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The Dow Chemical Company
Midland, Michigan 48667

MICHIGAN OPERATIONS

August 20, 1997

Materials Licensing Section
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region III
801 Warrenville Road
Lisle, IL 60532-4351

Enclosed please find a copy of an August 7, 1997 letter from Mr. John W. N. Hickey of the NRC to Mr. Larry Giebelhaus of The Dow Chemical Company requesting submission of NRC form 314 to Region III.

Form 314 is also enclosed to fulfill this request.

Respectfully,

Larry P. Giebelhaus, Project Manager
Dow Chemical Company—Michigan Operations
1261 Building
Midland, MI 48667

Enclosures (2)

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

August 7, 1997

Mr. Larry Giebelhaus
Project Manager
The Dow Chemical Company
1261 Building
Midland, Michigan 48667

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO BACK-FILL MIDLAND EXCAVATION

Dear Mr. Giebelhaus:

This refers to your letter of July 22, 1997, to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, requesting approval to back-fill the excavation left at Dow's Midland site after the removal of thorium-contaminated material. After reviewing your final surveys, and NRC Region III's report of confirmatory survey and inspection dated June 4, 1997, the staff concludes that the residual thorium-contaminated soil at the Midland site has been remediated in accordance with the NRC approved decommissioning plans. Based on the Environmental Assessment for the approval of the final survey and release criteria, sent to you by letter dated July 21, 1997, and the above referenced information, further remediation at the Midland site is not required and the excavation may be closed.

Please be advised that the Midland site will remain under license until NRC form 314 (enclosed) is completed and submitted to NRC, and that the 30-day opportunity for hearing, for the license amendment approving the decommissioning criteria and final survey plan, is active until August 9, 1997. NRC will inspect the Midland site after the excavation has been filled.

If you have any questions, please contact Jack Parrott, NRC project manager for the Dow sites, at (301) 415-6700.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lawrence Ball for".

John W. N. Hickey, Chief
Low-Level Waste and Decommissioning
Projects Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No. 040-00017
License No. STB-527
Enclosure: NRC Form-314

cc: D. Minnaar, MDEQ
J. C. Dehmel, SC&A
J. Basta, Dykema Gossett

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