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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

March 27, 1995

Mr. Mike Pilsbury
NJDOT
114 Essex Street
Rochelle Park, New Jersey 07662

Dear Mr. Pilsbury:

MAYWOOD SITE - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PROPOSED WORK ADJACENT TO ROUTE 17

Thanks for calling the Department of Energy's Public Information Center regarding the proposed cable/conduit installation along Route 17 in Bergen County. I understand that you spoke with Wayne Scarbrough about the extent of contamination in the area and about prudent work routines therein.

This work scenario is similar to your agency's proposed work along Interstate 80 in areas contaminated with thorium-232, a radionuclide that presents a health hazard only if inhaled or ingested in large quantities. As with the I-80 work, the following practices are recommended in order to reduce worker exposure and to minimize contaminant movement.

- 1) Workers should wear protective gloves and boots, which should be cleaned of soil residue before leaving the site. This can be accomplished by either cleaning with a brush or by rinsing with a small amount of water.
- 2) Any excavated material should be used as backfill on the site. No soil should leave the property without contacting the U.S. Department of Energy or Bechtel National, Inc.
- 3) To minimize soil movement by air, excavated material should be kept covered (by a plastic tarp, for example) or wetted to minimize dust during inactive periods.

DOE representatives can provide a brief (1-2 hour) training session with an overview of the contaminant characteristics at the Route 17 property and can address any health hazards associated with the planned work. With enough notice, a health physics technician can be provided at the time of your work to advise the construction crews on the most efficient ways to reduce their exposure while working in the contaminated areas.

Please contact the Department of Energy's Public Information Center in Maywood at (201) 843-7466 if you have any further questions or if you decide that the training session or technician would be useful.

Sincerely,



David G. Adler, Site Manager
Former Sites Restoration Division