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July 6, 1977

The Honorable Eugene Rennels
Mayor of West Chicago
City Hall
West Chicago, IL 60185

Dear Mayor Rennels:

In response to your request of June 30, 1977, Messrs. W. H. Schultz and H. J. Moe of this office conducted on July 1, 1977, radiation surveys of a tray of materials which had been discovered in a building located at 426 E. Washington St. which is owned by Mr. R. Westrom. The building is known as the American Potash Building and was formerly owned and used by Kerr-McGee.

Messrs. Schultz and Moe performed radiation surveys of the tray, its contents, and adjacent laboratory areas. There were nine bottles of material in the glass tray (Pyrex type): three contained white powder and were labeled Sm_2O_3 , lanthanum oxide, and SmCl_3 , respectively; four contained ore samples - three were marked DlCl_2 , DlCl_3 , and DlCl_3 , respectively, while the fourth was unmarked; and two contained liquid - one small unlabeled bottle full of liquid and one large bottle labeled HCl which contained only a few ounces of liquid. Radiation surveys of the tray, its contents, and adjacent areas all indicated no radiation levels above background on both alpha and beta-gamma survey instruments.

At the request of Mr. Westrom, Messrs. Schultz and Moe also performed radiation surveys of horizontal surfaces in another room and these surveys also indicated no levels above background.

We appreciate your concern and cooperation in this matter. Please feel free to contact us if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

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PDR FOIA
RAPKIN85-30 PDR

James G. Kappler
Director

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cc: Mr. R. G. Westrom
426 E. Washington St.
West Chicago, IL 60185

bcc: G. W. Roy, IE
B. Singer, NMSS
Phil Brunner
Illinois Department
of Health

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