

✓ 6/28/76

G. W. Roy, Chief, Field Coordination and Enforcement Branch  
Office of Inspection and Enforcement, Headquarters

KERR Mc GEE CHEMICAL CORPORATION, WEST CHICAGO, ILLINOIS  
LICENSE NO. STA 583  
REQUESTS FOR UPGRADING SECURITY BY THE STATE OF ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT  
OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Attached is a copy of a letter dated June 25, 1976, from Dr. Joyce C. Lashof, Director of Public Health to Mr. Dean McGee, Chairman-of-the-Board of Kerr McGee. The State of Illinois is requesting that Kerr McGee take immediate action to upgrade the site security of their West Chicago facility to preclude all unauthorized entry to the site and further to provide interim stabilization of onsite materials so as to preclude discharge to offsite areas until such time that a final disposition of all onsite radioactive waste materials can be accomplished.

IE III plans to look into the health and safety aspects of this matter during the first week of July. You may wish to inform Licensing of the State of Illinois' position in this matter as outlined in the attached correspondence, pending final disposition of the West Chicago Kerr McGee site.

J. M. Allan, Chief  
Fuel Facility and Materials  
Safety Branch

Attachment:  
Ltr dtd 6/25/76

cc w/attachment:  
IE Mail and File Unit  
Central Files  
R. F. Warnick, IE:HQ

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PDR FOIA  
RAPKIN85-30 PDR

OFFICE	IE:III	IE:III				
SURNAME	Loneragan/qg	Allan				
DATE						

June 25, 1976

Mr. Dean McGee  
Chairman-of-the-Board  
Kerr McGee Building  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102

Dear Mr. McGee:

This letter is in reference to your corporation's inactive Rare Earth Division facility which is located in West Chicago, Illinois.

On June 22, 1976, representatives of our Department met with Messrs. Ralph J. Vreeland and Roy McLean of your corporation to discuss the current status of the West Chicago facility. This discussion centered principally around your proposed decommissioning efforts with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the present radioactive contamination problems that exist at this facility.

Complaints from the public, living adjacent to the site, have been referred to this Department concerning airborne discharges of materials from the site to off-site locations during high wind conditions, and unauthorized entry onto the site by children and pets resulting in unauthorized removal of materials from the site.

Initial visual inspection of the site and preliminary surveys of off-site locations by Department personnel indicate that the site security is inadequate and that material is being discharged to off-site locations. I am, therefore, requesting that Kerr McGee take immediate action to upgrade site security so as to preclude all unauthorized entry to the site and provide interim stabilization of on-site materials so as to preclude discharges to off-site areas until such time as final disposition of all on-site radioactive waste materials has been accomplished.

Mr. Dean McGee  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Page (2)

I have directed my staff to initiate in depth surveillance of the site to determine the extent of the radiological impact to the public and to investigate acceptable methods for decommissioning.

Please contact me if you have any question concerning this letter.

Sincerely yours,

Joyce C. Lashof, M.D.  
Director of Public Health

cc - William J. Shelley, Director  
of Regulation and Control  
Nuclear Division  
Karr McGee Corporation

cc - James Keppler ✓  
USNRC  
Glen Ellyn, Illinois

cc - Roy McLean  
Karr McGee Corporation  
West Chicago, Illinois



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

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JMA	GAF
HCF	PTS
JAN	PTS
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HP	File

JUL 9 1976

Bernard Singer, Chief  
Radioisotopes Licensing Branch  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

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Region III plans to look into the health and safety aspects of this matter during the first week of July.

The purpose of this memo is to inform you of the State of Illinois' position as outlined in the enclosed correspondence.

*for* *George C. Gower*  
Gen. W. Roy, Chief  
Field Coordination and  
Enforcement Branch  
Office of Inspection and  
Enforcement

Enclosure:  
Letter dated June 25, 1976  
from J. C. Lashof, M.D.  
to D. McGee

cc: H. D. Thornburg, IE:HQ  
J. G. Keppler, IE:III  
J. M. Allan, IE:III  
R. F. Warnick, IE:HQ  
IE File

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