

December 27, 1999

Mr. Ben Baker
Project Manager
The Dow Chemical Company
2020 Dow Center
Midland, MI 48674

SUBJECT: ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF REQUEST TO AMEND NRC LICENSE STB-527 TO REMOVE Th-230 FROM THE REMEDIATION PLAN

Dear Mr. Baker:

I am responding to your letter dated October 22, 1999, which forwarded a license amendment request to remove Th-230 from the remediation plan, and apply Option 1, of the Branch Technical Position (BTP) entitled *Disposal or Onsite Storage of Thorium or Uranium Wastes from Past Operations* (46FR52601, October 23, 1981), for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff review and approval. We have completed the initial processing of your request, which is an administrative review.

During the initial processing, some deficiencies were identified. These deficiencies were discussed during the telephone conference call on December 22, 1999. Our understanding, based on the conference call, is that Dow is proposing to obtain 10 to 15 additional soil samples from "hot spots" and provide the results to the NRC for review. The sample results and supporting information should be provided within 30 days of the date of this letter, so that your request can be forwarded for technical review. Please note that the technical review may identify omissions in the submitted information or technical issues not identified during the administrative review that requires additional information.

If you have any questions, please contact Robert Nelson, Section Chief, at 301-415-7298.

Sincerely,
Original signed by: R. Nelson for:
Larry W. Camper, Chief
Decommissioning Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

License No. STB-527
Docket No. 40-17
cc: D. Minnar, MDEQ
Dow Chemical Dist. List

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UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Camper".

Larry W. Camper, Chief
Decommissioning Branch
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

License No. STB-527
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