

APR 22 1994

Allan Strawsburg  
66865 Barret Hill Road  
Cambridge, OH 43725

Dear Mr. Strawsburg:

SUBJECT: NRC SPECIAL INSPECTION REGARDING POTENTIAL OFF-SITE USE OF SLAG FROM  
FOOTE MINERAL (REPORT NO. 999-90003/94032(DRSS))

This refers to the special inspection conducted by Messrs. Donald Sreniawski, Ray Glinski, and George M. McCann of this office from October 6, 1993 to February, 2, 1994. This inspection looked into the possible use of slag, thought to be contaminated with radioactive materials, as fill under an addition to your home. The inspection also included the review of radioanalytical data on February 12 and March 28, 1994. This also acknowledges the March 16 and 29, 1994 telephone conversations between you and Mr. Ray Glinski, regarding results of the laboratory analysis of the samples collected during the inspection.

The enclosed copy of our inspection report identifies the areas examined during the inspection. The inspection consisted of interviews with you, former Foote Mineral employees, and a local contractor; independent radiation measurements of the basement and dining room/kitchen area; and the collection of samples from the fill material from the foundation of the house addition, which was constructed in the early 1980's.

Based on the inspection findings, we have determined that the concentration of radioactive materials (natural thorium and natural uranium) found in the slag used as fill material is in excess of NRC guidelines for release for unrestricted use. The release criteria are described in the October 23, 1981, Federal Register, Branch Technical Position "Disposal or Onsite Storage of Thorium and Uranium Wastes from Past Operations." Although the concentrations measured were determined to be approximately two times above the guideline values, a dose assessment using the RESRAD computer program indicated that the presence of this material does not pose a significant or immediate health and safety concern to you or your family. The estimated dose from this material is below the 100 millirem per year stated in 10 CFR 20.1301(a)(1) as the dose limit to an individual member of the public.

Since the fill material is located under the residence, with long term occupancy expected, and due to the limited sampling performed, we believe that further evaluation of this issue may be warranted. As a result of these findings, the NRC is currently talking with Cyprus Foote Mineral Company (successor to Foote Mineral Company) regarding the use of potentially contaminated slag at offsite locations (including the material under your addition). We are attempting to schedule a meeting to discuss this issue sometime in May 1994.

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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the Commission's regulations, a copy of this letter and the enclosed inspection report will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning this inspection.

Sincerely,

*[Signature]*  
Signed by Gary L. Shear

Gary L. Shear, Chief  
Fuel Cycle and Decommissioning Branch

Enclosure: Inspection Report  
No. 999-90003/94032(DRSS)

RIII *[Signature]*  
Glinski/dp  
04/21/94  
*GLS*

RIII *[Signature]*  
McCann  
04/21/94

RIII  
*GLS*  
Shear  
4/22/94

*Telephone  
conferrence  
4/21/94  
[Signature]  
C. Glenn*

NMSS  
Glenn

NMSS  
*[Signature]*  
Webster