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GEORGE V. VOINOVICH  
Governor

January 22, 1991

Mr. Roland Lickus  
State and Governmental Affairs  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
799 Roosevelt Road  
Glen Ellyn, Ill.

Dear Mr. Lickus,

This letter is in regard to the Chemetron Bert Avenue site in Newbergh Heights, Ohio. As you know, the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) performed preliminary off-site sampling in October 1990. Those results were forwarded to your office in December 1990. The results of those random samples indicated that some off-site contamination exists. ODH plans to perform follow-up sampling in order to determine the extent of the off-site problem and establish a contamination perimeter.

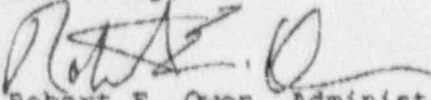
Along with residents adjacent to the site, the Ohio Department of Health is concerned about off-site contamination above USNRC release criteria for total uranium. Through communications with licensee representatives, there appears to be no documented plan to characterize off-site contamination or accept responsibility for any off-site remedial actions that may be necessary. Since Chemetron is not a registrant of ODH, they are not subject to direct control of their actions by State of Ohio regulations. They are however a USNRC licensee, and as such, are subject to the requirements placed upon them by USNRC.

Accordingly, the Ohio Department of Health is hereby requesting that off-site contamination characterization and responsibility for remedial actions off-site be required of Chemetron Corporation at the Bert Avenue site. Such remedial actions should include the removal of all contamination above USNRC release criteria.

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ODH is most willing to assist USNRC, if desired, with review of proposals, split sampling, surveillance of sampling, or other activities associated with assuring that this project is completed in an effective and timely manner. Contact with this office regarding this issue may be made through Mr. Timothy Walker or Mr. Kevin Driesbach at 614-644-2727. Thank you for your assistance regarding this matter.

Sincerely,



Robert E. Owen, Administrator  
Radiological Health Program

cc: T. Walker, ODH  
R. Suppes, ODH  
K. Driesbach, ODH  
K. Edwards, Newbergh Rts.  
K. Jones, OEPA/NEDO  
T. Horgan, Cuyahoga Co. Hlth.