



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

MAY 13 1991

Docket No. 40-8724

MEMORANDUM FOR: Timothy C. Johnson, Section Leader
Decommissioning and Regulatory
Issues Branch, LLWM/NMSS

FROM: Anthony M. Huffert
Decommissioning and Regulatory
Issues Branch, LLWM/NMSS

SUBJECT: MEETING OF APRIL 25, 1991, WITH CHEMETRON CORPORATION TO
DISCUSS TO DISCUSS DECOMMISSIONING ACTIVITIES

The following is a record of the subject meeting between Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff, Chemetron Corporation (Chemetron), and Chemetron contractors. Chemetron is the holder of NRC Source Material License No. SUB-1357 authorizing possession of depleted uranium at their Bert Avenue and Harvard Avenue sites located in Newburgh Heights, Ohio. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss matters related to: 1) the current schedule for decommissioning both sites; 2) Chemetron's corporate structure after the takeover by Sunbeam/Oster, Inc. (SOC); and 3) Chemetron's license renewal application dated October 1, 1990. The following documents are included in this memorandum for reference: the meeting agenda (Enclosure 1); a list of attendees (Enclosure 2); and a copy of Chemetron's handout which outlines Chemetron's presentation to NRC (Enclosure 3).

Richard Bangart, Director of the Division of Low-Level Waste Management and Decommissioning, NMSS, began the meeting with a discussion of the staff's concerns about the lack of an established endpoint in the decommissioning schedule provided by the licensee in its January 7, 1991 submittal and the licensee not submitting its site characterization report to NRC by March 1, 1991. Also, referenced was the recent inventory of licensed material in McGean-Rohco buildings located at the Bert Avenue site. It was concluded that these issues may indicate the need for closer management oversight of decommissioning activities to ensure timely and effective cleanup.

Michael Lederman, President of Chemetron Corporation, provided an overview of the present Chemetron organization structure. According to Mr. Lederman, the name of Chemetron's parent company, NMGM, was recently changed to Montey Corporation. A chart of the Chemetron corporate structures before and after the takeover by SOC is provided in Chart 2 in Enclosure 3.

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Mr. Lederman pointed out that since the takeover of Chemetron by SOC in October 1990, a new management team has been assembled for decommissioning the Harvard Avenue and Bert Avenue sites. Management controls for monitoring decommissioning activities include a 1991 project plan, monthly project reports, and biweekly reviews of contractor progress. NRC staff discussed the need for the licensee to strengthen its management oversight of this project and to consider implementation of a quality assurance program.

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Barry Koh, Project Manager for Chemetron, discussed recent site activities, including the discovery of additional radiological contamination in McGean-Rohco buildings at Harvard Avenue. Currently 11 buildings have been surveyed and a decontamination plan is being developed by the licensee for internal and external building contamination. NRC staff requested Chemetron to find out if equipment used in the McGean-Rohco buildings has moved offsite and to assess whether such equipment may have been radiologically contaminated.

An update of site characterization activities was also provided by Dr. Koh. At the time of this meeting, the Harvard Avenue site characterization is complete and site characterization data for the Bert Avenue site is still being processed. A preliminary site characterization report for both sites, excluding areas beyond the Building 21 area at the Harvard Avenue site, are expected to be submitted to NRC by May 22, 1991. A final site characterization report is expected by July 1, 1991, which will include results of several peripheral area soil samples not available in the preliminary report.

The licensee did not know whether the site remediation plan could be submitted to NRC by August 16, 1991, as previously scheduled, and could not provide a date by which the characterization of McGean-Rohco buildings and grounds would be completed. However, the licensee committed to send NRC a letter with a schedule for submitting all characterization and remediation plans.

Chemetron's current decommissioning plans are to place initial efforts on cleaning up the Building 21 area at Harvard Avenue to complete its remediation in a short period of time and demonstrate progress. NRC staff stated the Bert Avenue site remediation should receive a high priority so that concerns of Newburgh Heights residents and city officials would be adequately addressed.

The meeting concluded with a summary of NRC's license renewal process, the conditions of the license that is currently in effect, and LLWD's schedule for reviewing Chemetron's license renewal application. The licensee was informed that dates for completing decommissioning of both sites will be incorporated into the renewed license and will be enforceable.

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Enclosures: As stated

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PDR YES ☒ NO ☐ Category: Proprietary ☐ or CF Only ☐

ACNW YES ☒ NO ☐

SUBJECT ABSTRACT: MEETING OF APRIL 26, 1991, WITH CHEMETRON CORPORATION

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