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**Department of Energy
Washington, D.C. 20545**

FEB 27 1985

Mr. Harold Snyder
Chief, Discovery and Investigations Branch
Hazardous Site Control Division
Administration for Solid Waste and
Emergency Response
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
401 M Street, S. W.
Washington, D. C. 20460

Dear Mr. Snyder:

The Department of Energy (DOE) has conducted a radiological survey at the Olin Corporation, Chemicals Group (The former Blockson Chemical Company), Joliet, Illinois. This survey indicated that levels of residual radioactive material and associated radiation levels at the site are in excess of those used by DOE to determine if a site requires remedial action. The data did not indicate that, under the current use of the site, there was any hazard to the workers or the general public. However, changes in site use or modifications to the facility could possibly result in increased exposure to workers at the site. The owner has received a copy of the final survey report and is aware of the survey results.

A review of contract records, the final radiological survey report, and historical documents by DOE has determined that the Department does not have authority under the Atomic Energy Act to conduct remedial action at this site. Therefore, in accordance with DOE policy, we are notifying you (Environmental Protection Agency) and, by a separate letter, the State of Illinois of these findings so that the Environmental Protection Agency and/or the State of Illinois can take appropriate action to assess and resolve any problems associated with this site.

Enclosed please find a summary (enclosure 1) which describes (1) the operations conducted at the site that led to the contamination, (2) our findings with regard to authority for remedial action and, (3) the radiological condition of the site. Also enclosed is a copy of the final radiological survey report for the site (enclosure 2).

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Whitman*
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DeLaney*

Please contact Mr. Arthur Whitman (301-353-5439) regarding any questions on the enclosed material or if the Department can be of assistance in providing additional information on the Olin Corporation facility.

Sincerely,

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Baublitz
2/27/85

John E. Baublitz, Director
Division of Remedial Action Projects
Office of Terminal Waste Disposal
and Remedial Action

2 Enclosures

cc w/enclosures
Terry R. Lash, Illinois Department
of Nuclear Safety

James Frank, Illinois Environmental
Protection Agency

William Constantelos, Region V
Environmental Protection Agency

Raymond Starnal, Olin Chemicals

bcc w/o/enclosures
V. DeCarlo, PE-243
C. Welty, PE-243
S. Miller, GC-11
E. Keller, OR
S. Lichtman, EPA
R. Guemond, EPA
A. Whitman, NE-24
W. Voigt, NE-20
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Subject
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