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June 4, 1981

U.S. NUCLEAR REG.
COMMISSION
PRESS MAIL SECTION



Mr. Larry W. Camper
Material Licensing Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle and
Material Safety
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Mr. Camper:

As we discussed, I have enclosed for your use a copy of the Department of Water & Power report of the results of their monitoring of the wells in the vicinity of the Veterans Administration property.

Best regards, sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'W. H. Blahd'.

W. H. BLAHD, M. D.
Chief, Nuclear Medicine
and Ultrasound Service

Enclosure

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INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT

LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF WATER & POWER
 SANITARY ENGINEERING DIVISION
 REPORT OF WATER ANALYSIS

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Sample No.	Date Taken	Date Rec'd.	Collector	Description
S-1876	4-27-81	4-28-81		Santa Monica Well #3
S-1877	"	"		Arcadia Well #4
S-1878	"	"		Charnock Well #12
S-1879	"	"		" " #15
S-1880	4-23-81	"		Veterans Administration Hospital Well

Sample No.	1876	1877	1878	1879	1880
Gross Alpha	3.4 ± 0.9	0.8 ± 0.6	6.1 ± 0.9	2.0 ± 0.7	1.9 ± 0.8
Gross Beta	4.8 ± 1.0	2.4 ± 0.7	6.8 ± 1.0	2.9 ± 0.8	4.9 ± 1.0
Radium 226					
Radium 228					
Strontium 89					
Strontium 90					
Hydrogen 3	<180 ± 180	<180 ± 180	<180 ± 180	<180 ± 180	<190 ± 190
Carbon 14	<120 ± 120	<120 ± 120	<120 ± 120	<120 ± 120	<120 ± 120

Radioactivity results are in Picocuries per Litre ± 95% confidence limits

Analysis requested by:

Santa Monica Water Company
1228 So. Bundy Drive
Los Angeles, Calif. 90025
ATTN: Jack Hogland
 Telephone 473-1460

R. K. KURIMOTO

MAY 20 1981

Analyst

Approval

MEMORANDUM

SANITARY ENGINEERING DIVISION

MEMO BY R. Kurimoto TO L. McReynolds DATE May 28, 1981
FILE TITLE Radioactivity in Groundwater near Veterans Administration Hospital

Public concern has arisen over possible contamination from some radioactive waste which was buried decades ago at the Veterans Administration Hospital (Wadsworth Hospital) in West Los Angeles. The Radioactivity Laboratory of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power has been asked to test water samples from the burial site to check for contamination in the local groundwater.

Five groundwater samples were provided by Jack Hogland of the Santa Monica Water Company, 1228 South Bundy Drive, Los Angeles, California 90025; telephone 473-1460. One sample was taken from a well serving the hospital, and the other four were taken from nearby wells.

Laboratory results are shown on the attached report. Maximum contamination limits as set forth by the Safe Drinking Water Act are as follows:

Gross Alpha activity	15 pCi/l
Gross Beta activity	50 "
H ³ activity	20,000 "
C ¹⁴ activity	no limit

The groundwater samples which were tested do not indicate radioactive contamination.

RK:js

cc: Jack Hogland, Santa Monica Water Co.
Skip Wetterau, Wadsworth Hospital, Nuclear Medicine Unit
Joe Karbus, Los Angeles County Health Dept.,
313 No. Figueroa St., Rm. 518, LA 90012