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July 9, 1962

AMERICAN POTASH AND CHEMICAL CORPORATION, LINDSAY CHEMICAL
DIVISION, WEST CHICAGO, ILLINOIS - LICENSE NO. R-234 - EXPOSURES

CO:III:JOD

The licensee was visited on June 14, 1962 with regard to subject exposures. An inspection report of subject licensee is under preparation and appropriate citation for these overexposures will be recommended.

The licensee has notified the concerned individuals of the exposures received.

The licensee film badge reports indicate four quarterly totals in excess of 1 1/4 rem of exposure. Two of these four totals (amounting to 1400 mrem and 1380 mrem) include the exposures shown on badges reported by the supplier to be contaminated. Due to the contaminated badges, these totals do not represent the actual exposure received by individuals to whom the badges were assigned.

Two of the quarterly totals indicating overexposure appear valid. Dr. R. M. Healy, the licensee Radiation Safety Officer, stated that his investigation disclosed that the overexposures resulted from the storage in a working area of an excess number of drums containing thorium nitrate and of excess time spent by an operator for a filtering operation.

In order to prevent any recurrence of these exposures, the number of drums containing thorium nitrate which may be stored within the working area has been reduced from several dozen to six. Operators for the filtering operation are being rotated. In addition, the licensee is studying the feasibility of providing lead shielding at the filtering operation site. Also, Dr. Healy now is furnishing the foreman of each plant area a list of names of his operators who show more than 417 mrem of exposure during the first month of the quarter and 700 mrem total for the first two months of the quarter. On this list, also, is shown the exposure allowed for the remainder of the quarter so that the foreman may appropriately assign their operators.

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DATE ▶	7-9-62		RAPKINB5-30	

It is the opinion of this office that the licensee's corrective measures are appropriate. This office plans no additional action in this matter other than recommendation for citation in the inspection report currently being prepared.

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