Xc HVL
KRP
PAE
File (Phil)

Battelle
Pacific Northwest Laboratories
P.O. Box 999
Richland, Washington U.S.A. 99352
Telephone (509) 375-2538
Telex 15-2874

June 8, 1984

T.A. Bauman, Director
Public Affairs Office
Department of Energy
Federal Building, Room 705
Richland, WA 99352

Dear Tom:

It has come to my attention that UNC has filed an Unusual Occurrence Report regarding strontium releases from a trench in the 100 Area near N-Reactor.

I am concerned about possible confusion and questions from the media that may result from having this document in the Science Center Reading Room at the same time that we are calling attention to the latest PNL Environmental Surveillance Report. Astute reporters may connect the two documents and want information on how the strontium data are covered in the overall assessment as well as on the source of, and reason for, the releases.

Because of this, I felt a need to clarify Battelle's position on handling information on this matter. Our technical people are fully prepared to address questions regarding the content of the Environmental Surveillance Report and the method of collecting and analyzing data. This includes the identification of strontium in the 100 N-Area and its movement in the environment. We will relate its environmental behavior generally to the information provided by UNC on their release. Questions regarding the trench or any UNC work in that area will be directed to Karen Scotti or Sue Kuntz-Hagen.

I believe this is the most practical approach to accurate handling of information as we move toward a more definitive Environmental Monitoring Program.

Sincerely,

Barbara L. Matthews, Manager
Press Relations and Staff Communications

dr
cc: J.F. Bagley
[redacted]
C.L. Elderkin
R.P. Marshall
L.L. Rader
K.S. Scotti
C.L. Simpson

RECEIVED
JUN 11 1984
P.E. BRAMSON

27BBH000 0