

DAVISON CHEMICAL COMPANY

DIVISION OF W. R. GRACE & CO.
BALTIMORE 3 MARYLAND

A-167

October 15, 1956

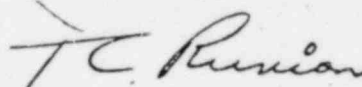
Mr. Eber Price, Director
Civilian Applications Division
U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Price:

As we discussed by phone the Davison Chemical Company, Division of W. R. Grace & Co., is carrying out certain economic studies in connection with the design and construction of a solvent extraction plant to produce nuclear grade thorium oxide from crude thorium concentrates. In considering a potential plant location, one of the major factors consists of establishing with the various states involved exceptable specifications on the discharge of plant effluents into public streams. Since there has been little or not previous experience on the level of thorium that is permissible in streams, we would like to have the opinion of the Atomic Energy Commission on this matter. I understand from my discussion with you that we might expect an opinion prior to the time that we would actually file a request for a facilities license. Would you please advise me as to the steps that we would need to take in order to get established a specific specification on the concentration of thorium that is permissible for discharge into a stream. If this concentration could be expressed in terms of parts per million after dilution with the water in a river, it would then permit us to complete our evaluation of a number of plant sites with wide variances between maximum and minimum river flow.

I would be happy to come to Washington some time at your convenience and discuss our plans with you in more detail. Thank you for any assistance you may be able to give us in this matter.

Yours truly,



T. C. Runion
Reactor Materials

TCR:bld

cc: Mr. A.H. Paesler
Water Control Commission
State of Virginia
415 West Franklin Street
Richmond, Virginia

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