

U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I

Report No. 99990001/82-12

Docket No. 40-00086

License No. STA-422 Priority IV Category E

Licensee: W. R. Grace and Company

Wayne, N. J.

Facility Name: W. R. Grace

Inspection At: West Bank of Pompton River North of Sheffield Brook

Inspection Conducted: September 23, 1982

Inspectors: Jerry M. Johansen
J. Johansen, Radiation Specialist

10/15/82
date

date

date

Approved by: John D. Kinneman
John D. Kinneman, Chief, Nuclear
Materials, Section A

10/25/82
date

Inspection Summary:
Inspection on September 23, 1982 Special inspection limited to determination of radiation levels and gathering of samples of material dredged from near the west bank of the Pompton River north of the cove where the Sheffield Brook enters on the east bank of the River and interviews with representatives of the construction company performing the dredging. The inspection involved 3 hours on site by one NRC inspector.
Results: No radioactivity other than normal background was detected in the samples analyzed. Radiation levels measured were indicative of area background.

Region I Form 12
(Rev. February 1982)

1. Persons Contacted

- A. Mr. Patrick Krammer, Ferro Construction Co.
- B. Mr. David M. Kulp, Ferro Construction Co.
- C. Mr. Jack VanLenten, Ferro Construction Co.

2. Background

NRC Region I was notified by Mr. John Leity, Manager of Wayne Township, New Jersey that the Pompton River was being dredged in an area near Sheffield Brook. Citizens of Wayne had expressed concern that the dredging of the Pompton River near Sheffield Brook might result in spreading of radioactive thorium.

3. Investigation

On September 21, 1982 individual A stated to the inspector during a telephone conversation that dredging of the Pompton River had occurred only on the west side of the river, north (upstream) of the cove where Sheffield Brook enters the Pompton River. He stated that the individuals who performed the work should be at the site around 9:00 a.m. on September 23, 1982.

On September 23, 1982, the inspector observed that there was evidence of dredging along the west bank of the Pompton River south of the Jackson Avenue Bridge (Pompton Plains Cross Road). No evidence of dredging could be seen either along the east bank of the river north of the cove where Sheffield Brook enters the river, or within and south of the cove along the east and west banks of the river (See Attachment 1).

The inspector talked with individuals B and C at the dredging site. They confirmed the information given the inspector and stated that they had performed the dredging and removal of the material (sand-gravel) from the west side of the Pompton River. They took the inspector to an area on the north side of Jackson Avenue and pointed out piles of sand-gravel which had come from the west side of the river, north of the cove.

4. Measurements and Samples

Measurements of radiation levels along the west bank of the River where dredging had taken place and at the sand-gravel pile north of Jackson Avenue did not exceed 10 micro R per hour as measured with a Ludlum Model 12S micro R meter, calibrated August 25, 1982.

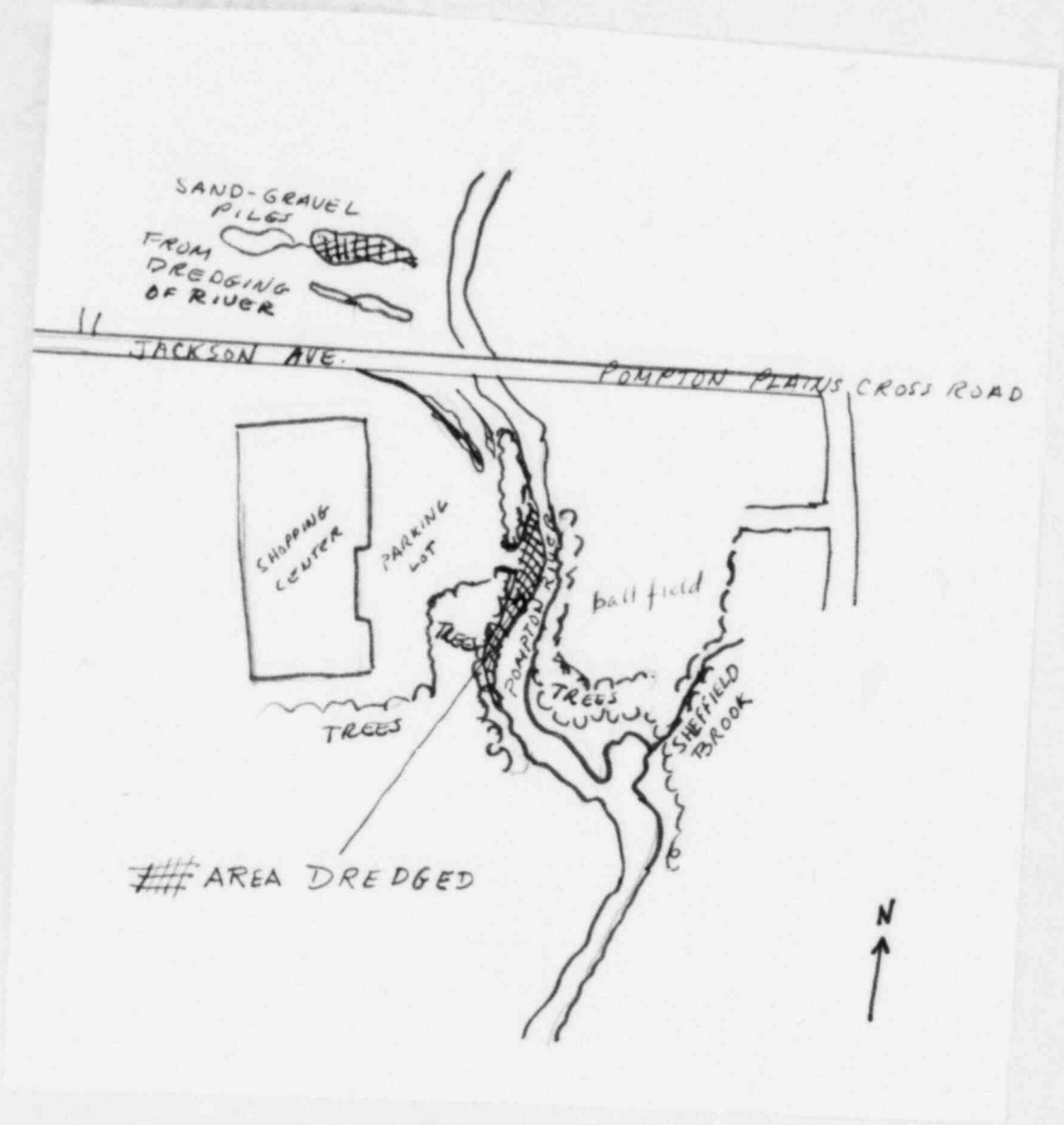
Five sand-gravel samples were taken from various places on the sand piles and one sample was taken from the west bank of the river as far south as evidence indicated dredging had occurred. The samples were returned to Region I for analysis.

5. Sample Analysis Results

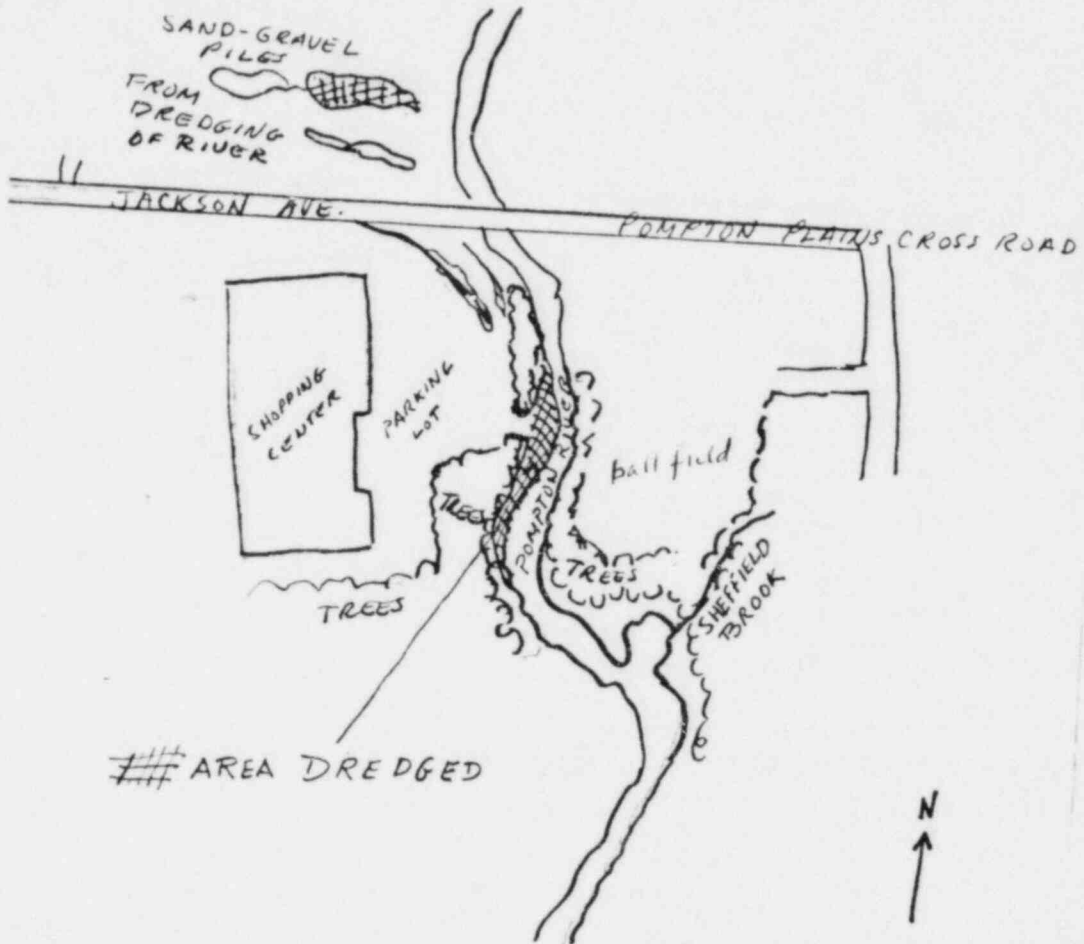
All six soil samples were analyzed for radioactivity using a GeLi detector coupled with a computer based multi channel analyzer in the Region I Laboratory. No radioactivity above normal background was detected in these samples.

6. Conclusion

No thorium was identified as a result of the dredging of the west bank of the Pompton River north of the cove where Sheffield Brook enters the river. Radiation levels measured were indicative of background radiation of the area.



ATTACHMENT #1
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ATTACHMENT #1

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