

AUG 06 1980

Docket No. 30-05980

MEMORANDUM FOR: L. Higginbotham, Assistant Director, FFMSI

FROM: George H. Smith, Chief, FF&MS Branch, RI

SUBJECT: EG&G AERIAL RADIOLOGICAL SURVEY OF U. S. RADIUM CORPORATION,
BLOOMSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

As requested by L. Cohen of your staff during a recent visit to Region I, this memorandum is to document our belief that high priority should be assigned to performance of an EG&G Aerial Radiological Survey of the area around the U. S. Radium facility in Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania. Following our initial informal contacts with Dr. Cohen and Mr. B. Weiss we were contacted by Mr. Sano of EG&G in Las Vegas and Mr. Hahn of DOE who stated that this site will be surveyed in conjunction with the EG&G survey of the Susquehanna site near Berwick, Pennsylvania in early September 1980. Details with respect to the area to be surveyed have been provided to the EG&G and DOE representatives. Additional information is available from Mr. Kinneman or Mr. Costello of this office.

The U. S. Radium facility is situated on the bank of the Susquehanna River. An old canal running through the U. S. Radium facility and various buildings and land, both on and off the licensee's property are contaminated with Sr-90, Cs-137, Ra-226 and possibly other isotopes. Recently, as described in Preliminary Notification PNO-I-80-103, activity was detected in a bore-hole water sample offsite. For these reasons, we attach a high priority to a prompt aerial survey of the entire area to determine the extent of onsite and offsite contamination.

George H. Smith, Chief
Fuel Facility and Materials Safety
Branch

CC:
J. Sniezek, Director, FFMSI
L. Cohen, FFMSI

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