

07883 General

To Dear Meyer

D. P. Dickason, Chief
Security Branch, LAAO

September 19, 1957

Philip F. Belcher

Dumps for Contaminated Waste

ADCS-8511

Two points in your memorandum of September 10, 1957, subject as above, Symbol: LD:JAF, should, we think, be clarified for us before we will be in a position to give a definitive answer to your proposal.

First, it is not clear whether your reference to "unburnable classified waste" means unburnable classified contaminated waste or merely unburnable classified waste of any description whether contaminated or not. If you are referring to contaminated waste only, there is no particular problem with respect to its burial in a contaminated waste pit, providing, of course, that the necessary health and safety precautions are taken to the satisfaction of H Division.

If you are thinking also of uncontaminated waste the problem is not so crystal clear because the amount of real estate available for use for contaminated waste disposal is not unlimited and for some months now it has been Laboratory policy to limit the use of such areas for the main purpose for which they are intended. Otherwise, it is not impossible that we might some day run out of useable space for the disposal of contaminated waste, although there is no reason to expect that we will ever run out of contaminated waste.

Neither are we completely sure of what you have in mind as constituting "adequate security consideration" in the last paragraph of your memorandum. We are reasonably sure that you do not wish the area covered with five feet of concrete, but we think it would be wise if the ground rules were discussed and agreed upon in some detail between our two offices before we become involved with other Laboratory organizations.



D. P. Dickason
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Actually the situation with respect to unburnable, uncontaminated classified waste is probably not of any major importance now. As you know, arrangements were made some time ago with the help of LAAO and ALOO so that classified scrap metal (not including source and special materials) can be, and normally is, sent to Sandia where there are facilities for taking care of such materials.

Original Signed By
PHILIP F. BELCHER

PHILIP F. BELCHER
Assistant Director for
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PFB:jc
cc: Dr. T. L. Shipman ✓
H. S. Allen
Mail and Records
File