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**KERR-McGEE CORPORATION**

KERR-McGEE CENTER • OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73125

October 8, 1992

CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Fenton R. Rood  
Solid Waste Management Service  
Oklahoma State Department of Health  
1000 N.E. 10th Street  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73152

Dear Mr. Rood:

Pursuant to Section IX.2 of the Consent Order entered in State of Oklahoma v. Kerr-McGee Corporation, No. C-90-91-H, Kerr-McGee Corporation hereby submits the attached written progress report for the month of September, 1992.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at (405) 270-2637 (OKC) or (918) 225-7753 (Cushing).

Sincerely,

Jeff Ostmeyer  
Site Coordinator  
Kerr-McGee Technology and Engineering Division

- cc: Bill Fisher - U.S. NRC, Arlington, Texas
- William M. Kemp - Radiation Protection Service
- David N. Fauver - U.S. NRC, Washington, D.C.
- Kerr-McGee Citizens' Oversight Committee

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## RADIOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION AND REMEDIATION

Kerr-McGee's top priority at Cushing for the remainder of 1992 is the identification, recovery and shipment of option 4 materials. Other radiological work will be performed when possible.

Most of the radiological work performed in September was in and around the Harris Building. Decontamination under the Harris building and docks was initiated. Additional surveying and sampling around the Harris building was performed.

Work in the dump during September was limited. Sampling of the grid over the berm area was initiated. Three piles of option four material remaining in the dump area were blended and moved to the Harris building in preparation for shipping. The uranium and thorium concentration of this material is about 175 and 20 pCi/gr, respectively.

Six shipments (352 drums total) of option four material from the dump area ( $\approx 25$  pCi/gr thorium and  $\approx 10$  pCi/gr uranium) were made to Barnwell, South Carolina. An additional 31 drums were packaged and are ready for shipment. Oil and grease content of this material was about 1.2 percent by weight.

The soil counting system was up-graded to increase efficiency and more than double productivity.

## NON-RADIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT AND REMEDIATION

Surface water that accumulated on the waste pits and seepage from the french drain were transferred to holding ponds and neutralized. Water was discharged from holding pond 5 twice in August. Holding pond 1 was discharged once during August.

Oil entering Skull Creek between pit 5 and the railroad bridge is being contained with absorbent booms. Absorbent pads are being used to pick up the oil.

Construction of an oil interceptor trench, to prevent oil from entering Skull Creek between pit 5 and the railroad bridge was completed in September. Since completion of this trench, very little oil has been collected from the surface of Skull Creek.

Areas disturbed by excavation were graded, top soil was replaced, and a mixture of annual and perennial vegetation was planted.

Evaluation of applicable technologies for waste pit remediation continues. A neutralization/stabilization demonstration was performed by VFL Technology Corp., for Kerr-McGee in September.

Visitors during the demonstration included members of the citizens oversight committee, Cushing City Council, OSDH, and the media. Information obtained from this demonstration will be used in preparing the feasibility study (FS).

Monitor wells were installed in the old spray ponds north of pit 5. Information gathered from this work will be used to determine how to address this area. Soil borings (lithologic logs) were drilled around pit 5 to evaluate the potential for using this area for a disposal cell to contain neutralized sludge. These results will be used in the feasibility study.

The site perimeter fence was completed in August. Water gates were installed where Skull Creek enters and exits the site. Some minor fence repair continues.

#### ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR OCTOBER 1992

##### Radiological

1. Ship option 4 material removed from the dump area.
2. Assign enrichment and total uranium concentration values to carbon rods and crucibles removed from the dump area.
3. Recover option 4 material below and around the uranium production (Harris) building.
4. Move remaining option 4 material recovered from dump area to barrel house.
5. Continue preparation of health physics program.

##### Non-radiological

6. Continue to recover oil from Skull Creek before it leaves the site.
7. Continue neutralizing and discharging water from waste pits.
8. Complete feasibility study (FS).
9. Most of the Cimarron personnel will be trained in asbestos abatement the first week of October. Following this training, small quantities of asbestos (such as pieces of Transite) can be addressed by the Cimarron crew. Gross asbestos abatement, however, will be performed by an outside contractor.