

**Enclosure**

**OAK RIDGE ASSOCIATED UNIVERSITIES:  
SITE STATUS REPORT FOR THE FORMER BRYANT ELECTRIC COMPANY AT  
1365 STATE STREET, BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT**

**SEPTEMBER 18, 2017**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) requested that Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU) perform a radiation survey of the property at 1365 State Street in Bridgeport, Connecticut. This property covers part of the footprint once occupied by the former Bryant Electric Company, which manufactured luminous radium switches in the 1920s. Manufacturing ceased in 1988 and the original factory was demolished in 1996, but soil from the site may be contaminated with radium. The objective of this survey was to locate possible discrete sources of radium, if any, that would be associated with former Bryant Electric Company operations.

ORAU performed the radiation survey on June 22, 2017, and did not identify elevated levels of radiation. Because no elevated levels of radiation were identified, ORAU concludes that discrete sources of radium were not present in surface soils. Based on these results, it is recommended that the NRC not pursue additional action at the 1365 State Street property.

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## SITE STATUS REPORT

Property: Former Bryant Electric Company-2  
1365 State Street  
Bridgeport, CT 06605

Docket Number: 03038948

Current Property Name(s): Chaves Bakery II Inc.

Current Property Owner(s): Chaves Bakery II Inc. C/O Bill Gouveia

Inspection Dates: June 22, 2017

Inspector(s): Laurie Kauffman and Todd Jackson/U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), supported by Kaitlin Engel and Stephen Pittman/Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU)

### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Energy Policy Act of 2005 amended section 11e.(3) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 to place discrete sources of radium-226 (Ra-226) under NRC regulatory authority as byproduct material. The 1365 State Street location in Bridgeport, Connecticut was identified as part of the former Bryant Electric Company property. Bryant Electric Company was a manufacturing facility for electronic devices, which operated from 1888 to 1988 (EPA 2008) and produced luminous radium switches in the 1920s (McGraw-Hill 1922). The objectives of the initial site visit were to determine if discrete sources of Ra-226 and/or distributed Ra-226 contamination are present, to identify the areas of highest contamination, to determine if there are any current health and safety concerns, and to determine if a scoping survey is needed.

Data collected during the initial site visit are used to plan future actions that may be needed to reduce the exposure of Ra-226 to current or future site occupants to levels that do not exceed the applicable regulatory requirement. It is important to note that destructive testing is not generally performed as described within NRC's procedures, Temporary Instruction 2800/043, Revision 1, "Inspection of Facilities Potentially Contaminated with Discrete Radium-226 Sources" (NRC 2017) (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System [ADAMS] Accession number ML16330A678).

### 2.0 PROPERTY DESCRIPTION AND INITIAL SITE VISIT CONSIDERATIONS

#### 2.1 Property Description and History

The Bryant Electric Company was established in 1888 as a 500,000-square-foot manufacturing facility for electronic devices until operations ceased in 1988 (ORNL 2015). A connection to radium was found from a 1922 advertisement in the *Electrical Merchandising* monthly magazine (McGraw-Hill 1922), which listed Bryant Electric Company as a producer of (radium) luminous flush-type switches. Bryant Electric Company ceased operations in 1988, and the original buildings (pictured in Figure 1) remained unoccupied until being demolished in 1996 (EPA 2008,

ORNL 2015). Currently, three buildings occupy the former Bryant Electric Company property (Figure 2).

Chaves Bakery currently owns 2.4 acres of the former Bryant Electric Company property at 1365 State Street and has re-developed the area, which now includes a large building, asphalt parking lots, and grassy areas (as seen in Figure 3). Although the original building was demolished, radium contamination from prior luminous switch production may still be present in property soils. An extensive internet search of public records did not reveal any information about radium cleanup of the facility, if present (ORNL 2015).

The site summary included in the *Historical Non-Military Radium Sites Research Effort Addendum* report (ORNL 2015) provides known site details about the type, form, history, potential locations, and other information related to discrete sources of Ra-226 used at the site.

## 2.2 Initial Site Visit Considerations

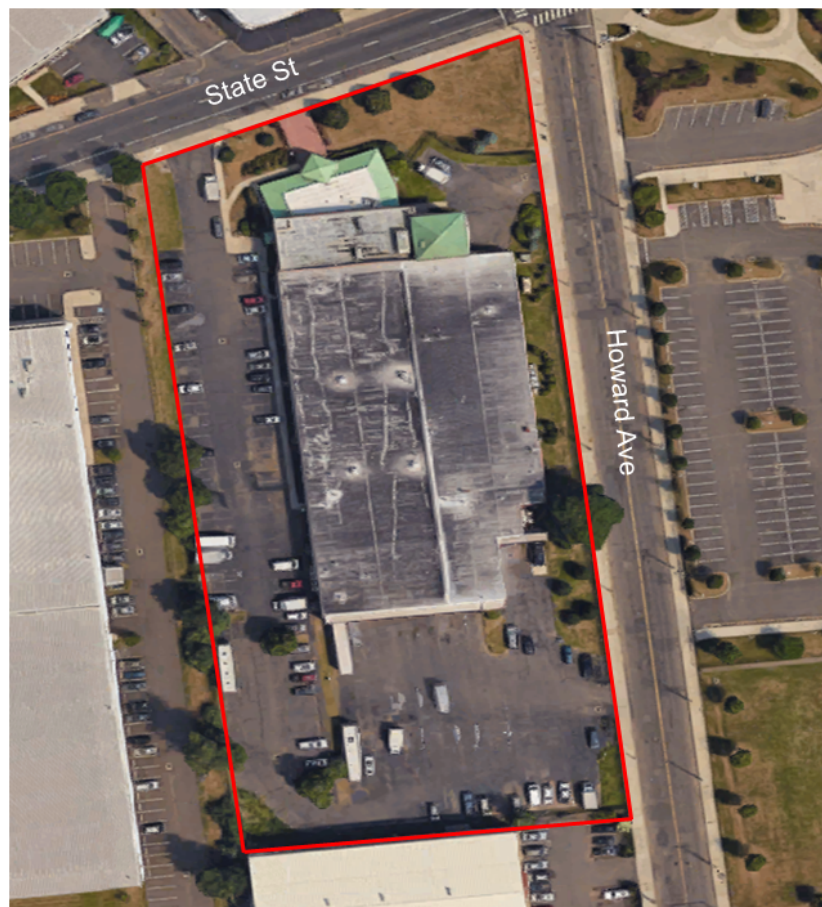
Prior to commencing survey activities, the land area was examined for consistency with historical information and to identify impediments to conducting the survey and/or health and safety considerations. No health or safety concerns were identified, and the inspection team had full access to the property outside the building, except for a few areas in the southern parking lot blocked by large delivery trucks.



**Figure 1. Photos of Former Bryant Electric Company Structures Prior to Demolition in 1996 (ORNL 2015)**



**Figure 2. Footprint of Former Bryant Electric Company (Building 2 is 1365 State Street.) (ORNL 2015)**



**Figure 3. Aerial View of 1365 State Street (Google Maps, June 2017)**

### 3.0 SITE OBSERVATIONS AND FINDINGS

#### 3.1 Summary of Activities

The inspection team conducted an initial site visit at the 1365 State Street property on June 22, 2017. A pre-inspection meeting was held with Kaitlin Engel and Stephen Pittman (ORAU), Laurie Kauffman and Todd Jackson (NRC), and Scott Appleby (Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection). Participants discussed the inspection team's intention to perform general land area surveys around the property.

Radiological surveys performed by the inspection team consisted of gamma radiation scans using a Ludlum model 44-10 2-inch by 2-inch (2×2) sodium iodide detector connected to a Ludlum model 2221 ratemeter/scaler and radiation exposure rate measurements using a Ludlum model 192 NaI-based microRoentgen ( $\mu$ R) ratemeter<sup>1</sup>. Table 1 presents the specific instruments used during the site visit.

Table 1. Bryant Electric Survey Instruments			
Radiation Type (units)	Detector Type	Detector Model (Number)	Ratemeter (Number)
Gross gamma (cpm)	Sodium Iodide	44-10 (639) Calibrated 04/13/2017	2221 (395) Calibrated 04/11/2017
		44-10 (1151) Calibrated 04/13/2017	2221 (505) Calibrated 03/16/2017
Gross gamma ( $\mu$ R/h)	Exposure Meter	192 (1127, 1128) Calibrated 06/02/2017	N/A

N/A = not applicable

Number = ORAU equipment barcode

cpm = counts per minute

$\mu$ R/h = microRoentgen per hour

The inspection team arrived at the property at 1340 and began surveying the land area around the building. Surveyed areas consisted of mostly asphalt parking lots with some grassy areas to the north, east, and south of the building. The inspection team used 2×2 sodium iodide detectors connected to global positioning system (GPS) equipment and model 192 exposure ratemeters to acquire gamma radiation data. Approximately 50 percent of accessible land area was surveyed. No discrete locations of elevated response were identified during the survey. The inspection team departed the site at 1500. Photographs taken during the initial site visit are presented in Appendix A.

<sup>1</sup> NOTE: Roentgen is a unit of exposure (energy absorbed in air), whereas a rem is a unit of dose delivered to a person (resulting from the radiation energy absorbed in that person). While Roentgen and rem are related, these are different units. Because they are similar for gamma ray energies from Ra-226, NRC makes the simplifying assumption in this case that these units are equivalent (1 Roentgen = 1 rem).

### 3.2 Summary of Results

In general, detector responses were lowest over parking lot areas and highest close to the building (redbrick, concrete, etc.). These results are not unexpected given the differences in naturally occurring radioactive materials (NORM) associated with these media. Table 2 presents summary statistics of survey data collected during the initial site visit. For the 2x2 sodium iodide detector survey, the mean was close to the median; there were no anomalies; and over 99 percent of the data points fell within three standard deviations of the mean. Likewise, model 192 exposure rate data demonstrated similar statistical characteristics with over 97 percent of the data points falling within three standard deviations of the mean. These results are consistent with survey data from an un-impacted (background) property. Gamma radiation measurements using the 2x2 sodium iodide detectors, and exposure rate data using the model 192 ratemeters, are mapped in Appendix B.

<b>Table 2. Radiation Measurement Summary Statistics</b>							
<b>Detector</b>	<b>No. of Meas.</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Min. Value</b>	<b>Max. Value</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Median</b>	<b>St. Dev.</b>
2x2	9,905	cpm	3,613	14,893	8,112	7,938	1,327
Exposure Rate Meter	99	µR/h	6.0	11.0	7.6	8.0	1.1

### 3.3 Summary of Dose Assessment Results

To date, a site-specific dose assessment has not been performed for the property at 1365 State Street occupying part of the former Bryant Electric Company site. Because no elevated radiation levels were detected above background and no contamination was encountered, a dose assessment attributed to discrete sources of Ra-226 was not necessary.

### 4.0 OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the data collected, the former Bryant Electric Company property at 1365 State Street does not contain discrete sources of Ra-226 in excess of regulatory requirements, as determined by the following observations:

- Gamma radiation levels across the site were consistent with background; the absence of gamma radiation anomalies suggests there are no sources of Ra-226 present.
- Risk of potential contamination on the site is low and, if present, would most likely be found at a significant depth in the subsurface soil.

Based on the above observations, it is recommended that the NRC not perform a more detailed scoping survey. The rationale behind this recommendation is that the initial site visit generated a robust dataset that meets the scoping survey purpose. Furthermore, it is also recommended that the NRC staff should not pursue additional action at the former Bryant Electric Company property given no elevated radiation levels (relative to background) were identified in the surface soils.

## 5.0 REFERENCES

U.S. EPA 2008. CBS Corp./Viacom, Bridgeport Connecticut, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Corrective Action Reuse Success Stories, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, EPA 901-F-08-014. December, <https://www3.epa.gov/region1/cleanup/rcra/107554.pdf>.

McGraw-Hill 1922. *Electrical Merchandising—The Monthly Magazine of the Electrical Trade*, Vol. 27, No. 1, p. 106, New York, January.

NRC 2017. *Inspection of Facilities Potentially Contaminated with Discrete Radium-226 Sources*, Temporary Instruction 2800/043, Revision 1, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, Washington, D.C., October. (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System [ADAMS] Accession No. ML16330A678).

ORNL 2015. *Historical Non-Military Radium Sites Research Effort Addendum*, “Bryant Electric Company: Site Summary,” pp. 36-41, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, November 24. (ADAMS Accession No. ML16291A488).

**APPENDIX A**  
**PHOTOS FROM THE BRYANT ELECTRIC COMPANY SITE VISIT AT 1365 STATE STREET**

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**A-1. 1365 State Street  
North of Building Looking Southeast**



**A-2. 1365 State Street  
West of Building Looking North**



**A-3. 1365 State Street  
South of Building Looking North**

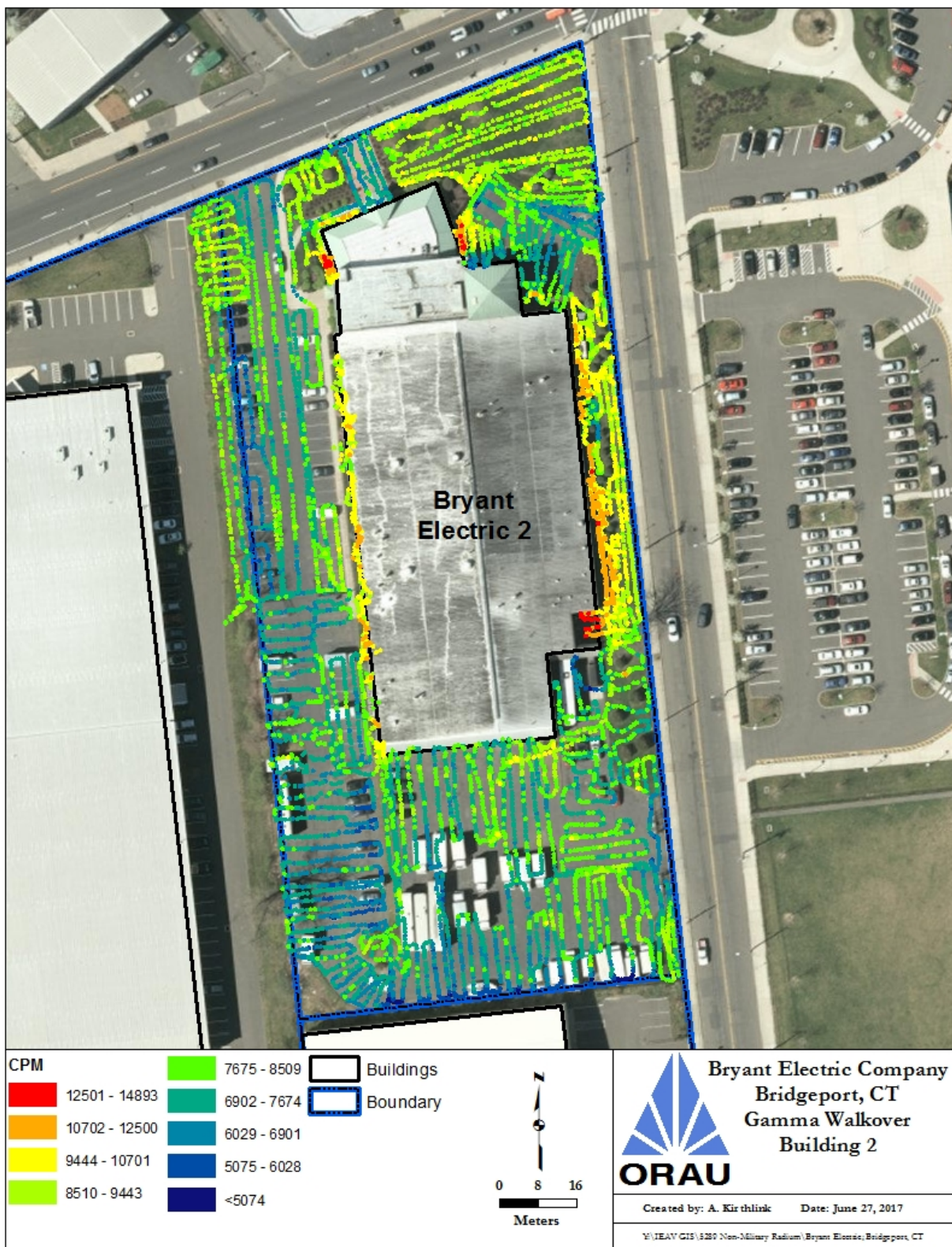


**A-4. 1365 State Street  
West of Building Looking South**

**APPENDIX B**  
**SURVEY RESULTS FROM THE BRYANT ELECTRIC COMPANY SITE VISIT**  
**AT 1365 STATE STREET**

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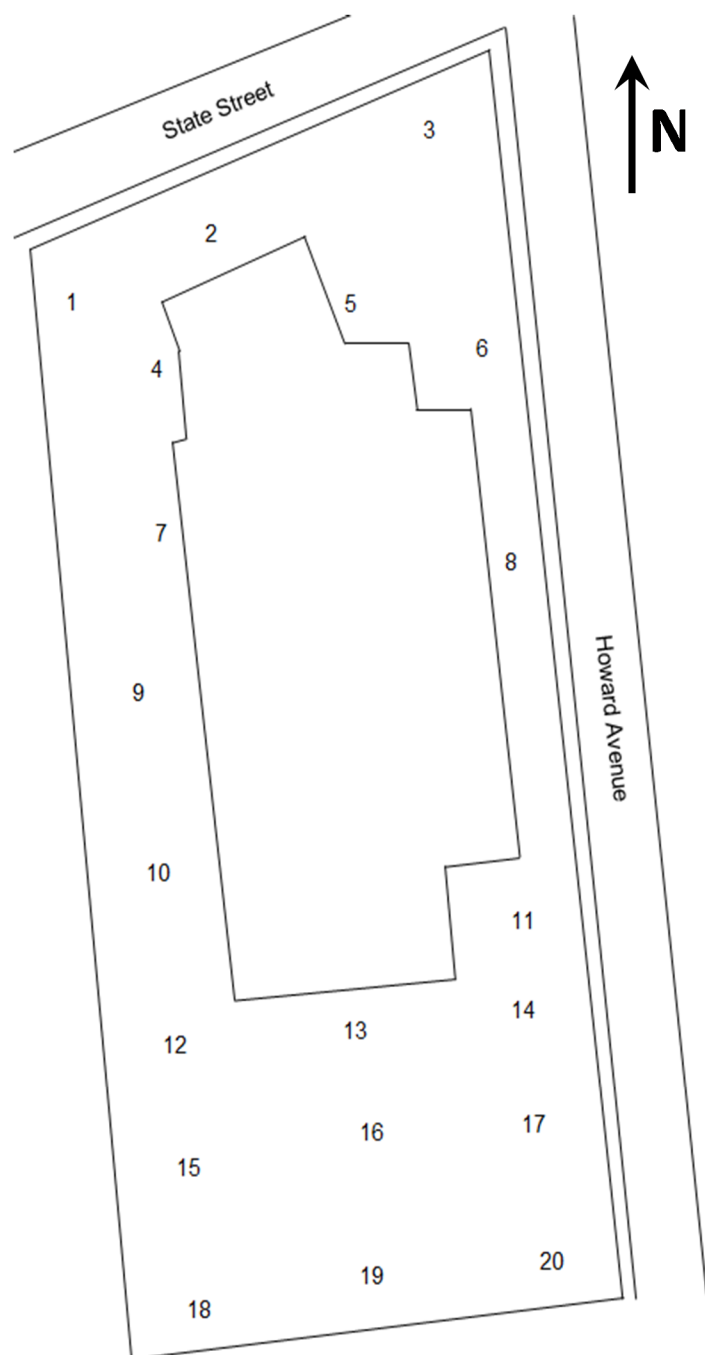




<b>Site:</b> Bryant Electric	<b>Area:</b> Land	<b>Date(s):</b> 6/22/17	<b>Time:</b> 09:50 - 15:00
<b>Surveyor(s):</b> KME/STP		<b>Purpose:</b> Site Visit	

<b>Radiation Type</b>	<b>Instrument</b>	<b>Detector</b>	<b>Background</b>
Gamma	192 No.1127, No.1128	NA	5.0 - 6.0 $\mu\text{R/h}^a$

<sup>a</sup>Background varied depending on naturally occurring radioactive material in the area.



Location	$\mu\text{R/h @ 1 m}$	Comment
1	7.0 - 8.0	
2	7.0 - 8.0	
3	7.0 - 8.0	
4	11.0	Next to red brick wall
5	10.0	Next to red brick wall
6	6.0 - 8.0	
7	10.0	Next to red brick wall
8	9.0 - 10.0	Along gravel
9	6.0 - 8.0	
10	7.0 - 11.0	
11	8.0 - 9.0	
12	7.0 - 10.0	
13	7.0 - 9.0	
14	7.0 - 9.0	
15	6.0 - 8.0	
16	6.0 - 7.0	
17	7.0 - 8.0	
18	6.0 - 8.0	
19	6.0 - 8.0	
20	6.0 - 8.0	

# = General area measurement ranges provided in table