



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

January 10, 2017

Connecticut Department of Public Works
165 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

**SUBJECT: HART AND HEGEMAN MANUFACTURING COMPANY– 2 – REQUEST FOR
INITIAL SITE VISIT AND TO PERFORM RADIOLOGICAL SURVEYS**

Dear Current Owner:

I am writing to inform you that our records indicate that your property at 340-342 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut, is a site where radium-226 was previously used. Specifically, a building previously on your property was used in the manufacturing of luminous radium flush switches and pull-chain pendants. If you are not the current owner of the property, please let us know whom we should contact. Radium-226 is a radioactive isotope that, in certain quantities, may pose a risk to public health and safety. Radium-226 is regulated by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). We do not know whether there is a current radiological issue at your property, and it is important that you contact us at your earliest convenience. We are requesting access to your property to perform radiological surveys and to collect samples to determine whether there is any residual contamination resulting from this historical manufacturing on your property. This testing will not damage your property and these tests will be conducted at no cost to you. If residual contamination at your property has already been remediated, please provide us with records describing cleanup activities and the status of the remediation.

To successfully complete our tests, we need to schedule an initial visit. The initial site visit will serve two purposes: 1) to determine whether there is any readily detectable radium contamination; and 2) to allow us to start planning a scoping survey, if needed. During our initial site visit we will determine if a follow-up scoping survey is necessary. The scoping survey will involve a more detailed radiological survey to determine if there is any residual contamination. After each visit, we will share results with you as soon as they are available.

These tests will determine whether your site requires remediation to remove residual contamination. Should remediation be required, we will provide additional information on any actions that may be necessary to ensure protection of public health and safety. Please be aware that under the NRC's regulations, site owners are responsible for the costs associated with these remediation activities; as a regulatory agency, the NRC cannot provide funding. This does not, however, preclude site owners from using alternative legal options that may be available under State or Federal law to fund remediation activities. We recognize that you may not be aware of historical radium manufacturing at your site and we will continue to work with you to address and resolve this matter.

The enclosed Site Summary Report provides all of the information that the NRC has concerning historical radium storage at your property, which we found through a search of publicly available information. The enclosed Backgrounder provides more detail on the history of radium use and its potential health effects. The enclosed brochure provides an overview of the NRC.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Agency Rules of Practice and Procedure," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>

We would like to work with you to schedule our initial site visit and answer any questions you might have. At your earliest convenience, please contact Mr. Ted Smith, Acting Chief, Materials Decommissioning Branch, Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery and Waste Programs, Office of Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards, at (301) 415-6721, or Mr. Richard Chang, Project Manager, at (301) 415-5536.

Sincerely,

/RA/

John R. Tappert, Director
Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery
and Waste Programs
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No.: 03039017

Enclosures:

1. Site Summary Report
2. Radium Backgrounder
3. U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission *Overview*

REGISTERED LETTER – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

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DISTRIBUTION:

RidsRgn1MailCenter R. Powell, RI T. Jackson, RI R. Chang, NMSS

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