



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I
475 ALLENDALE ROAD
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19403-1415

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MESSAGE TO: Mike Weber

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(INCLUDING THIS REQUEST FORM)

MESSAGE FROM: R.C. RAGLAND

U.S.N.R.C., REGION I, KING OF PRUSSIA, PA

TRANSMITTED BY: _____

DATE & TIME: _____

VERIFIED BY: _____

D/10

RJ

Arresting County Reg
Wheeler, NMS
Zamantia, NMS
McDaniel, NMS
Astwood, NMS
Henderson, DCM
Boice, RI
Hite, AMS
Compton, NMS
Joynes, RI

From: Randolph C. Ragland (RCR1)
To: HMA, RJB, GCC1, KJH3, CWH, JHJ, MXL2, KKM, MFW
Date: Wednesday, September 21, 1994 3:43 pm
Subject: Region I Status of Sludge Ash Issue

Here is an update on status of the Kiski Valley Water Pollution Control Authority (KVWPCA) sludge ash issue.

Sample Results:

Oak Ridge hopes to complete their analysis of the KVWPCA's sludge ash by Monday 9/19/94. This will include results for other isotopes besides uranium: Cs-137, Co-60, Pu-239, etc. Preliminary results of uranium looks like 71 pCi/g with a 3.3 percent enrichment.

Results on 9/20/94
10/20/94 - finished

B&W

I notified B&W (Bernie Haertjens and Don Sgarlata) that our sample results have not been completed but that preliminary results indicate that the KVWPCA sludge ash does contain enriched uranium in concentrations greater than 30 pCi/g. I also notified him that Region I would be performing an inspection at B&W September 27-30, 1994, and that one of the inspection items would be liquid effluents.

- o He indicated that Apollo was connected to the KVWPCA in 1976. o Wastes from the North Sewer were sent to the KVWPCA because it contained sanitary wastes.
- o The South Sewer effluent was only sent to the river, and was not required to be connected to the KVWPCA because it did not contain sanitary waste.
- o Parks Township sends sink and shower water to the KVWPCA but that does include mop water from contaminated areas. This waste water is sent to a hold-up tank, sampled, and then released.

KVWPCA

I contacted Robert Kossak (412-568-3655) who is the Manager of the KVWPCA and requested a visit to his facility to discuss some of the issues associated with the sludge ash and to inspect the sludge ash and to obtain additional samples. He approved my request and also said it was OK to take a video of the lagoon. Heather Astwood and I are scheduled to perform the visit/inspection on September 29, 1994. I also told him that the NRC saw the article in Nuclear Waste News about the KVWPCA contamination. I also asked him if Chester Environmental was acting on behalf of the KVWPCA. He said yes that Chester Environmental is their Engineering contractor. He asked if this information for the article could have possibly come from a NRC August 26, 1994 News Letter Weekly Update. I told him I did not know.

He also provided the following information:

- 1) The facility was opened in 1975 and operated up until early 1994. (B&W connected in 1976, so the lagoon contains about 17 years of B&W effluent).
- 2) PADER ordered the KVWPCA to change their process from a liquid to a dry method in early 1994 and they stopped using the sludge ash lagoon in early 1994. PADER also ordered the KVWPCA to get rid of the sludge ash or cap it in place.
- 3) There would be financial savings for the KVWPCA to dispose of the sludge

ash in Mill Service's Yukon, Westmoreland County Hazardous Waste Impoundment No. 5.

4) PADER would have to issue a permit for the "Beneficial Re-use of this ash."

5) They had hoped to send the ash to the Hazardous Waste Facility by September 1st.

6) If the sludge ash is removed from the site, the KVVWPCA wants to convert the lagoon to a pond for aesthetic reasons.

7) His contact with Mill Services is Rich Larcinese and his number is (412) 343-4900.

Mill Services

I contacted Rich Larcinese with Mill Services. I introduced myself and asked if he had knowledge of discussions between the KVVWPCA and Mill Services concerning the possibility of using sludge ash as structural fill prior to capping a hazardous waste impoundment. He said that he was but that he was a salesman and not the one to talk to. He said that Carl Bender would call me back to discuss specific details of their capping and disposal process. However, he did say that their hazardous waste impoundments are normally capped with a synthetic liner, 2 feet of soil, and vegetation.

Chester Environmental

Steve McGuire of Chester Environmental called me again about the NRC results of the PADER sample. I told him that sample results should be available by Monday September 26, 1994. He also asked what journal was information published in concerning the KVVWPCA sludge ash contamination. I told him Nuclear Waste News.

PADER

I have not been able to contact anyone from PADER to give them an update, and invite them to the inspection, and they have not yet returned my calls. However, they will be notified and invited.

Randy Ragland

NMSS

From: Heather M. Astwood (HMA)
To: KJH3, jtg1, JHA, MFW, mx12, rcrl
Date: Wednesday, September 21, 1994 1:06 pm
Subject: Kiski Valley Sewer Sludge

FYI-

Based on preliminary results from ORISE's analysis of the sample of sewer sludge ash obtained from the Kiski Valley treatment plant, Kim Hardin and Randy Ragland have found that the sludge ash appears to contain enriched uranium. Using ORISE's preliminary alpha spec results Kim and Randy calculated an enrichment of approximately 3%. Using the alpha spec results reported to the NRC by PADER for the sample they analyzed, an enrichment of almost 10% was calculated. Using the results obtained from Region I's 1987 sampling of the sludge ash they calculated and enrichment of approximately 2%.

4/26/94
Attachment

Henderson, OCM
Greene, NMSS
Weber, NMSS
Zammita, NMSS
Ragland, RI