

FEB 12 1991

Mr. George Durfee
Wyman-Gordon Company
244 Worcester Street
Box 8001
North Grafton, MA 01536-8001

(Identical letter was sent to the attached list)

Dear Mr. Durfee:

As I indicated to you in my letter dated December 10, 1990, I am transmitting to you the isotopic sampling results from the unfiltered groundwater samples taken in the vicinity of the magnesium-thorium disposal area at Wyman-Gordon's North Grafton, MA plant. These results were assayed by the Radiological and Environmental Sciences Laboratory in Idaho Falls, ID. The results show background concentration levels in the groundwater sediments. Based on these results and the previous sampling data from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Wyman-Gordon, and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, we conclude that there is no threat to the public use and consumption of groundwater in the vicinity of the disposal area.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 301-492-0558.

Sincerely,
ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
Timothy C. Johnson
Timothy C. Johnson, Section Leader
Decommissioning Section
Division of Low-Level Waste Management
and Decommissioning

Enclosure: As stated

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PDR YES NO Category: Proprietary ___ or CF Only ___
ACNW YES ___ NO

SUBJECT ABSTRACT: SECOND SET OF WYMAN-GORDON SAMPLING RESULTS TRANSMITTAL LTR

OFC :LLDR :
NAME: TC Johnson/cv:
DATE: 02/12/91 :

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY

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WYMAN GORDON SAMPLE RESULTS

Sample Number	Sample Description	Gross alpha (pCi/l)	Gross beta (pCi/l)	Filtrate nat U (pCi/l)	Filtrate nat Th (pCi/l)	Residue nat U (pCi/g)	Residue nat Th (pCi/g)
WGE-3	WG Well	< MDA	< MDA	3.6±0.3	6.3±0.5	1.1	1.2
WGE-7	WG Well	< MDA	< MDA	2.8±0.4	2.3±0.2	1.2	1.6
WGE-8	WG Well	< MDA	< MDA	8.9±0.6	3.9±0.3	1.0	1.6

The samples were filtered and the clear filtrate was analyzed for gross alpha and beta activity. The gross alpha and beta results are less than the minimum detectable activity (MDA) for the analysis. The MDA varies with the amount of suspended solids, counting time and other variables and ranges from a few picocuries per liter and 40 picocuries per liter. The clear filtrate and the filter residue were then analyzed for specific isotopes. The isotope specific results of the filtered water show some uranium and thorium, but must be compared to other local ground water results. The residue from the filtering of the samples is less than 3 picocuries per gram of natural thorium and uranium. This is within the range of natural background for soils. The results of both the liquid and the residue probably indicate the wells are not receiving any thorium from the burial area.

P02

NRC RI DRSS

JAN 28 '91 14:26

Wyman-Gordon Mailing List

Docket File: 40-1650

The Honorable Mathew J. Amorello
State Senator
State House
Boston, MA 02133

Mr. Frank W. Clark
GZA
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Providence, RI 02903

The Honorable Jack Driscoll
State Legislator
State House, Room 548
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Mr. Ray Mead
Town of Grafton
Selectmen's Board
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Grafton, MA 01519

Ms. Sheila Ide
Town of Grafton
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Mr. Daniel J. Morgado
Town Administrator
30 Providence Road
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Radiation Control Program
Department of Public Health
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Mr. Neil O'Leary
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