

PA.2-5

CERTIFICATION DOCKET

ROHM & HAAS COMPANY
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

Department of Energy
Office of Nuclear Energy
Office of Terminal Waste Disposal and Remedial Action
Division of Remedial Action Projects

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INTRODUCTION TO CERTIFICATION DOCKET
ROHM & HAAS COMPANY
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

INTRODUCTION

The Department of Energy (DOE), Office of Nuclear Energy, Office of Terminal Waste Disposal and Remedial Action Projects has reviewed the past activities of the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) at the Rohm & Haas Company, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Based on a preliminary radiological survey of the site, DOE has determined that the conditions at this site are in compliance with current radiological guidelines and standards¹ and that no potential for radiological exposure to persons exists beyond those resulting from natural background. Therefore, this site requires no remedial action and is not being considered for inclusion in the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program.

Purpose

The material in this docket consists of documents supporting the certification that the radiological conditions at the Rohm & Haas Company site are in compliance with current radiological guidelines and standards determined to apply to this site and provides assurance that use of this area will not result in any measurable radiological hazard to the general public.

¹ U.S. Department of Energy Interim Residual Contamination and Waste Control Guidelines for Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP) and Remote Surplus Facilities Management Program (SFMP) Sites, March 21, 1984.

The certification docket is to be archived by the Department of Energy through the Assistant Secretary for Management and Administration. Copies of this certification docket will be maintained by the Department at the DOE Reading Room in Washington, D.C., so that it will be accessible to members of the general public.

Docket Contents

A brief summary of the site description, history, and activities of AEC are discussed in Exhibit I of the certification package.

Exhibit II of the certification docket contains copies of reports and correspondence supporting certification, a copy of the certification statement, and a copy of the Federal Register notice.

EXHIBIT I

Summary of Activities at the Rohm & Haas Company Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

SITE HISTORY

Rohm & Haas Company performed research and development on methods for analyzing and processing uranium ores under Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) Contract AT-(49-1)-535. The facility was operated in the early 1950s.

The plant is owned and operated by Rohm & Haas Company.

SITE DESCRIPTION

The plant is located at 5000 Richmond Street, Philadelphia. The portions of the facility used under the AEC contract included an area of Building 60 (research area) for laboratory scale work and Building 49c semiworks area or pilot process area. The two rooms in Building 60 used for the AEC work are still used as laboratories and remain very much as they were at the time of the project, except for the removal of equipment in 1968 (disposition unknown). The semiworks area of Building 49c is now used primarily for storage.

RADIOLOGICAL HISTORY AND STATUS

Oak Ridge Operations Office and Oak Ridge National Laboratory personnel visited the site on December 1, 1977, and surveyed Rooms 22 and 24, a wing of Building 60, and the semiworks area of Building

49c. Gamma-ray exposure-rate measurements ranged from 6 to 8 microroentgens/hour (essentially background). Direct measurements of alpha radiation were at background levels, and the maximum beta-gamma dose rate was far below the Nuclear Regulatory Commission guideline value.² Oak Ridge National Laboratory recommended that no remedial action is indicated.

² "Guidelines for Decontamination of Facilities and Equipment prior to Release for Unrestricted Use or Termination of Licenses for Byproduct, Source, or Special Nuclear Material," U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, November 1976.

EXHIBIT II

Documents Supporting the Certification of the Rohm & Haas Company Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

- o Thornton, W.T. to R. Bjuvik (sic), "Radiological Status of Former Atomic Energy Commission Contract Facilities," November 16, 1977.
- o Mott, W.E. to R. Bjuvik (sic),--Relates to summaries of sites formerly used by MED/AEC, March 13, 1979.
- o Djuvik, R.H. (Rohm & Haas) to W.E. Mott (DOE),--Relates to summaries of sites formerly used by MED/AEC, March 19, 1979.
- o Mott, W.E. to R. Bjuvik (sic) (Rohm & Haas Company), --Enclosed preliminary radiological survey report of the Rohm & Haas Company Site, May 5, 1980.



K. Wickham
↓
C. Brown
↓
RWD

Department of Energy
Oak Ridge Operations
P.O. Box E
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830

November 16, 1977

Mr. Roy Bjuvik, Plant Manager
Rohm and Haas Company
5000 Richmond Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19137

Dear Mr. Bjuvik:

Subject: RADIOLOGICAL STATUS OF FORMER ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION
CONTRACT FACILITIES

This will confirm our discussions arranging for Department of Energy representatives to visit facilities at 5000 Richmond Street, Philadelphia, Pa., which were utilized in the early 1950's by Rohm and Haas for work under Contract AT-(49-1)-535 with the AEC. The Department of Energy has underway a nationwide site reassessment program and this visit will assist us in evaluating the adequacy of existing radiation records and determining the need for additional surveys so the Department and the Company can be assured that conditions resulting from AEC contract operations do not exist which would be contrary to current guidelines for radiation control.

C. Brown will handle

Contract activities included research and development on analysis and processing of various uranium ores. Should these facilities no longer exist, it is hoped that the areas involved can be located so that appropriate radiation measurements can be made.

Mr. F. F. Haywood of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory and I plan to arrive December 1 at 9 AM and will contact you upon arrival. If there are any questions about this matter, please call me at (615) 483-8611, Extension 3-4175.

Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

W. T. Thornton
Environmental Protection Branch
Safety & Environmental Control Division

OSE:WTT



Department of Energy
Washington, D.C. 20545

MAR 13 1979

PLANT MANAGEMENT		
Action: <u>F</u> <u>T</u> <u>D</u> <u>X</u>		
MAR 16 1979		
DJB	DE	WJM
PPB	BC	JLP
WDC	TI	PDR
RHD	WJL	WCS
DKE	KHM	HCS

Mr. Roy Bjuvik, Plant Manager
Rohm & Haas Company
5000 Richmond Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19137

Dear Mr. Bjuvik:

As you may know, the Department of Energy (DOE) is involved in a program to characterize the radiological condition of sites formerly used by the Manhattan Engineer District (MED) and/or Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) in the development of nuclear energy. As part of this program, DOE is preparing a series of brief summaries of the history of the MED/AEC related activities and conditions at the specific sites. The summaries are to document the activities from the initiation of a contract with MED/AEC to the termination of the final MED/AEC contract. The historical summaries also briefly describe the current condition of each site.

Enclosed is a copy of a preliminary summary describing work conducted at a portion of your facility for the AEC. DOE is still in the process of reviewing MED/AEC operations records in order to obtain all available information. The enclosed draft is based upon data collected to date and is submitted to you so that your review and comment can be received in a timely manner.

The second enclosure lists the specific information that should ideally be included in the attached site summaries. As you can see, a portion of the information has not yet been identified. I would appreciate receiving any supplemental information you can supply that might fill in some of the incomplete areas. I would also like to solicit any additional information regarding other facilities involved in the feed materials program of MED/AEC.

Sincerely,

William E. Mott, Acting Director
Environmental Control Technology
Division

Enclosures:
As stated

Site Function

This facility was utilized in the early 1950s for research and development of analyses and processing methods for uranium ores under AEC contract AT-(49-1)-535. (Refs. 1 and 4)

Site Description

The plant is located at 5000 Richmond Street, Philadelphia. The portions of the facility utilized under AEC contract included an area of Building 60 (research area) for laboratory scale work and Building 496 semiworks area or pilot process area. (Ref. 1)

Owner History

The plant is owned and operated by Rohm & Haas Company. (Ref. 4)

Radiological History and Status

The site was visited by Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) personnel on December 1, 1977. No documentation is available on the results of the visit; however, ORNL field notes indicate two rooms of A wing Building 60 (rooms 22 and 24) and Building 496 semiworks area were surveyed. The gamma measurements ranged from 6 to 8 microrentgens/meter; beta-gamma measurements are all well below guidelines used in other surveys. ORNL is preparing a letter report documenting the site visit and recommending no further survey work be planned for this site. (Refs. 2 and 3)

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Category and Status

No remedial action is required. ORNL must prepare a letter report and the Division of Environmental Control Technology must make formal notification of the site condition.

References

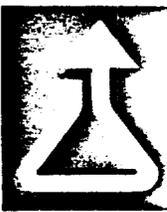
1. "Summary of Available Data on Specified Division of Raw Materials Contractors," from the files of R. Allen (Environmental Control Technology), author and date unknown.
2. Exhibit 1 to Letter, "Transmittal of Survey on Formerly Utilized MED/AEC Sites," The Aerospace Corporation (Germantown, Maryland) to W.E. Mott (Environmental Control Technology), April 6, 1978.

3. ORNL Field Notes from visit to Rohm & Haas Company, December 1, 1977.
4. Letter, "Site Visit," W.T. Thornton (Oak Ridge Operations) to R. Bjuvik (Rohm & Haas Co.), November 16, 1977.

ROHM AND HAAS DELAWARE VALLEY INC.

P.O. BOX 219, BRISTOL, PA. 19007
(215) 785-8000

Allen Ramsey
Response



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2.26.2

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March 19, 1979

Department of Energy
Washington, D. C. 20545

Attention: Mr. William E. Mott, Acting Director
Environmental Control Technology Division

Gentlemen:

We have reviewed the draft of the data describing our Philadelphia Plant site which was reviewed by Oak Ridge National Laboratory personnel on December 1, 1977. The information appears to be correct, except as noted on the draft.

As for the details requested in the attached "site summaries," we can offer no additional information than what already has been provided to you. These facilities have not been used for uranium studies since the early 1950's. Further, the ORNL measurements of the area indicate no problems exist and that no further study is indicated.

Please let us know if we can be of assistance.

Very truly yours,

R. H. Djuvik
R. H. Djuvik

/mpf

- Encl. (1) Letter, Mott to Djuvik, 3/13/79
- (2) Letter, Thornton to Djuvik, 11/11/77



Department of Energy
Washington, D.C. 20545

MAY 5 1980

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Mr. Roy Bjuvik
Plant Manager
Rohm and Haas Company
5000 Richmond Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19137

Dear Mr. Bjuvik:

I am enclosing for your review a copy of a preliminary radiological survey report of your facility located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. I will appreciate receiving your comments at an early date, if possible by May 19, 1980.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William E. Mott".

William E. Mott, Director
Environmental Control
Technology Division
Office of Environment

Enclosure

2.26.2

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ROHM AND HAAS COMPANY
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

At the request of the Department of Energy, a preliminary survey was performed at the Rohm and Haas Company plant in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on December 1, 1977, to assess the radiological status of those facilities utilized under AEC Contract AT(49-1)-535 (the contract was destroyed at some point between 1955 and 1977) during the period 1947 through 1955. Roy Bjwik, Plant Manager, provided information about the project and identified other company representatives who also provided useful information and indicated areas involved in the project. Contract activities included research and development related to analyzing and processing of various uranium ores.

From information obtained in discussions with company representatives, the facilities involved in the project were Building 60, A-wing, Rooms 22 and 24, and a part of Building 49C semiworks area (see Figs. 1 and 2).

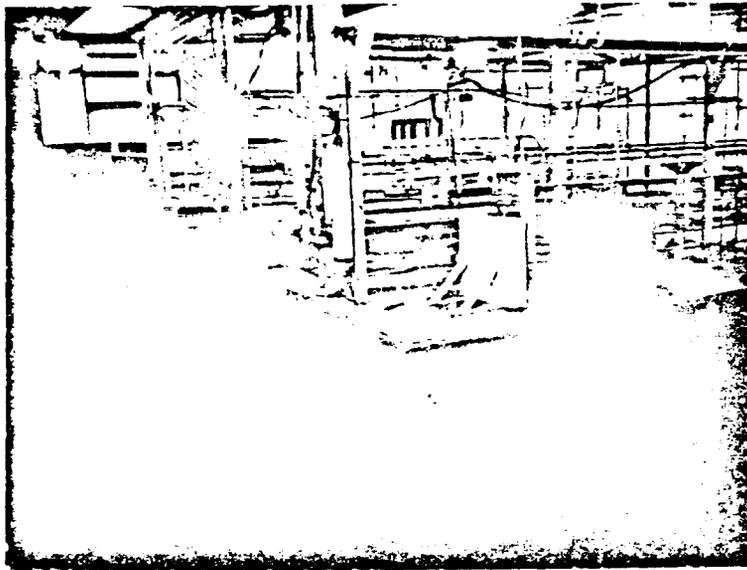
Present Use of Facilities

Rooms 22 and 24, A-Wing, Building 60 are laboratories which remain very much as they were at the time of the project, except for the removal of equipment in 1968. The portion of Building 49C which was involved is currently used primarily for storage. No information is currently available as to the radiological status of these facilities at the time the project ended.

Results of Preliminary Survey

The preliminary survey was conducted by H. W. Dickson of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory and W. T. Thornton of the DOE/Oak Ridge Operations Office. A general survey of each of the three areas involved was performed. The survey consisted of gamma-ray measurements made at a height of 1 m above surfaces and direct measurements of alpha radiation on surface. Additionally, open-window (beta-gamma) G-M survey meter readings were taken at 1 cm above the surface at corresponding locations.

The maximum gamma-ray exposure rate at 1 m height for either of the three areas was 8 μ R/hr. The maximum beta-gamma reading at 1 cm from the surface at corresponding locations was 0.06 mrad/hr. All direct measurements of alpha radiation were at background levels.



Building 60 A-Wing Room 22



Building 60 A-Wing Room 24

Fig. 1. Views of laboratories on
A-Wing, Building 60

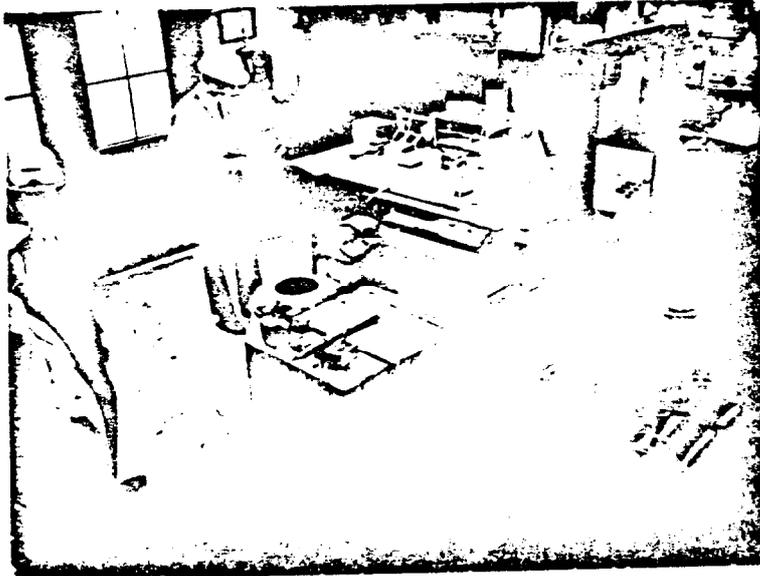


Fig. 2. View of semiworks area in
part of Building 49C