



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

July 6, 2021

Mr. Rob Hunt
Missouri Department of Natural Resources
1101 Riverside Drive
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176

SUBJECT: SOLICITATION OF MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES' COMMENTS ON A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WITH A FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ASSOCIATED WITH THE SIGMA-ALDRICH LICENSE AMENDMENT REQUEST (DOCKET NO. 030-10716)

Dear Mr. Hunt:

By letters dated August 22, 2019¹, as supplemented on April 27, 2020² and October 19, 2020³, Sigma-Aldrich (Sigma) submitted an application to amend their decommissioning plan and terminate U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Materials License No. 24-16273-01. In this request, Sigma requests the option to perform direct dose assessment of residual radioactivity in addition to using derived concentration guideline levels (DCGLs) to demonstrate compliance with the license termination criteria in 10 CFR 20.1402 at the Fort Mims Site in Maryland Heights, Missouri. The decommissioning plan that was previously approved for Sigma only included the use of screening DCGL values to demonstrate compliance with the license termination criteria.

An NRC administrative review, documented in an email to Sigma dated July 31, 2020⁴, found the license amendment application acceptable to begin a technical review. The NRC is completing that technical review and is considering granting Sigma's request. If approved, the NRC's approval would be documented in an amendment to Sigma's NRC License No. 24-16273-01. However, before approving the proposed amendment, the NRC needs to make the findings required by the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, and the National Environmental Policy Act. These findings would be documented, respectively, by the NRC in a Safety Evaluation Report and in a separate Environmental Assessment (EA). The NRC staff has prepared, in accordance with 10 CFR 51.21, an EA of the effects of this action.

¹ Agencywide Document Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML19273A163

² ADAMS Accession No. ML20120A544

³ ADAMS Accession No. ML20294A191

⁴ ADAMS Accession No. ML20213C693

A copy of the NRC's draft EA is enclosed for your review. Should the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) have any comments or suggestions on these drafts, please provide them to me within 30 days from the date of this letter. We will presume that you have no comments if none are received within the 30 days.

In transmitting the draft EA to you, the cover letter, by itself, may be made publicly available. However, the draft EA document should not be made publicly available as the NRC considers the draft to be pre-decisional information. Accordingly, we have placed "Official Use Only – Sensitive Internal" in the header/footer of the EA. Please limit distribution to staff within MDNR.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Agency Rules of Practice and Procedure," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

If you have any further questions, please contact me at (301) 415-6755 or via email at George.alexander@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,



Signed by Alexander, George
on 07/06/21

George Alexander, Risk Analyst
Risk and Technical Analysis Branch
Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery,
and Waste Programs
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket: 030-10716

Enclosure:
Draft Environmental Assessment

Sigma-Aldrich Solicitation of MDNR Comments on Draft Environmental Assessment Docket 030-10716
 DATE July 6, 2021

DISTRIBUTION:

ADAMS Accession No.: ML21154A075; Ltr ML21154A098

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