

NY.56-1

William
Department of Energy

United States Government

memorandum

FUSRAP 8222
NY.56

DATE: FEB 15 1991
REPLY TO: EM-421
ATTN OF:
SUBJECT: Elimination of the Buflovak Company Site from FUSRAP

TO: The File

I have reviewed the attached preliminary site summary and recommendation for the Buflovak Company site in Buffalo, New York. I have determined that there is little likelihood of contamination at this site.

Based on the above, the Buflovak Company site is hereby eliminated from further consideration under the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program.



W. Alexander Williams
Designation and Certification Manager
Off-Site Branch
Division of Eastern Area Programs
Office of Environmental Restoration

Attachment

bcc:
Weston
EM-40 (3)
EM-42 (2)
Williams reader

EM-421:AWilliams:jh:353-8149:1/30/91:elim.buf

EM-421 *WAC*
Williams
1/31/91
[Signature]
EM-421
Wagoner
2/14/91

OTS NOTE

DATE: February 5, 1991
TO: Alexander Williams
FROM: Dan Stout *DS*
SUBJECT: Buflovak Company Site Investigation

Attached is a draft site summary for the Buflovak Equipment Company in Buffalo, New York.

Buflovak appears to have participated in raffinate denitration experiments. Available records indicate only test quantities of material were handled, and the site was decontaminated in 1955. Since the type of operations were unlikely to result in dispersion of radioactive material, I recommend the site be eliminated from FUSRAP.

cc: C. Young
E. Mitchell
file FUSRAP NY.56

Draft Site Summary

Buflovak Equipment Company
1543 Fillmore Avenue
Buffalo, New York

Site Function

The Buflovak Equipment Company was a division of Blaw-Knox and manufactured food and chemical processing equipment. Only two records exist that directly cite Buflovak. A September 1951 Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) weekly report mentions pilot scale evaporation tests on combined raffinate. The report notes that the raffinate will be fed to the spray calciners, so the raffinate tested was probably aqueous uranyl nitrate, typically concentrated from 100 g/l uranium to 1200 g/l. The second reference to Buflovak is an August 1955 trip report by a National Lead of Ohio (NLO) employee. The report discusses test operations with raffinate slurry to evaporate water and nitric acid from metal nitrates. Decontamination of equipment and the facility to twice background is documented also.

A contract for Buflovak has not been located. An NLO summary of all 1950-1953 research and development contracts lists a contract with Blaw-Knox for "design and testing of improved denitration equipment." As of March 1954, payments had totalled \$15,972. In December 1955, NLO purchased processing equipment from Buflovak (Purchase Order NO. C-154).

Site Description

An on-site visit has not been conducted by the Department of Energy. Historical directories list the Fillmore Avenue address for Buflovak. Current directories list the site as Blaw-Knox's shipping and receiving department; presumably it is a warehouse. A map showing the general location is attached.

Owner History

The Blaw-Knox company owned and still owns the site.

Radiological History and Status

The site was decontaminated by NLO in August 1955. The decontamination report principally addresses the test equipment; there are no indications that the general building required clean-up. The report does note that the raffinate was very soluble in water and that the entire area was hosed down to ensure cleanliness.

Although site operations may have lasted for five years, there is no evidence that anything other than test quantities of uranium raffinate were processed. Further, unlike machining, operations should not have dispersed appreciable quantities of uranium. Thus it is very unlikely that residual radioactive material remains.

