

AUG 06 1982

Distribution
 NMSS r/f PDR
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 DOCKET 27-39 ←
 JBMartin
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 RLessy, ELD
 BMenczer, IE-Reg.III
 BChasnoff, IL St.
 P. Gustafson
 C. Eason, USEcology

PDR

Returns
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Mr. Larry Toler, District Chief
 U.S. Geological Survey
 Champaign County Bank, 4th Floor
 102 East Main Street
 Urbana, IL 61801

Dear Mr. Toler:

In response to a letter dated July 21, 1982 from Mr. Charles Eason, US Ecology, to Mr. Rick Healy, USGS, concerning unsupervised access to the Sheffield Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Site, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is supportive of the on-going USGS studies related to movement of water in the unsaturated zone and erosion of the site surface. The NRC recognizes the need for access to the site on a sporadic basis, dictated by the distribution and magnitude of precipitation events, not conforming to the scheduled workday or workweek of US Ecology personnel.

As per an agreement reached between attorneys for and on behalf of the NRC and US Ecology (formerly NECO) on April 23, 1979, US Ecology has agreed to comply with the terms and conditions of the NRC license for the Sheffield site as if it were an NRC licensee. The responsibility for controlling access to the site rests with the licensee, US Ecology, and the site owner, the State of Illinois. The NRC does not object to their authorization of unsupervised access of the USGS to the Sheffield site for the purpose of conducting the aforementioned studies.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By

EFH for

P. Dale Smith, Chief
 Low-Level Waste Licensing Branch
 Division of Waste Management

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SURNAME	DLSiefken:db	JAShaffner	EFHawkins	RDSmith		
DATE	8/5/82	8/5/82	8/5/82	8/5/82		