



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

April 12, 2017

David Bender
BPS Realty LLP
145 Cherry Street
Waterbury, CT 06702

SUBJECT: BENRUS CLOCK COMPANY—RESULTS OF INITIAL SITE VISIT AND
REQUEST FOR CONFIRMATION OF VOLUNTARY CONTROLS

Dear Mr. Bender:

I am writing to provide you with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) results of its November 7-8, 2016, initial site visit to your property at 145 Cherry Avenue, Waterbury, Connecticut. The results are summarized below and are discussed in further detail in the enclosed report.

During NRC staff's initial site visit, the staff conducted radiation surveys over approximately 50 percent of the accessible area. The surveys focused on potentially contaminated areas identified in historic surveys. Our ability to access and survey the site was limited because significant portions of the site were being used for storage. In areas where we identified elevated radiation levels, we conducted additional measurements to test for removeable contamination.

As we discussed during our visit, the NRC staff found some of the exposure rate measurements on the seventh floor of your building to be in excess of the 40 microrem per hour threshold established in the NRC's Temporary Instruction 2800/043 (ADAMS Accession Number ML16035A053). These measurements indicate that, with conservative assumptions, a member of the public regularly working in these areas could receive an annual dose in excess of NRC's public dose limit of 100 mrem/yr (10 CFR 20.1301). The NRC's survey results confirm the results collected in previous independent surveys performed at your site.

Our survey of your site does not constitute characterization of the site; additional work is necessary to determine the extent of contamination and the cleanup required to meet NRC's unrestricted use limit of 25 mrem/yr (10 CFR 20.1402). Please be aware that remediation activities pursued at your site may also implicate State requirements and standards.

As the NRC inspector discussed at the end of the site visit, you agreed to maintain the limited access to the areas identified with sources of radium that exceeded the threshold of 40 microrem per hour noted above. The areas with discrete sources of radium that exceed NRC's action level of 40 microrem per hour are primarily along the North Wall on the seventh floor of your building. It is NRC's understanding that, in general, access to floors 2-7 is limited to the retrieval of stored items only. The NRC staff concludes that there are no immediate health and safety concerns at this site, provided these voluntary controls remain in effect. **Please respond to this letter within 30 business days confirming the controls already in place, detailing any additional controls you plan to put into place, and planned communications you will make to your employees.**

Also, we understand that you plan to vacate the building in 2017. Please provide us with additional information regarding your plans for the site, including potential future uses. Further, because additional radium contamination may be uncovered when unsurveyed areas of the building are accessed, please discuss what controls you will implement to ensure that transferrable contamination is not spread while vacating the building, and your estimated schedule for the move. It is recommended that you consider hiring a service provider licensed by the NRC (or NRC Agreement State) to guide you on next steps.

As previously discussed, site cleanup is the responsibility of the site owner. The NRC is currently evaluating a number of policy issues associated with the remediation of non-military sites contaminated with radium. We will be in further contact with you as decisions on these matters are reached by the Commission.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Agency Rules of Practice and Procedure," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>

We will be contacting you in the near future to answer any questions you may have regarding this letter. Additionally, you may also contact Mr. Theodore Smith, Acting Chief, Materials Decommissioning Branch, Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery and Waste Programs, Office of Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards, at (301) 415-6721 or Mr. Richard Chang, Project Manager, at (301) 415-5888.

Sincerely,

/RA Andrea Kock Acting for/

John R. Tappert, Director
Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery
and Waste Programs
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No.: 03038943

Enclosure: Site Visit Report

REGISTERED LETTER – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

SUBJECT: BENRUS CLOCK COMPANY—RESULTS OF INITIAL SITE VISIT AND REQUEST
FOR CONFIRMATION OF VOLUNTARY CONTROLS

DOCUMENT DATE: April 12, 2017

DISTRIBUTION:

RidsRgn1MailCenter

R. Powell, RI

T. Jackson, RI

R. Chang, NMSS

ADAMS Accession No.: ML16356A412

OFFICE	DUWP	DUWP	DUWP/LA	DUWP	DUWP	RI/DNMS
NAME	RChang	DMisenhimer	CHolston	ASchwartzman	GChapman	OBailey
DATE	1/6/17	1/6/17	1/18/16	1/24/17	1/24/17	2/9/17
OFFICE	RI/DNMS	DUWP	OGC (NLO)	DUWP		
NAME	RPowell	TSmith	OMikula	JTappert		
DATE	2/9/17	2/28/17	2/27/17	4/12/17		

OFFICIAL RECORD COPY