

November 8, 1996

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

FROM: Bruce S. Mallett, Director (original signed by DM Collins)
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

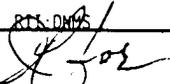
SUBJECT: STATUS REPORT OF REGION II REVIEW OF OAK RIDGE NATIONAL
LABORATORY (ORNL) LIST OF POTENTIALLY CONTAMINATED SITES

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 through 4. The status reports for those sites with an ORNL final score greater than 300 which remain open are in Attachment 1 and **those with a score** from 5 to 300 which Region II has reviewed and remain open are listed in Attachment 2. The status reports for those sites which are **recommended** for deletion are listed in Attachment 3. The sealed source files which have been reviewed and are recommended for deletion are listed in Attachment 4. The information required for the Monthly Information Status Report is in Attachment 5. A tabular summary of all files assigned to Region II is in Attachment 6.

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 (remain open)
(2) Reports for sites <300 (remain open)
(3) Reports for sites <300 (recommend deletion)
(4) Sealed Sources (recommend deletion)
(5) Monthly Information Status Report
(6) Tabular summary for all Region II sites

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DATE	10 / 29 / 96	10 / 29 / 96	10 / / 96	10 / / 96	10 / / 96	10 / / 96
COPY?	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO	YES NO

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION II
101 MARIETTA STREET, N.W., SUITE 2900
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30323-0199

November 8, 1996

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

FROM: *for* Bruce S. Mallett, Director *BSM*
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

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STATUS REPORTS FOR SITES REVIEWED WITH SCORES <300

(REMAIN IN OPEN STATUS)

1. SUB-00081 Homer Laughlin China Co.
2. 16-00380-03 Army Medical Research Center
3. STB-00058 Du Pont
4. C-04327 Fostoria Glass Company
SUC-00628

5. 45-10085-03Roanoke College

SITE STATUS REPORT

OCTOBER 23, 1996

Docket No. 040-01957

License No. SUB-00081

Licensee Name: Homer Laughlin China CompanySite 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 11 TERMINATED SITES

LIST
SITE STATUS REPORT

OCTOBER 23, 1996

Homer Laughlin China Company

License No. SUB-00081

Newell, WV

Docket No. 040-01957

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

94

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. 1995

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 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.

**REGION 11 TERMINATED SITES LIST
SITE STATUS REPORT**

OCTOBER 23, 1996

Homer Laughlin China Company
Newell, WV

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

Assessment

In a letter dated August 1, 1995, HLC stated that they had completed their decontamination and decommissioning efforts, but had some areas which could not be remediated to the current criteria for release for unrestricted use. HLC enclosed a risk analysis report with the letter with a request that the NRC review the report for the purpose of approving a variance on release of specified equipment and areas from the current release criteria. Region II has completed a preliminary review of the documents submitted by HLC and requested some additional information before a final review is completed. once this additional information is received, the request will be forwarded to NMSS via a TAR for review and approval.

The HLC request was forwarded for review in a TAR on November 1, 1995. DLWM personnel expect to reply to the TAR by February 16, 1996. From a preliminary review, DLWM expects to have additional questions for HLC to answer before a final decision is rendered.

Region II personnel performed a survey of some floor areas within the HLC facility in December, 1995. The licensee had requested a release survey of some floor areas in a busy area of the facility so that the floors could be repaired. The licensee was concerned about personnel injuring themselves when trying to walk over these floor areas. As a result of this survey, these areas were declared suitable for release for unrestricted use and the licensee initiated repairs to the floors.

NMSS responded to the TAR in a letter dated March 22, 1996. In the TAR response, NMSS requested that HLC respond to fifteen comments before a decision is made regarding the approval of alternate unrestricted use limits for surface contamination. Region II forwarded the comments to HLC in a letter dated April 5, 1996. In a phone call on May 13, 1996, the HLC contractor reported that he is working on a response to the comments and should complete the response by June, 1996.

HLC was contacted on August 6, 1996, to determine the status on its response to the April 5, 1996 letter. Due to financial concerns, HLC has not completed their response. RII staff have scheduled an inspection for August 13, to review the status of the facility and the decommissioning effort.

RII staff conducted an inspection at HLC on August 13, 1996. HLC had not performed any further decommissioning pending resolution of its request for alternate release criteria. HLC intends to respond to the RII April letter regarding this request by November, 1996.