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AUTH.NAME AUTHOR AFFILIATION
DECKER,T.R. Region 2 (Post 820201)
RECIP.NAME RECIPIENT AFFILIATION
BURSLEY,J.M. UCAR Carbon Co., Inc.
SUBJECT: Refers to 980119
meeting UCAR Carbon Co,Inc hosted at
facility in Lawrenceburg, Tennessee. During meeting UCAR
discussed status of decommissioning initiatives & criteria
for site decommissioning.

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April 20, 1998

UCAR Carbon Co.. Inc.
ATTN: Juanita M.
Bursley
12900 Snow Road
Parma, OH 44130

SUBJECT: PROPOSED RELEASE CRITERIA FOR DECOMMISSIONING OF UCAR-
LAWRENCEBURG

Dear Ms. Bursley:

This refers to the January 19, 1998, meeting UCAR Carbon Company, Inc. (UCAR) hosted at its facility (the formerly licensed Union Carbide plant) in Lawrenceburg, Tennessee. Attending the meeting were representatives of UCAR, the State of Tennessee (TDEC Division of Radiological Health), Nuclear Fuel Services and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. During the meeting, UCAR discussed the status of decommissioning initiatives and criteria for site decommissioning. In developing a decommissioning plan based on site characterization conclusions, UCAR proposed release criteria referenced in Subpart E of Part 20 specifically, 10 CFR 20.1401(c) which UCAR quoted as follows:

After a site has been decommissioned and the license terminated ... the Commission will require additional cleanup only if, based on new information, it determines that ... residual radioactivity remaining at the site could result in significant threat to public health and safety. 10 CFR 20.1401(c).

UCAR contended, in light of the above quoted standard, that the public health and safety would be protected if the dose limits of 10 CFR Part 20, Subpart E, "Radiological Criteria for License Termination," i.e., 100 millirem per year, were applied. After reviewing the applicable regulations, I telephoned you to discuss this issue and to advise that the 100 millirem per year criterion was not acceptable. I also noted that the NRC criteria UCAR quoted during the meeting omitted two relevant sections. The standard that was quoted, with the omitted sections included, provides the following:

After a site has been decommissioned and the license terminated **in accordance with the criteria in this Subpart**, the Commission will require additional cleanup only if, based on new information, it determines that the **criteria of this Subpart** were not met and, residual radioactivity at the site could result in significant threat to public health and safety. 10 CFR 20.1401(c). [*emphasis added*]

UCAR requested the NRC to state its position regarding UCAR's proposal to apply Subpart E dose limits (100 millirem per year) in the UCAR decommissioning plan in writing.

Because the UCAR site was not decommissioned in the first instance in accordance with the new regulations, i.e., 10 CFR Part 20, Subpart E. it is inappropriate to apply the **part of the regulations** UCAR quoted as release criteria for the UCAR site. UCAR may apply the 25 millirem per year standard for unconditional release as provided in the new regulations. or the Site Decommissioning Management Plan (SDMP) criteria for formally licensed sites as also provided in the regulations. Finally, UCAR may decommission the site for restricted use in accordance with 10 CFR 20.1403. I have attached a copy of the Federal Register Notice on the Final Rule for Radiological Criteria for License Termination. You should review the rule carefully in order to familiarize yourself with the alternate release criteria.

If you have any questions regarding the foregoing. do not hesitate to contact me at (404) 562-4721.

Sincerely,
original signed by J. Henson for:

Thomas R. Decker. Chief
Materials Licensing/Inspection
Branch 1
Division of Nuclear Material
Safety

Docket Nos. 070-00784
(Terminated)

040-07044 (Terminated) License Nos. SNM- 00724 (Terminated)

SMB-00720
(Terminated)

Enclosure: Federal Register Notice
62FR39058

cc w/ encl: Mr. Dean Erwin, Site Manager UCAR Carbon Co., Inc. P.O. Box 500 Lawrenceburg, TN 38464

Mr. Mike Mobley, Director Tennessee Dept. of Environment and Conservation Division of Radiological Health L&C
Annex, Third Floor 401 Church St. Nashville, TN 37243-1532

Ms. Marie Moore Nuclear Fuel Services. Inc. 1205 Banner Hill Rd. Erwin, TN 37650

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