



KERR-McGEE CORPORATION

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SAFETY & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

February 10, 1998

Mr. Stewart Brown  
Low-Level Waste & Decommissioning Projects Branch  
Division of Waste Management  
Office of Nuclear Materials Safety & Safeguards  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555

Re: Docket No. 70-3073  
License No. SNM-1999

Dear Mr. Brown:

Kerr-McGee Corporation (KMC) has evaluated the potential for release of radioactive material via surface water effluents from the Radioactive Material Storage Area. The construction of the Radioactive Material Storage Area is scheduled for the first quarter 1998. The enclosed Safety Evaluation Report presents this analysis. Extremely conservative assumptions were used to consider the maximum possible potential release. For instance, KMC assumed that annual erosion is 2" of soil per year, and that 10% of the radioactivity in all the soil eroded throughout the year remains in suspension until the ponded water is discharged. KMC does not anticipate that these conditions will occur, and these assumptions were used to represent a worst-case scenario.

The report concludes that, even under these conditions, the concentration of radioactive material at the effluent point is less than limits prescribed in NRC regulations for radiation protection. The attached Safety Evaluation Report is attached for your review.

If you have any questions or comments, please call me at (405) 270-2694.

Sincerely,

Jeff Lux  
Project Manager

xc: C. L. Cain, NRC Region IV  
Rick Reiley, Cushing Citizens' Oversight Committee  
Gene Smith, ODEQ  
Darrell Shults, ODEQ

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