

JOHN ENGLER, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

3423 N. LOGAN / MARTIN L. KING JR. BLVD. P.O. BOX 30195, LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909 VERNICE DAVIS ANTHONY, MPH, Director

December 17, 1993

Jack Parrott
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
Division of Low-Level Waste Management
and Decommissioning
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, Maryland 20852

Dear Mr. Parrott:

The purpose of this letter is to transmit our comments concerning the radiological aspects of the plans for intrusive field investigation work at the Hartley and Hartley site, Bay County, Michigan, as submitted to you and copied to us by RUST Environment and Infrastructure with their letter dated November 19, 1993.

Based upon a cursory staff review of the Field Sampling Plan, the Quality Assurance Project Plan, and the Health and Safety Plan, all dated November 1993, it appears that both intrusive and non-intrusive radiological measurements, sample collection, and laboratory analyses will assess the extent to which radioactive contamination exists involving significant levels of radionuclides of concern.

In addition to our continuing interest in the regulatory oversight of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) concerning the activities at this site, we are especially interested in site characterization results that are intended to evaluate the presence of naturally-occurring radioactive materials (NORM) not regulated by the NRC. Based on the past use of the site for disposal of oil field sludge and waste water treatment sludge that potentially contain elevated NORM concentrations, it appears that specific analysis for the presence of radium-226 and radium-228, as described in the plans, will address the primary NORM nuclides of concern to this department.

To enable an opportunity to periodically observe the conduct of the planned site characterization studies, we request notification concerning the schedule for the site activities and further request that a copy of radiological field data and associated laboratory analysis results be provided to this office when available.

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We appreciate your support for a continuing cooperative effort to address the radiological health concerns associated with the management of this site.

Sincerely,

BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

George W. Bruchmann, Chief Division of Radiological Health

GWB:DWM:rt
cc: Mike Jury
Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Russ Ogle, Ph.D.
RUST Environment and Infrastructure