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CHEMETRON CORPORATION

2100 New River Center 200 E. Las Olas Boulevard Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301

Thursday, January 27, 1994

Mr. Gary L. Shear, Chief Fuel Cycle and Decommissioning Branch U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Region III 801 Warrenville Road Lisle, IL 60532-4351

Dear Mr. Shear:

Your letter of December 17, 1993, forwarded a report of an inspection of a vacant lot adjacent to the Bert Avenue site in Newburgh Heights, Ohio. The report identified one location at which the soil was contaminated in excess of the NRC guideline for unrestricted use. As a result, you asked that Chemetron respond with its plans to remediate the identified area and to conduct a detailed characterization of the vacant lot.

In a letter dated December 29, 1993, Mr. Timothy Johnson, Section Leader, Materials Decommissioning Section, Office of Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards, provided comments on the survey plan that Chemetron had previously submitted to investigate offsite contamination in the vicinity of the Bert Avenue and Harvard Avenue sites. Referring to the same location identified in your letter, Mr. Johnson indicated that it was the site of a former house. Apparently, after the house was demolished, the basement had been backfilled with material from the Bert Avenue site. Mr. Johnson indicated that the Vicinity Survey Plan should amended to include the immediate area of the house as an affected area and sample the soils to the depths of the basement level of the old house.

It is Chemetron's intent that based on the survey, material exceeding the NRC guideline for unrestricted use will be placed in the restricted area of the Bert Avenue site.

As indicated in Mr. Johnson's letter, the NRC Staff is aware that the attorney representing the property owner has denied Chemetron access to the property. In his letter, Mr. Johnson allows the survey of the vacant lot to be postponed until the legal issues regarding access are resolved.

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I will be happy to answer any questions or respond to any other comments regarding this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Barry Koh, Ph.D. Project Manager

BK/cmw

CC:

David R. Sargent Theodore G. Adams Mark J. Wetterhahn Timothy C. Johnson, USNRC

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