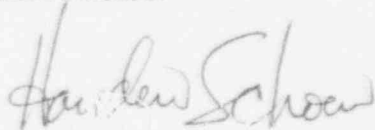
The purpose and need for the proposed project has been provided in Section 1.0 of the Work Plan, along with Response to Comment 2 of the Response. The alternatives to the proposed project were delineated in Section 2.0 of the Application, with extra details provided in Response to Comments 9-12 and Appendix B of the Response.

The characteristics of the proposed site have been detailed in several areas of Dow's submittals. Geography and demography have been detailed in Section 5.0 and 7.8 of the Application. Meteorology and air quality references appear in Section 7.0 and 9.0 of the Application, along with Response to Comment 27 and Appendix F of the Response. Hydrology is covered in Sections 5.3, 7.4, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 8.2, along with Response to Comments 29, 33, 34, 36, 37, 38, 49, and Appendix G of the Response. Geology and seismology were covered in Sections 7.1, 7.2, 7.9, and Appendix H of the Application, along with Response to Comment 28 of the Response. Radiology was detailed in Section 8.5, 8.6, and 9.2.2 of the Application.

Design of the proposed facility, including a description of wastes accepted, facility description, and support facilities has been detailed in the Work Plan. Environmental effects of the proposed facility have been detailed in Response to Comments 6, 18, 25, 30, 39, 41-45, 48, 52, 53, 65, 67, 68, and Appendices A, L, and M of the Response, along with Appendices B and F, and Sections 6.0, 7.12.2, and 8.5 of the Application. The environmental effects of accidents have been covered in Appendix E of the Application and Response to Comment 66 of the Response. Environmental measurements and monitoring programs have been detailed in the Work Plan. The compliance status of the proposed site was discussed in Section 11.0

Please bear in mind that the Landfill Assessment was prepared in 1984 for the proposed Salzburg Landfill site. Minor changes have occurred since it was prepared. These changes include: closure of the impoundment (and elimination of associated odor), as described in Section 1.6; removal of residences near the site, as described in Section 1.7; and reductions in noise associated with nearby manufacturing operations, as described in Section 1.12.

This information should provide the NRC with the means to perform its Environmental Assessment. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at your convenience.



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Attachments (3)