

**OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
FOR ENVIRONMENT, SAFETY AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH**

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FAX NUMBER: 703 602-0178

FAX

To: Sharon Cotner From: CPT Ansel (703) 604-239

Fax: (314) 260-3941 Pages: 7

Phone: _____ Date: _____

Re: _____ CC: _____

Urgent For Review Please Comment Please Reply Please Recycle

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OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

THOMAS J. VILSACK
GOVERNOR

SALLY J. PEDERSON
LT. GOVERNOR

June, 24 2002

The Honorable Thomas E. White
Secretary of the Army
101 Army Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20310

Dear Secretary White:

I am sending this letter to express my deepest concern about efforts undertaken by the United States Army to assess the scope of radiological contamination at the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant ("IAAAP") in Middletown, Iowa. As you are aware, several agencies are presently engaged in a site-wide investigation of contamination on IAAAP property. However, efforts initiated by the State of Iowa to solicit information, provide input, and otherwise engage in these activities, given our strong concerns about the health, safety and welfare of plant workers and area residents, have encountered significant resistance from Army officials.

It is my expectation that the State of Iowa will serve as an active participant in the assessment and remediation of radiological contamination at IAAAP. Restrictions on public access to historical records, and evidence calling into question the scope of the usage and storage radiological agents at IAAAP, as previously acknowledged by the Department of Energy and the United States Army, would suggest that a more comprehensive assessment than was submitted to Congress should be prepared and implemented.

On two separate occasions, this office invited Army officials to participate in a meeting to discuss matters related to potential radiological contamination at IAAAP. The Army ultimately rejected both offers. The second offer was initially accepted after officials from the Rock Island Arsenal in Rock Island, Illinois agreed to participate in discussions with this office, and approved a proposed meeting agenda (I have attached a copy of relevant correspondence for your records). Unfortunately, Dennis Bates cancelled this meeting last week, after stating that Army officials were having trouble generating good responses to our questions. These actions have done little to demonstrate a strong desire by Army officials to cooperate with the State of Iowa, and maintain an open line of communication with this office.

Please accept this letter as a renewed invitation to schedule a meeting with my office to discuss these matters of critical importance to the people of the State of Iowa. A response to this request by July 8, 2002 would be appreciated. I look forward to your response and thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Vilsack
Governor

20700771

STATE CAPITOL DES MOINES, IOWA 50319 515 281-5211 FAX 515-281-6611

cc: Senator Tom Harkin
Senator Charles Grassley
Representative Leonard Boswell
Mr. Ruben Barrales, White House Governmental Affairs Director
Col. Randall D. Corbin, Commander of U.S. Munitions and Armament, Rock Island, IL.
Lt. Col. Yolanda C. Dennis-Lowman, Commander of IAAAP, Middletown, IA.
Iowa Department of Public Health



THOMAS J. VILSACK
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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DES MOINES, IOWA 50319
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SALLY J. PEDERSON
LT. GOVERNOR

June 6, 2002

Mr. Dennis L. Bates
Chief, General Law
Department of the Army
Headquarters, U.S. Army Operations Support Command
1 Rock Island Arsenal
Rock Island, IL 61299

Dear Mr. Bates:

This confirms our telephone conversation concerning Governor Vilsack's invitation to discuss issues related to potential radioactive contamination at the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant. After several conversations, you reported that United States Army officials have accepted Governor Vilsack's invitation to meet for the purpose of holding the above-mentioned discussions.

It is our understanding that Colonel Hobby, Chief of Staff at the Rock Island Arsenal, will meet with Governor Vilsack on Tuesday, June 18, 2002, at 4:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Governor's Office at the State Capitol in Des Moines, Iowa.

The topics that Governor Vilsack wishes to discuss include: 1) adequate planning, assessment, and remediation activities designed to identify and clean up all radioactive contamination at IAAAP in a timely fashion; 2) the role of this state in the planning, assessment, and remediation activities designed to identify and clean up all radioactive contamination at IAAAP in a timely fashion; 3) the use of a site-wide survey to identify radioactive contamination at IAAAP; and 4) IAAP and American Ordinance cooperation with former workers and their families in securing medical records, and all accompanying documentation.

Please notify me if you have any questions or comments concerning this letter. We look forward to meeting with Colonel Hobby in a couple of weeks.

Sincerely,


N. Brian Gentry
General Counsel

~~Mr. Crain~~

~~No more than 25 min.~~

~~bulletized charts/slides addressing~~

P.02/03

~~map on board~~

JUL-12-2002 14:30



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SALLY J. PEDERSON
LT. GOVERNOR

THOMAS J. VILSACK
GOVERNOR

July 11, 2002

Mr. Raymond Patz
Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Environment
Department of the Army
110 Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20310-0110

Dear Mr. Patz:

This letter is intended to confirm our telephone discussion held on July 8, 2002. As you recall, this office has attempted to schedule a meeting with Army officials for several months to discuss radiological assessment and remediation activities at the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant in Middletown, Iowa. To facilitate this effort, Governor Vilsack sent a letter to Secretary White describing the difficulties that we have faced in our efforts to arrange a meeting. Governor Vilsack also renewed our invitation to hold discussions on several important issues regarding the above-mentioned activities.

On July 8th, you contacted this office to confirm receipt of the governor's letter to Secretary White, and you expressed the Department of the Army's willingness to participate in a meeting with Iowa officials at a time and place selected by this office. Given the scope of questions that will likely arise during this meeting, I suggested that representatives from the Army Corps of Engineers should also be present.

Given the importance of this meeting, and the numerous delays that this office has encountered in its effort to arrange a discussion, a meeting at the earliest opportunity is desired. We invite Army and Army Corps of Engineer officials to attend a meeting with Governor Vilsack to be held on Friday, July 26, 2002 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., in the Governor's Office located at the State Capitol in Des Moines, Iowa.

Topics for discussion shall include, but should not necessarily be limited to: 1) the adequacy of planning, assessment, and remediation activities designed to identify and remediate all radioactive contamination at IAAAP; 2) scheduling of planning, assessment, and remediation

activities at IAAAP; 4) IAAAP and American Ordinance cooperation with former workers and their families in securing medical records, and other accompanying documentation.

JUL-12-2002 14:30

DEPT OF MANAGEMENT

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I will attempt to contact you by telephone to notify you about this letter. Please contact me upon its receipt, to confirm the attendance of Army and Army Corps of Engineers officials.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any other questions regarding these matters. We look forward to meeting with the designated representatives on July 26th.

Sincerely,

N. Brian Gentry
N. Brian Gentry
General Counsel

Co: Senator Tom Harkin
Senator Charles Grassley
Representative Leonard Boswell
Mr. Ruben Barrales, White House Governmental Affairs Director
Mr. Thomas E. White, Secretary of the Army
Col. Randall D. Corbin, Commander of U.S. Munitions Armament, Rock Island, IL.
Lt. Col. Yolanda C. Dennis-Lowman, Commander of IAAAP, Middletown, IA.
Brig. General Ron Dardis, Adjutant General of Iowa
Dr. Stephen C. Gleason, Director of Iowa Department of Public Health

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P. 7