

## Internal Letter



Rockwell International

Date • October 2, 1987

No. • DB 32.15

TO (Name, Organization, Internal Address)

FROM (Name, Organization, Internal Address, Phone)

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SUBJECT • TELEPHONE CONVERSATIONS WITH DON KUDERA OF IDAHO EG&amp;G COMPANY

John Handschy of Industrial Hygiene approached me concerning a telephone conversation he had with a Don Kudera of Idaho EG&G Company on September 29, 1987. Mr. Kudera was interested in information on our drilling program and in particular the 881 Hillside. Mr. Handschy contacted me and asked if I would talk to Mr. Kudera.

Mr. Kudera informed me that 6 parts per million (ppm) carbon tetrachloride had been analyzed in a sample of water from a well completed below a burial unit located at the EG&G Disposal Facility in Idaho containing waste from the Rocky Flats Plant. The water sample was taken from an aquifer located 600 feet deep in a "permeable basalt" beneath a lithology consisting of basalt, sedimentary units, layered (interbedded) sedimentary and basalts, and then the "permeable basalt."

I asked if there was a possibility of cross-contamination during sampling and he said that they are resampling and checking the sampling analysis. He also said that they had found plutonium at 110 feet, not in an aquifer, but below the same waste unit.

Evidently they are drilling test holes because he said that they encountered carbon tetrachloride at high enough levels to warrant use of respirators. He then asked me what type of protective clothing and equipment we were using on our drilling program. I explained that we are drilling in RCRA defined Level B using Saranex protective clothing and supplied air. I explained that the use of respirators with chemical filters would be sufficient, but that the supplied air was being used because it is cooler when the ambient air temperature is hot.

He then asked me about the 881 Hillside, having "heard about it on a news report." He told me he used to work at Rocky Flats and knew where the 881 Hillside was, but did not know that there was plutonium or other wastes buried there.

I told him that we had completed a drilling program in the 881 Hillside area recently and issued a report to the EPA and the Colorado Department of Health. He then asked if I would send him a copy of the 881 Hillside report. I told him I would talk to my management and let him know.



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Mr. Kudera called again on September 30, 1987, and said he had talked to "people" at Lawrence Livermore in California and that they had "similar problems." He asked again about the 881 Hillside and what types of wastes were buried there. I explained that we suspected laboratory wastes were dumped there probably in the 1950's and possibly 1960's. I explained that we are sampling soil, water, and vapors during drilling. I confirmed, when asked, that we were drilling in Saranex protective clothing and supplied air. He once again asked for a copy of the 881 Hillside Report.

*Cindy*

Cindy L. Sundblad  
Environmental Management