

UNITED STATES

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

SEGION IV

URANIUM RECOVERY FIELD OFFICE BOX 25325 DENVER, COLORADO 80225

SEP 1 5 1992

URFO:PWM Docket No. 40-WM039 040WM039740E

MEMORANDUM TO:

Docket File No. 40-WM039

FROM:

Paul W. Michaud, Project Manager

SUBJECT:

COMPLETION REPORT FOR VICINITY PROPERTY NO. LO-020S

DOE requested NRC concurrence on the completion report for vicinity property No. LO-020S in a letter dated July 22, 1992. The property is a residential lot located in Lowman, Idaho.

Remedial action was to have removed all residual radioactive material from this property. Five areas of the property have large blue spruce trees which are rooted in contaminated material, and the owner did not want the trees removed. Remedial action was performed up to the root systems of the trees. Supplemental standards were applied in the field, leaving approximately 41 cubic yards of residual radioactive material in place. Thick boughs of the trees extend to the ground and cover the areas where supplemental standards were applied. Both the property owner and the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare concurred in the remedial actions and the application of supplemental standards.

No remedial action was conducted in the building located on this property. Gamma surveys and radon daughter concentration measurements were all below the applicable EPA standards in 40 CFR 192.12(b). The highest exterior gamma reading in the area where supplemental standards were applied was 58.1 microR per hour. Background levels in the area are 15 microR per hour. A person spending 24 hours a day for 50 weeks a year in a 58.1 microR per hour radiation field would not exceed the allowable dose for unrestricted areas in 10 CFR 20.105. Due to the location of the residual radioactive material, it is unlikely that an individual will spend any significant amount of time in the area of maximum exposure.

The completion report includes the results of surveys performed on the property and in the habitable structure. All areas meet the applicable EPA standards, with the application of supplemental standards. The levels of contamination, the location of the contaminated material, and the fact that the land use is not likely to change results in a low public health hazard.

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The harm to the environment which would result if complete remediation were performed is clearly excessive when compared to the health benefits which would be achieved. The criteria of 40 CFR 192.21(b) are therefore met, and the application of supplemental standards is appropriate. Remedial actions performed were reasonable under the circumstances, and the criteria of 40 CFR 192.22(a) are also satisfied. The staff therefore recommends providing NRC concurrence on the certification of Vicinity Property No. LO-020S.

Paul W. Michaud Project Manager

Case Closed: 040WM039750E

bcc: PDR/DCS URFO r/f LJCallan, RIV LLUR Branch, LLWM PWMichaud s:\pwm\LOO20m.fin

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