

July 7, 1995

MEMORANDUM TO: Donald A. Cool, Director
Division of Industrial and Medical
Nuclear Safety
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

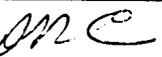
(original signed by
B. S. Mallett)
and Safeguards

FROM: Bruce S. Mallett, Director
Division of Radiation Safety
SUBJECT: STATUS REPORT OF REGION II REVIEW OF OAK RIDGE NATIONAL
LABORATORY (ORNL) LIST OF POTENTIALLY CONTAMINATED
SITES

The quarterly status reports for those Region II sites contained on the ORNL list of formerly licensed sites identified as potentially contaminated are contained in Attachments 1, 2, and 3. The status reports for those sites with an ORNL final score greater than 300 are at Attachment 1. The status reports for those sites with an ORNL final score from 5 to 300 which have been reviewed and remain in an open status are at Attachment 2 and the reports for those sites which Region II recommends be closed and deleted from the list are at Attachment 3. The information required for the Monthly Information Status Report is at Attachment 4. A tabular summary of all files assigned to Region II is at Attachment 5.

If you have any questions regarding these reports or our evaluations, please contact Mr. Jay L. Henson of my staff at (404) 331-0344.

- Attachments:
- (1) Reports for sites >300
 - (2) Reports for sites <300 (remain open)
 - (3) Reports for sites <300 (recommend deletion)
 - (4) Monthly Information Status Report
 - (5) Tabular summary for all Region II sites

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DATE	07/7/95	07/7/95	07/7/95	07/ /95	07/ /95	07/ /95
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STATUS REPORTS FOR SITES WITH SCORES <300
(REMAIN IN OPEN STATUS)

Attachment 2

REGION II TERMINATED SITES
LIST

SITE STATUS REPORT

JUNE 30, 1995

Docket No. 040-01957
00081

License No. SUB-

Licensee Name: Homer Laughlin China
Company

Site Name: Homer Laughlin China
Company

Site Address:

City: Newell State: WV Zip: 26050-1299
Regional Contact: Jay L. Henson Phone: (404) 331-
0344

Status Summary:

ORNL Final Score:
115

Background

In February, 1959, the Homer Laughlin China Company was issued Source Material-License No. C-4475. This license authorized possession of 100,000 pounds of source material for use in manufacturing glazed ceramic tableware (glaze to contain not more than 20% uranium).

In February, 1961, this license was renewed and the license number was changed to SUB-00081.

Records indicate that licensed activities were performed in Plant No. 4 and materials were stored in a vault adjacent to the dispensary at Plant No. 8. Records also indicate that the rinse water from washing equipment used to transport uranium glaze entered the city sewer system and in some cases was washed into a storm drain that emptied directly into the Ohio River. Inspection records indicate that these effluents were estimated to be approximately 40% of the regulatory limits.

In a letter dated February 28, 1972 Homer Laughlin China (HLC) requested termination of their license and stated that all remaining licensed materials had been returned to their supplier. On March 29, 1972, the AEC terminated the license.

REGION II TERMINATED SITES LIST

SITE STATUS REPORT

JUNE 30, 1995

Homer Laughlin China Company
& Welfare

License No. SUB-00081
Docket No. 040-01957

Newell, WV

In August, 1994, the former licensee discovered that it possessed **approximately 500 pounds of uranium oxide (U3O8)**. Subsequent to **this discovery, the licensee hired** a contractor to survey areas **where** licensed materials were used and stored. Several areas of significant contamination were discovered during this characterization survey. HLC sent the results of this survey to Region II on September 28, 1994.

On November 4, 1994, Region II issued a Confirmatory Action Letter (CAL) to HLC to ensure that the uranium oxide was properly stored and secured and that adequate control measures were implemented to protect personnel from the contamination discovered in the facility. On November 17, 1994, a Region II inspector visited the site to determine if HLC had implemented adequate protective measures. HLC had secured the material and the contamination areas as required by the CAL.

On January 5, 1994, HLC submitted their decommissioning plan for the facility. On January 9, 1994, Region II forwarded comments on the plan to HLC. HLC submitted a revised plan on January 10 and Region II approved the plan on January 12.

HLC and its decommissioning contractor began decommissioning effort after approval of the plan. The contractor has completed the decontamination of the majority of the facility and is currently working-to complete decontamination of some equipment. HLC and its contractor are having some difficulty in finding an acceptable means to dispose of the waste and bulk material.

Assessment

Region II will continue to monitor HLC's progress in decommissioning this facility. A confirmatory survey will be scheduled upon completion of HLC's decommissioning effort and review of their final survey report.

HLC's efforts to decontaminate/decommission on their facility continues. Most of the building surfaces have been decontaminated, but some contaminated equipment remains to be removed and either decontaminated or disposed as radioactive waste. Region II has visited the site on two occasions to survey floor areas in some currently operational areas which HLC needed to have released for operational safety reasons. Based upon the Region II surveys, these floor surfaces were determined to not meet the free release criteria and were not approved for release for unrestricted use. HLC and their contractor, Applied Health Physics, are evaluating the conditions which resulted in these areas not meeting the release criteria. Region II will continue to monitor HLC's decommissioning effort.

