Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP)

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

for Maywood, New Jersey



U.S. Department of Energy



Department of Energy

Oak Ridge Operations P.O. Box 2001 Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831—8723

October 20, 1994

Ms. Frances Bilan 746 Spring Valley Road Maywood, New Jersey 07607

Dear Ms. Bilan:

MAYWOOD SITE - RADIOLOGICAL SURVEY OF PROPERTY AT 746 SPRING VALLEY ROAD

Recently, you requested a survey of your property at 746 Spring Valley Road. The following discussion explains the surveys that have been conducted in the Maywood/Lodi area. Given the extensive surveying that has been performed in this area, the Department of Energy believes that the property in question is free of radiological contamination and, therefore, additional surveying is not necessary.

In general, three types of surveys have been completed in the Maywood/Lodi area: an aerial survey, a mobile gamma radiation scan, and detailed property surveys, some of which included soil sample collection and analysis. An aerial survey, which utilized sensitive radiation detection instrumentation mounted in an airplane, was conducted in the Maywood/Lodi area in January 1981. The purpose of the survey was to determine the location of elevated levels of radiation over a wide geographic area and thereby identify properties that warranted further investigation. The aerial survey in this area covered approximately four square miles, including Spring Valley Road, and indicated that further investigative work on Spring Valley Road was not believed to be necessary.

The mobile gamma scan survey, performed in June 1984, utilized radiation detection instrumentation mounted in a van. By using the van, this type of survey is capable of detecting small amounts of radiation while still covering a large geographic area. The purpose of the mobile scanning van survey was to further investigate areas based on either historic knowledge or the results of the aerial survey. Spring Valley Road was not included in the mobile van survey because there was no indication of contamination from the aerial survey nor was there any historical information that would indicate that further investigation was necessary. However, streets near Spring Valley Road were investigated including West Spring Valley Avenue, East Passaic Street, Wyoming Avenue, and Roosevelt Place. Contamination was not identified in any of these areas.

The thorium contamination that is present in the Maywood/Lodi area is the result of past manufacturing processes which were located on the property that is now owned by the Stepan Company. The vicinity properties that have been

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contaminated are largely a result of the southwardly-flowing Lodi Brook. Your property is north of this area and, as such, was not in the path of contaminant migration. Other vicinity properties were contaminated by the use of backfill and mulch taken from the former processing plant.

I hope that this letter addresses your questions. If there is anything else that I can do for you, please call me at (615) 576-5724 or contact Ms. Lee Woods at the Maywood Public Information Center at (201) 843-7466.

Sincerely,

Susan M. Cange, Site Manager

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Former Sites Restoration Division