

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I

INSPECTION REPORT

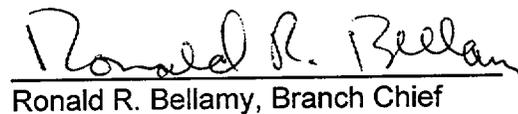
Inspection No. 030-05980/99-01
Docket No. 030-05980
License No. 37-00030-02
Licensee: Safety Light Corporation
Location: 4150-A Old Berwick Road
Bloomsburg, PA 17815
Inspection Dates: October 7-8, 1999

Inspector:


James Kottan, Health Physics Manager

10/25/99
date

Approved By:


Ronald R. Bellamy, Branch Chief
Decommissioning and Laboratory Branch

Oct 25, 1999
date

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Safety Light Corporation
NRC Inspection Report No. 030-05980/99-01

Announced inspection of contaminated buildings, equipment and land in order to review the licensee's ability to maintain the contaminated site. Areas reviewed included: site condition and maintenance, radiological environmental monitoring, management oversight, and the status of site remediation.

The site was being maintained by the licensee. There were no changes in the radiological conditions of the site. The licensee has submitted to the NRC a site Decommissioning and Decontamination (D&D) Plan and an associated Work Plan for remediation of the underground silos. The license has been amended to include these documents, and the licensee will conduct the silo remediation in accordance with the D&D Plan and the Work Plan. The underground silo remediation is expected to begin in October 1999.

No safety concerns or violations of NRC regulatory requirements were observed.

REPORT DETAILS

I. Management Oversight of the Program

a. Inspection Scope

The inspector reviewed the program the licensee had in place to maintain oversight and control of licensed activities.

b. Observations and Findings

The licensee's radiation safety committee provided oversight of licensed activities. Revision 11 of the licensee's Health and Safety Program, dated September 29, 1998, changed the functionality of the radiation safety committee in that the committee could function either formally or informally, with or without written records. The makeup of the radiation safety committee, which included an independent radiation safety consultant, had not changed, however.

The inspector reviewed the radiation safety committee meeting minutes for the fourth quarter of 1998. There were no minutes for 1999 to date. The inspector discussed the radiation safety committee with the licensee. The licensee stated that the committee had met informally in 1999 to date to discuss items related to past operations at the site, but that no notes were taken. The inspector noted that without any type of documentation, even informal notes, the licensee could not demonstrate that the informal radiation safety committee discussions had taken place. The licensee responded that future informal radiation safety committee discussions would be noted in some manner.

c. Conclusions

Based on the above reviews and discussions, the inspector determined that the licensee had in place a mechanism for maintaining oversight of licensed activities from previous operations. No violations or safety issues were identified.

II. Site Maintenance

a. Inspection Scope

The inspector walked around the site perimeter fence, noted the condition of the fence, observed the postings on the fence, and performed a radiation survey of the site perimeter using a micro-R meter. The inspector also toured the site and buildings, observed the general conditions of the buildings, and noted the postings and warnings.

b. Observations and Findings

Based on the site and perimeter tour, the inspector noted that the site appeared to be stable with no evidence of erosion. The licensee was maintaining the site. The

perimeter fence was intact with the postings maintained on the fence. The perimeter radiation survey indicated no changes from the perimeter radiation survey performed by the inspector in September 1998. The licensee's latest annual site perimeter radiation survey results were in agreement with the NRC survey results.

c. Conclusions

Based on the above tours, observations, and discussions with the licensee, the inspector determined that the licensee was maintaining control of contaminated radioactive material on site from past operations, areas of the site were properly posted, and the licensee was knowledgeable and familiar with the location of radioactive contamination at the site.

III. Radiological Environmental Monitoring

a. Inspection Scope

The inspector reviewed the licensee's radiological environmental monitoring program.

b. Observations and Findings

The licensee's radiological environmental monitoring program consisted of water samples from on-site wells, off-site wells, and river water; annual site and perimeter radiation surveys; and periodic surveys for removable contamination. Well water samples were analyzed by a contractor laboratory for the licensee. Gross alpha and gross beta analyses were performed on the well water samples. The inspector reviewed the well water sample results for 1999 to date. Additionally, the inspector reviewed the long term trend plots of the on-site well water sample results for the period 1995 to 1999 to date. Trend plots were flat over this time period indicating no changes in the concentrations of radioactive material in the on-site well water. The river water samples for the last half of 1998 and the first half of 1999 contained no detectable gross alpha radioactivity. There were some positive gross beta results in the river water samples, but these results were below the EPA permissible concentration for the most restrictive beta-emitting radionuclide in drinking water. The offsite wells contained positive gross alpha and gross beta results in a few samples with the highest gross alpha concentration equal to 5.3 ± 4.0 pCi/l and the highest gross beta concentration equal to 16 ± 6 pCi/l. The average gross alpha and gross beta results in the off-site wells for the period from September 1998 to September 1999 were below EPA drinking water criteria for gross alpha and the most restrictive beta-emitting radionuclide.

The licensee's on-site radiation survey results were similar to the results from the previous year and were in agreement with NRC survey results.

c. Conclusions

Based on the above data reviews, the inspector determined that the radiological characteristics of the site had not changed since the previous inspection. The licensee was familiar with the data trending results as well as the other radiological environmental monitoring data.

IV. Site Remediation

a. Inspection Scope

The inspector reviewed the current status of the licensee's site remediation efforts.

b. Observations and Findings

The licensee completed the site characterization in December 1995. The Site Characterization Report was submitted to the NRC in September 1996. The Site Decontamination and Decommissioning (D&D) Plan was submitted to the NRC in November 1998. The D&D Plan outlined a protocol for remediation of the Bloomsburg site on a task by task basis. In conjunction with the D&D Plan, the licensee submitted a Work Plan (including a Health and Safety Plan and a Radiation Protection Plan) to the NRC in August 1999. This Work Plan addressed one of the remediation tasks identified in the D&D Plan, remediation of the underground silos which were previously used for radioactive waste disposal. The license was amended on September 29, 1999 to require that decommissioning activities be conducted in accordance with the D&D Plan and subsequent Work Plan.

Discussion with the licensee indicated that remediation of the silos would begin in October 1999 with an anticipated completion date of January 2000.

c. Conclusions

The licensee has submitted the necessary documentation for remediation of the underground silos. The license was amended to reference this documentation. The underground silo remediation will begin in October 1999.

V. Exit Meeting

The inspector met with the licensee representatives listed below at the conclusion of the inspection on October 8, 1999. The inspector summarized the purpose, scope, and findings of the inspection. The licensee acknowledged the inspection findings.

PARTIAL LIST OF PERSONS CONTACTED

Licensee

N. Fritz, Radiation Safety Officer
L. Harmon, Plant Manager