

M-359
122111-01

Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP)

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

for Maywood, New Jersey



U.S. Department of Energy



Department of Energy

Oak Ridge Operations
 P.O. Box 2001
 Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831—8723

October 20, 1994

Mr. William P. Schuber
 Bergen County Executive
 County of Bergen
 Administration Building
 Court Plaza South
 21 Main Street, Room 300E
 Hackensack, New Jersey 07601-7000

Dear Mr. Schuber:

MAYWOOD SITE - DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION REGARDING THE PRESENCE OF CONTAMINATION ON PRIVATE PROPERTIES

This letter is in response to your letter of October 7 concerning the Bieniek family at 26 Long Valley Road. The situation involving the Bieniek's, where they unknowingly bought property with thorium contamination, is indeed unfortunate. To answer your question, the Department of Energy (DOE) is responsible for notifying current property owners if contamination is present above cleanup guidelines on their property. This information becomes a part of a public record and is located in the Maywood Public Library and at the DOE Public Information Center on West Pleasant Avenue. Unless requested by a property owner, however, DOE does not interface with prospective home buyers. I understand that there are state laws which require disclosure of this type of information to perspective buyers. However, DOE has no enforcement authority to require such disclosure on private properties. I've suggested to the Bieniek's that they contact the New Jersey Real Estate Commission for accurate information about state real estate laws and requirements.

Over the past three years either myself or members of my staff have met with local real estate agents on a number of occasions. The DOE Public Information Center is open to answer questions from the community. There are maps in the information center showing the location of all properties requiring cleanup. If the Thorium Coalition has any suggestions, in addition to our newsletters and informal meetings, that would help to get this important information out, then I'd be happy to discuss it with them. Please contact me at (615) 576-5724 if you would like to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan M. Cange".

Susan M. Cange, Site Manager
 Former Sites Restoration Division

cc: Mr. and Mrs. Bieniek