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m-500

Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP)

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

for Maywood, New Jersey



U.S. Department of Energy



JUL 6 8 33 AM '95

Agency for Toxic Substances
and Disease Registry
Atlanta GA 30333

JUN 23 1995

Mr. & Mrs. Sokol and Xhevrije Shala
108 Avenue E
Lodi, New Jersey 07644

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Shala:

As requested during our meeting on May 25, 1995, and in your letter dated May 28, 1995, we have evaluated the health risks associated with the level of radiological contamination in the soil around your home and have concluded that this level does not pose a health risk to you or your family.

M-057 Soil Contamination: The total calculated exposures were much less than the allowable level to the public of 100 millirem/year (or 1 millisievert/year) above background levels. For our evaluation, we used the contamination levels reported for your property in *Results of the Radiological Survey at 108 Avenue E, Lodi, New Jersey (LJ084)*, dated June 1989, and *Remedial Investigation Report for the Maywood Site, New Jersey, Volumes I and IV*, dated October 1992. We calculated total exposure levels for different age groups. Our analysis focused on thorium-232, because it is the main radiological contaminant reported in the area above clean-up levels (5 picocuries/gram). However, to be as cautious as possible, we also included in our calculations reported levels of radium-226, uranium-238, and thorium-232 decay products including background levels. In addition, we assumed a fairly high level of exposure (for example, we assumed ten-year-old children played outside eight hours a day, six days a week, for 26 weeks a year, and assumed they inhaled dust outside and inside the house all year.)

The total potential doses for each age group from exposure to contaminated soil and household dust through swallowing, breathing and external exposure were as follows: children at 2 ½ years old, children approximately 10 years old, and adults - all less than 10 millirem/year (or 0.1 millisievert/year).

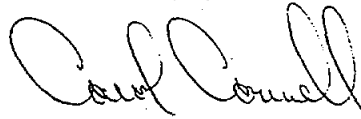
We know that DOE has committed to cleaning-up your property and is in the process of recharacterizing the contamination levels. However, we can reassure you that during this time

Page 2 - Sokol and Xhevrije Shala

before the clean-up, you and your family are not being exposed to radiation at levels that pose a health threat.

Enclosed are copies of the reports that you had mailed to us with your letter. These two reports described the extent of surface contamination in your backyard a little differently. After looking at the results reported in the Appendix E tables (copies enclosed), it appears that the contamination probably exists only on the surface in two or three discrete locations (as described in the 1989 report) and the concentrations found are very close to the clean-up levels for thorium-232 and radium-226 (5 picocuries/gram of soil for both). If new data become available, we will be glad to re-evaluate your concerns. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (404) 639-6060.

Sincerely yours,



Carol Connell
Health Physicist
Energy Section B
Federal Facilities Assessment Branch
Division of Health Assessment
and Consultation

Enclosure See Administrative Record Documents # M-057 and M-209

cc:

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