

From the desk of

April 16, 2007

Mr. Larry Elliott, Director Office of Compensation Analysis & Support MS C-46 4676 Columbia Parkway Cincinnati, OH 45226-1922

Dear Mr. Elliott:

Enclosed are hard copies and a CD of affidavits of former DOW Madison employees regarding thorium.

Sincerely,

**Enclosures** 

STATE OF ILLINOIS	)	
•	)	
COUNTY OF MADISON	)	

# Thorium Metal Was Processed at the Madison Plant After 1960

My name is

I was employed at the Dow Chemical plant from 1953 to

I worked in the rolling mill the entire time, as a roller and crane operator. Thorium sheet was run on the Number 2 and 4 Mills and small ingots were run on the Number 7 Mill from the early to late 1960's. Men wearing protective suits would accompany the thorium through the rolling mill and instruct us how to run it. I was told that some of the metal was sent to McDonnell Douglas in St. Louis for use in the space program and some of it was sent to Rocky Flats.

My name is

I was employed at the Dow Chemical plant from 1952 to
I worked primarily as a roller in the rolling mill. I was stationed primarily at Mill Number
1 Mill, but worked on every mill except Number 6 Mill. I don't know when thorium was
first run at the mill, but I first rolled HK31 and HM21 sometime in the early 1960's and
was still rolling HK31 until 1987 or 1988. Both HM and HK were gouged and sanded
before being to sent to the Number 7 Mill and was gouged and sanded between passes on
the Number 7 Mill. Paper masks were available but we were not required to wear them.

Further, Affiant sayeth not.

Dated: 2-05-07

Dated: 2-05-07

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN before me this 5TH day of FERRUATE

Notary Public

"OFFICIAL SEAL"
Gary L. Fletcher
Notary Public, State of Illinois
My Commission Exp. 03/07/2007

2007

STATE OF ILLINOIS	)			
COUNTY OF MADISON	)			

# Thorium Metal Was Processed at the Madison Plant After 1960

My name is I was employed at the Dow Chemical plant from 1962 to I held various jobs during those years, including finisher helper, mag melter in the pot room and a fork lift operator delivering material to the pot room. Thorium was run periodically at the Madison plant throughout the years I worked there.

My name is

I was employed at the Dow Chemical plant from 1963 to
I worked approximately gears as a mag melter in casting, years as a fork truck driver in the rolling mill and years as a fork truck driver in extrusion. Thorium was melted in the pot room in the late 1960's and early 1970's.

My name is

I was employed at the Dow Chemical plant from 1961 to
I worked throughout the plant, but worked primarily as a helper and truck driver in
the rolling mill. Thorium was run on the Number 4 and Number 7 mills throughout the
1960's. We were given Roentgen badges by
To my knowledge the badges
were collected and then thrown away.

My name is

I was employed at the Dow Chemical plant from 1954 to

I worked in the alloy section of the casting department from 1954 to

We processed a lot of thorium during that period. We had no respirators, masks or radiation badges.

Further, Affiant sayeth not.

Dated: 2-05-07

Dated: 2-05-07

Dated: 2-05-07

Dated: 2-05-07

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN before me this 35TH day of FEBRUARY, 2007

Notary/Public

"OFFICIAL SEAL"
Gary L. Fletcher
Notary Public, State of Illinois
My Commission Exp. 03/(17/2007

#### <u>AFFIDAVIT</u>

STATE OF ILLINOIS	)	
	)	
COUNTY OF MADISON	)	

# Thorium Metal Was Processed at the Madison Plant After 1960

My name is

I was employed at the Dow Chemical plant from 1962 to in the maintenance department and so worked throughout the entire plant. I saw sheet metal being sanded in the rolling mill and billets being scalped in the casting department. I was told that some of the metal that was processed at the plant during my years of employment was thorium for the government and to stay away from it.

I was employed at the Dow Chemical plant from 1961 to I started out in the rolling mill but also worked in the casting and extrusion departments. Thorium was run at the plant from 1957 to 1999. I performed hand sanding and salvaging work in the rolling mill and saw sheets identifying some of the material as thorium and instructing us to wear paper dust masks.

My name is I was employed at the Dow Chemical plant from 1955 to I held many positions during those years, including laborer, casting equipment repairman in the casting department and as maintenance helper, brickworker and sandblaster throughout the plant. I saw slabs being scalped in the casting department and sheet being sanded in the rolling mill. I know that thorium was stored in drums in an annex to the Pot Room, which was adjacent to the Number 4 Building.

My name is

I was employed at the Dow Chemical plant from 1953 to
I worked primarily as an inspector: in the rolling mill from 1950 to 1966 and in
extrusion from 1966 until HK 31 and HM 21 were run periodically from the late
1950's through the mid-to-late 1960's. I saw slabs being scalped in casting and sanding
being done on sheets in the rolling mill.

Further, Affiant sayeth not.

Dated: 2-5-07

Dated: 2-05-07

Dated: 2-05-07

Dated: 2-03-07

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN before me this TH day of TERRUARY, 20

Notary Public

"OFFICIAL SEAL"
Gary L. Fletcher
Notary Public, State of Illinois
My Commission Exp. 03/07/2007

#### <u>AFFIDAVIT</u>

STATE OF ILLINOIS	)	
	)	
COUNTY OF MADISON	)	

# Thorium Metal Was Processed at the Madison Plant After 1960

My name is

I was employed at the Dow Chemical plant from 1960 to as an inspector in the Casting, Extrusion and Rolling Mill departments. Thorium metal was being cast, extruded and rolled at the Madison Plant during my entire period of employment. I know that some of this thorium metal was shipped to Rocky Flats, CO.

From 1973 to I worked in the rolling mill, hand salvaging metal sheets. Sanding was constantly being done in the Rolling Mill. I worked in extrusion during the 1980's cutting billets that were to be used as cannon caps. These were then shipped to Collinsville to be reamed out and then shipped to Rocky Flats. I was told that some of the metal we processed during my years of employment was thorium.

I was employed at the Dow Chemical plant from 1954 to
I worked in the pot room from 1954 to
Thorium came in small barrels
labeled thorium and was added to the pots. One of my foreman told me that the thorium
metal was to be shipped to Rocky Flats. Later, I worked as a finisher, sawing, boring and
scalping aluminum and magnesium billets and slabs. Finishing work produced lots of
dust. I later worked in the warehouse, where thorium chips and sludge were stored within
a fenced-in area. All of this material was stored in barrels, and we inventoried it twice a
year.

I was employed at the Dow Chemical plant from 1959 to I worked in the Light Press Extrusion Department as a finisher helper, finisher, press helper, press operator, billet cutter, die assemblyman and packer. I saw order sheets indicating that some of the metal being processed between 1970 through 1980 was Thorium. I was told that some of the thorium that we processed during this period was for the government and was being shipped to Rocky Flats.

Further, Affiant sayeth not	Further,	<b>Affiant</b>	sayeth	not
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Dated: 2-05-07

Dated: 2-05-07

Dated: 2-05-07

Dated: 2-05-07

SUBSARIBED AND SWORN before me this STH day of

Notary Jublic & tilcher

"OFFICIAL SEAL"
Gary L. Fletcher
Notary Public, State of Ulinois
My Commission Exp. 03/07/2007

2007

STATE OF ILLINOIS	)	
COUNTY OF MADISON	)	

#### Thorium Metal Was Processed at the Madison Plant After 1960

My name is

I was employed at the Dow Chemical plant from 1964 to
I rotated through other areas, including the rolling mill, but worked primarily as a
crane operator in extrusion. I know that Thorium metal was being processed in extrusion
throughout the years I was employed at the Madison plant.

My name is

I was employed at the Dow Chemical plant from 1953 to
I worked in the casting department. Thorium metal was being cast at the plant from
the early 1960's to the mid 1980's. To my knowledge, all of the thorium metal processed
during this period was for the government. We would load the slabs into a scalping
machine that would shave the sides of the slabs before they were sent to the rolling mill.
The scalping machine generated a lot of dust.

My name is

I was employed at the Dow Chemical plant from 1955 to
I worked as a mag melter in the casting department. Thorium metal was being cast
at the plant periodically the entire time I was employed at the plant. I personally handled
the thorium metal that was added to the pots. Smelting generated a lot of fumes. Thorium
metal as stored in the warehouse during this period. I did not work in Shipping, but I
heard rumors that the metal was being shipped to Rocky Flats, CO. I serviced the face
scalpers. We also used edge scalpers. Scalping was a very dusty process.

My name is

I was employed at the Dow Chemical plant from 1953 to
I worked in the rolling mill as an inspector. Thorium ran periodically through the
rolling mill at the Madison plant during this entire period. I was all over the department,
from Shipping to Number 1 Mill. I saw sales orders showing that the metal was being
shipped to Rocky Flats. I would sand the thorium sheets by hand. None of the men in the
rolling mill wore respirators.

My name is

I was employed at the Dow Chemical plant from 1959 to
I worked in shipping and extrusion as a packer. As a packer I packed everything off
of the presses for shipment to customers. In 1957, I was working on the billet press and
saw 2 skids of metal w/ red tags set next to the Number 9 Press. We were told not to come
within 5 feet of this metal. Thorium was being extruded from at least 1975 through the
late 1980's. I was told that the metal was being shipped to Rocky Flats.

My name is I was employed at the Dow Chemical plant from 1961 to I worked in the maintenance department and so worked throughout the entire plant every day. I know that thorium metal was run through casting, extrusion and the rolling

mill from 1970 to 1980. I saw thorium slabs being scalped in casting and thorium sheet being sanded in the rolling mill.

Further,	<b>Affiant</b>	sayeth	not.
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Dated: 2-05-07

Dated: 2-05-07

Dated: 2-05-07

Dated: 2-03-07

Dated: 2-03-07

Dated: 2-05-07

SUBSCRIPTED AND SWORN before me this 511 day of FEBRUATEY

Notary Public

Gary L. Fletcher Notary Public, State of Illinois My Commission Exp. 03/07/2007 , 2007

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

RE. ROLLING MILL DEPARTMENT

IN THE ROLLING MILL WE HANDLED HK AND HM METALS. WE PUT METAL IN THE #7 OVEN, THEN WE ROLLED IT IN THE 7 MILL AND 4 MILL. AFTER THAT PROCEDURE WAS DONE WE HAD TO SAND THIS METAL WITH AIR SANDERS. THE COMPANY DID NOT PROVIDED US WITH ANYTHING SUCH AS MASKS FOR PROTECTION.

WE PUT METAL IN THE OVENS TO BE FLATTENED, CUT IT TO THE WIDTH AND LENGTH ON AN END SHEAR, METAL WAS THEN RUN THRU STENCIL MACHINE LINE TO BE STENCILED AND OILED. THIS METAL WAS THEN PACKED TO SHIP TO ROCKY FLATS, COLORADO. THE SCRAP METAL THAT THE COMPANY THERE DID NOT USE WAS SHIPPED BACK TO OUR COMPANY TO BE MELTED DOWN AND THEN THE ABOVE PROCEDURE WAS STARTED ALL OVER AGAIN.

IT WAS YEARS LATER BEFORE THE COMPANY STARTED PROVIDING US WITH FILTER MASKS TO BE WORN.

SINCERELY,

RETIREE

NOTARIZED THIS 2 NO DAY OF FEBRUARY, 200"

Gary L. Fletcher Notary Public, State of Illinois My Commission Exp. 03/07/2007

STATE OF ILLINOIS	)		
COUNTY OF MADISON	)		
	Affidavit of		
My name is _ had a huge amount of ingot them, we removed the tags ingots were contaminated.	s shipped in and stored in		ne we moved
Further, Affiant sayeth not.			
Dated: 2-8-07			-
•			
SUBSCRIBED AND SWOR	IN before me this <u>5</u> day	of <u>Jedilly</u> "OFFICIAL SEAL" DEBORAH A. HALDEM	5
		NOTARY PUBLIC—STATE OF ILL MY COMMISSION EXPIRES AUG.	LINOIS

COUNTY OF MADISON )			
•			
A	ffidavit of		
My name is to I started in the of 1988 to 1989. I heard through of that we processed in the Leachin out contact with anything we processed in the Casting department.	ng department. Nobody in rorocessed in the Leaching delige being stacked eight feel	ted in the Leaching depar in was mixed in with the s management seemed conc epartment. I remember t	ludge cake: erned abou horium and
I remember around 1989-1990, Mill department for a long perio			the Rolling
I started working in the Extrusion both aluminum and magnesium rented No. 7 press for approximal different than any other job. extremely hard alloy to run. The other than Martin-Marietta Metal I have recently reviewed.	alloys on both presses. In a mately one week. I rememb Carbon blocks were insert his was a special job which	approximately 1992, Mar per this job because it wa ed behind the billets and we never ran for any oth	tin Marietta s ran much l it was ar er custome
I have had many respitory problem.	lems since and during my er	mployment at Spectrulite	Consortiun
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Further, Affiant sayeth not.			
Further, Affiant sayeth not.  Dated: Feb. 5, 2007	<u>,                                      </u>		
	before me this $5^{11}$ day of	February	, 2007

Page 1 of 1

DOW Affidavit:

STATE OF ILLINOIS	)
	)
COUNTY OF MADISON	

#### Affidavit of

I hired in as a I worked at Spectrulite from 1990 to My name is utility man in Casting. Two weeks later I became a head operator in the Leaching department. I worked there for two years. While I was working there during training I was working with sludge from the Pot Room. They said we were recovering Mag from the sludge. We would take the sludge from the Pot Room which was in large cakes and barrels. We would use a jackhammer on a bobcat to break up the sludge. We did not know what was in the sludge. We would put the sludge in baskets and put them in large tanks, fill with water, and add Epson salt and soak for about four hours. Then we would take samples by taking a cup of the water and sludge, mix and put in HO2 acid. If it made a whirlpool, it was not ready to pump through the presses. If it did not, it was okay to pump the tanks. I asked why and I was told we could not pump the water through the city sewer drains until the beryllium was neutralized. That is why we used HO2 to check it. I also heard that there was thorium in the sludge, but if you didn't get a rash, then it wouldn't hurt you.

I worked in the Pot Room for about three weeks in 1994 and I started to break out in a rash on my hands and neck. I was out of the Pot Room for six weeks and worked in the shipping department. When I was healed, I went back to the Pot room and worked a week and broke out in a bad rash again. Then the supervisor took pictures of my hands and neck. Then I was transferred to the Extrusion department. I worked on 7-9 and heavy press. I was never allowed to work in the Pot Room again. I was never told why I kept getting the rashes. I also don't know why they took pictures of my hands and neck. The company never told my why. I worked the last five years in the Extrusion department on the 7 press.

Further,	Affiant	saveth	not.
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Dated: 2-5-07

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN before this 5 day of

Notary Public

DOW Affidavit:

Page I of 1

STATE OF ILLINOIS	)
COUNTY OF MADISON	}
	Affidavit of
My name is Anthon I worked in Rolling	y J. Ortiz. I worked at Dow Chemical Company from 1962 to Mill, Pot Room, Casting Department, and Extrusion.
Colorado and other	ne rolling mill, we rolled and shipped thorium to Rocky Flats, plants in the United States. We received thorium scrap material ats, Colorado and other plants.
We reprocessed it o	ver again at the Madison, Illinois Plant from 1960 to 1970.
Further, Affiant sayeth not.  Dated:	7
SUBSCRIBED AND SWOR	RN before me this day of
Notary Public	
"OFFICIAL SEA SUZANNE W. CALL NOTARY PUBLIC—STATE OF MADISON COUNTY, MY COMMISSION EXPIRES OF	ILLINOIS

STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF MADISON	) }
	Affidavit of
Dow Chemical that 1975, I am attesting rolled sheet form in danger of handling	I was employed at the Dow Chemical plant from garding affidavits requested by attorneys representing employees of twere exposed to Thorium HK and HM through the years 1962 to ge in this letter that I worked and physically handled this metal in various gauges during these said years. I was never informed of the this rolled sheet which consisted of among other alloys, Thorium HK my safety instructions or protective equipment prior to handling.
it was sent to an au been rolled on a	rium metal that was processed in the Rolling Mill to a specific gauge rea where I proceeded to stencil identification on each sheet that had Stencil Machine and subsequently packaged by other employees. Thorium sheets were handled during the said years.
sheet) was loaded these customers	partment of the Rolling Mill the finished packaged product (Thorium on semi tractor trailers and shipped to various customers. Some of were plants located in Rocky Flats, Colorado, Lockheed, Martin and the Department of Defense and the Department Of Energy.
Further, Affiant sayeth not.  Dated: £. 2. 20	67
SUBSCRIBED AND SWO	OFFICIAL SEAL JOSEPH J. HRABUSICKY Notery Public, State of Illinois My Commission Expires 10-14-09

#### <u>AFFIDAVIT</u>

STATE OF ILLINOIS	)
	)
COUNTY OF MADISON	)

#### Affidavit of

My name is I worked at Spectrulite Consortium Inc. from 1989. In 1989, I was hired in Leaching process. I removed magnesium waste from old barrels with no labels and ran the waste through a press. In 1989, I bid on a job in Magnesium. I started as a melter of alloy pots with magnesium, aluminum, zinc, manganese, zirconium (beryllium front pots only) 230, 234 flux. I also used scrap and waste from old, unmarked barrels in the Casting department and waste from Leaching.

In 1992, I did a radiation clean up in the Casting department. We took very old, unmarked barrels of magnesium scrap or waste from the Casting department warehouse and melted it in back pots. We put the waste or sludge in barrels and welded them closed. We stored the barrels in back of the Casting department on the side of the building. The clean up was monitored by Spec Lab. We wore radiation badges during ent entire shift. We would blow the unit with air lances. All of our clothes were put in clear trash bags. I asked a Spec Lab person named

if this was safe and she told me that there would be more radiation out of a microwave. We tried it with a Geiger counter. The Geiger counter barely moved by the microwave, but by the barrels, the Geiger counter pegged out:

After the clean up, I was laid off for six weeks. When I came back to work I asked for the results of badges. My first midnight shift there was a safety meeting with no results of the badges. I never saw the the Spec Lab person,

again.

I worked on the Magnesium floor for five years. Later on I bid on a job in the Aluminum unit where I worked for three years. I was never told of my badge results.

I next bid on a job in the Maintenance department where I worked for five years. I worked in the entire plant. I cleaned and painted all casting equipment. The paint was yellow and green and cost \$29.00 a gallon.

I think it was the summer of 2000 when I worked in the Extrusion department where I rebuilt the 7 press and cleaned and painted it. For several weeks I cleaned all overhead cranes on Saturday overtime before Spring of 2000; before FRUSAP and Army Corp. of Engineers did their clean up.

Further, Affiant sayeth not.		•
Dated: 2-5-07		. · ·
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	•	
SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN before me this  Notary Public	day of February  "OFFICIAL SEAL"  Kristi Redman  Notary Public, State of Illinois My Commission Exp. 06/17/2009	, 2007

#### <u>AFFIDAVIT</u>

STATE OF ILLINOIS	)
	)
COUNTY OF MADISON	)

#### Affidavit of

My name is I was employed at Spectrulite Consortium Inc. (formerly Dow Chemical) in the Pot Room from 1988 to and from 1994 to

#### RADIOACTIVE CHIPS

I worked in the Pot Room (magnesium cast floor) and on shift when I was told that harmless radioactive chips would be melted. I was told these chips would pose no threat to our health. We were running the billet unit while the radioactive chips were being melted on the slab unit. Boxes of these chips were dumped on the floor and shoveled into the pot and melted.

was the melter on my crew who was melting the chips. A plastic flag line was hung between the slab unit and the billet unit. We were told to stay away or on our side of the line if we were not involved with melting the chips. People who were on the chip melting side had to wear dosimeter or film badges to detect exposure to radiation or levels of exposure to radiation. I know of at least four people who had the badges that worked on my shift. They were one mag melter, one crew leader, one supervisor and one lab worker. I specifically remember being the melter and the lab girl's first name was I don't remember who the crew leader or supervisor was. These two units were only 20 to 30 feet apart. The flag line was a big joke among the crews in the Pot Room because the smoke and fumes and ashes from the melting of the chips would bellow out of the pot and go anywhere it wanted. It didn't stop at or respect any flag line. Therefore, everyone in the Pot Room was breathing the smoke and fumes. After the chips were melted, the metal was pumped into half round sludge Pots and a metal band was put into the metal to be able to identify the metal that had been melted. These half round castings of metal were taken out of the Pot Room. I don't know what happened to them. The sludge from the pots were put into 55-gallon barrels with bolt and nut type fastening lids, put on pallets after cooling, and then taken away. told me while we were still working at SCI, that he had tried for many years to get the results of the film badges, but was never told anything. We had been told in the beginning that they were sent to Chicago to be analyzed. No kind of special equipment was issued during the melting of these chips. In June or July of 2006, I spoke with had welded the lids on the barrels before our and he told me that he and employment there ended. died 2006 of multiple cancers.

#### **EXPLOSION CONTAMINATION**

While I worked in the Pot Room (magnesium cast floor), I was in three explosions and burned all three times. The first time I was in the hospital for one week and had to have surgery to debreed and clean the burns. The second time I was hospitalized for three to four days and

had surgery for debreeding and cleaning the burns. The third explosion, I was released same day after my eyes were flushed and my burns were cleaned and bandaged. In explosions, metal and contaminated debris gets airborne and forced into every nook and cranny, whether it be a person or the work area. Over the years, particles of all matter are dispersed about, on overhead beams, on walls, and on all moving and non moving parts, just as dust would collect around your homes. The second explosion I was in, I was about 12 to 15 feet away. Try to imagine feeling what I and I both knew an explosion might and probably would occur because had seen molten magnesium run out from under the mold into the water sprays that helped cool the cast magnesium slab. and I were running as fast and hard as possible when the explosion occurred. I felt myself completely wrapped by intense heat and fire. I remember seeing debris flying past me. So this kind of concussion would move particles that gathered over the years, whether the particles were uranium, thorium or beryllium and suspend them in the air to resettle on new surfaces, on the employees, and to be breathed. Over all the years, the Pot Room ran production and never had a cleanup to my knowledge. What harmful particles such as Thorium 230, Beryllium, Manganese, Zinc, and other alloying substances did we ingest, inhale or have embedded in us due to explosions or by other means of contact? We were all exposed to materials in varying degrees, but still exposed none the less. I knew we were subject to the job dangers, but we were not made aware of the risks we were exposed to by particles at a subatomic level.

#### LEACHING PROCESS

I worked in the leaching area, also known as sludge recovery for approximately two weeks. I was told by the supervisor, that the purpose of leaching was to reclaim magnesium products from the sludge because we were losing too much of a valuable product. I was told that this sludge was being shipped by railcar to a company in California that was processing it by use of the ocean or seawater to reclaim the magnesium. The reclaimed magnesium would then be sold back to our facility to be remelted and cast into ingots. The leaching process area was relatively new at SCI (Spectrulite Consortium Inc) because the company didn't want to ship as much of the sludge off to be processed. To the best of my memory, four or five Bobcat bucket loads of the sludge would be dropped into a vat or reservoir which contained an Epsom salt solution. The Epsom salt solution would separate the magnesium from the waste material. The magnesium would then be allowed to dry and be placed into metal tubs or boxes. I remember having melted some of this material on the magnesium slab unit in the Pot Room. We usually pumped this particular metal into sludge pans and we would put a steel strapping band half in and half out of the pan so that we could identify this particular metal. These solid pieces of cooled magnesium of mixed and unknown alloys would weigh up to approximately 2,500 to 3,000 lbs. These were usually marked as a mixed alloy. After this point, only the spec lab could tell us what was in this magnesium after it was removed and samples were taken.

After the magnesium was recovered, the liquid slurry would be pumped to another processing unit where the water and its containers were separated. Then a caked on mud consistency material would be scraped from between heavy rubber type mats which were hanging in a trough type container and would be disposed. I don't know what happened to this material. There were different kinds and shapes and storage areas of magnesium sludge.

Magnesium sludges were stored or warehoused in loose forms (cakes & broken cakes) and sealed in 55 gallon drums. I was told by numerous long-time employees that when thorium was melted and cast in the Pot Room, that they would place the sludge debris from the melting units in the Pot Room. Two of these units were continuous casting units and the third was called an intermittent unit. I never saw the intermittent unit run. In my first couple of years in the Pot Room, I saw a big area between the intermittent unit and the pump wash room. This area was full of pallets stacked on top of each other with 55 gallon drums of magnesium sludge. Lots of them had fallen over and rusted open and were exposed. Sometimes when I would take a pump or stirrer back to the pump wash to be cleaned, I would have to put a pallet on another fork truck, push back the broken barrels and debris just so I could get a pathway opened up. When it rained, the roof leaked really bad and the barrels, broken barrels, oxidized barrels and lose materials would get wet and run all over the floor. You would walk through it and drive your fork trucks through it. It was like walking in mud. I remember there was a bathroom just eight to ten feet away from this area of barrels and debris. There was another big pile of magnesium sludge outside of the Pot Room in the warehouse, north of the Pot Room. It was mainly stacked cakes and broken loose sludge material. They had also stored magnesium sludge outside and west of the Leaching department. It was easy for sludge to get mixed up because there was so much of it that you would just pile it up in any opening that was available; just as long as it was mag sludge. At different times, I would be reassigned to weight and load sludge into railroad cars, using a fork truck for cakes or by using the rollover fork truck to dump boxes of loose and powdery mag sludge. I would end up breathing a lot of the stuff, especially when loading railroad cars.

#### HALF ROUND SLUDGE PANS (Possibly Thorium contaminated)

When I was hired into the Pot Room, our job as melters included sludging out the waste material of each pot after the alloying and refining process which was approximately every 45 minutes to one hour depending on the alloy being ran or the speed of the metal being cast. We would lower the sludge ladle into the Pot and empty the waste contents into large rectangular pans called sludge pans. These pans were 4 ft wide by 6 ft long and 2 ft deep. We would fill these with the waste sludge and take them to the north end of the Pot Room to solidify. Later, after they hardened, we would flip them over to dump out the solidified cake of sludge and use the pan again. When these pans were dumped, sometimes they wouldn't be completely solidified and the sludge would pour out and create lots of smoke and fumes. We would be breathing this stuff. If they were solid, they would fall out when flipped over and dust and debris would be thrown into the air and we would breathe this also.

After being exposed to heat and flipping for so long, these pans would get bent and distorted and it became difficult to get the sludge cakes to dislodge. So the maintenance department was told to make a different kind of sludge receptacle. The new sludge receptacles were made out of old unusable pots that had been used to melt and alloy the magnesium. These could not be used in the melting process any more because the outside walls of the pot had become too thin. Thick metal skids were welded on the bottoms of these pots. Approximately one-half of the pot was used to make this new type of sludge receptacle. There were dozens of these worn out pots outside of the west side of the Pot Room from before I hired in. The point I'm making is this. Were these pots used in earlier days when thorium was being melted and cast in the Pot Room? And if so, why were we exposed to this equipment without being told? It

was very common for us to wipe out the inside of the receptacles with gloved hands to remove any debris or oxides before preheating them. Debris and oxides would hold moisture. When moisture and molten magnesium and or magnesium sludge would come into contact, it would create an atmosphere for explosions. The reason I know about thorium being ran is this.

who was always my crew leader in the Pot Room, had told me about it being run. He had also told me that the Pot Room had never had any kind of clean up in his years of employment and the Pot Room is where he had always worked. He was a very smart crew leader and he taught the people who worked under him very much. I always listened to the older Pot Room employees because of their knowledge and experience. was a metal caster that I worked with and he had said the same thing about thorium runs that had said. When I bid into another department, I worked with and he said the exact same thing about the thorium runs and the Pot Room experiences.

#### **BERYLLIUM**

I hired into the Pot Room as melter. I alloyed a magnesium alloy known as AZ-21, which was alloyed with aluminum/beryllium bars. The bars were in the shape of small ingots and weighed five pounds each. They were brought onto the mag floor by the crew leaders in 55 gallon sealed barrels. The barrels had to be opened by taking off a metal lid which was secured by a threaded bolt and nut. Once opened, the five-pound bars were inside a heavy gauge plastic bag. We would add the proper amounts of this aluminum/beryllium alloy according to what the spec lab would require. We would add the beryllium to the molten magnesium in two ways. One way was to put it in an alloying basket or in the ladle of the sludger, then lower it into the molten magnesium. At this time, there is a stirrer rotating like a mixer to get the alloy mixed into a molten state. While this is going on, the melters were adding flux to refine the alloy, all the while, the melters were standing next to this and breathing the smoke and fumes without any form of protection. We were fitted for respirators at one time, but this was totally ineffective because if you wore the respirator, your safety glasses would fog up while exhaling through the respirator and you would be unable to see. These respirators also got in the way of your face shield. The beryllium bars were also taken down to the sub basement and broken into smaller pieces for alloying. This was usually done by the crew leader. The device they used to break the beryllium bars was used to break test slices of magnesium billets for inspection.

The above accounts are to the best of my memory, knowledge and recollection.

	Further, Affiant sayeth not.	
	Dated: 02-5-07	•
	SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN before me this 5	lay of teliman, 2007
/	Susano W. ell.	"OFFICIAL SEAL"
	Notary Public	SUZANNE W. CALLAHAN NOTARY PUBLIC—STATE OF ILLINOIS MADISON COUNTY, IL MY COMMISSION EXPIRES OCT. 10, 2009

DOW Affidavit:

Page 4 of 4

STATE OF ILLINOIS	
COUNTY OF MADISON	_)

#### Affidavit of

My name is I worked at Spectrulite from September, 1988- In the years at Spectrulite, I worked six months in the Casting/Leaching department. It was common knowledge to all of us that in this department they reclaimed the toxic element beryllium. To re-claim this material, we were told to put three full buckets of sludge and one that contained beryllium into the machine. The good metal was recovered and sent back to the Pot Room. The leftover sludge was dumped down the sewer! Some sludge cakes were not remelted, but instead loaded on a train to send to another state. Other common knowledge was that the hazardous element beryllium was stored in the Pot Room for alloying pots.

In Extrusion for a week, we ran a complete workcycle of thorium for Martin-Marietta; a month later we ran it again. When these billets arrived to us they were wrapped up as if they wanted no one to know about them except them. When the billets were taken out, one end of the billet would be painted with a Teflon coating. The material the billets were made of was so hard and heavy, it needed to be loaded by a forklift. To heat the billets, the oven had to be at least 1,000 degrees. We had to use a carbon block in between the billets and the dummy block. The reason being the metal was too hard to push through the press. With this metal being this hard, the pumps for the press had to run on full stroke. This was the only way we could get the metal to break down so that we could extrude it. When the extrusion was finished, the carbon block disintegrated; before the metal would clear the die. When the extrusion was finished, the carbon had to be cleaned from the press in order to run another billet. When finished with the complete run, all metal scrap containers that billets came in, bands and purge billets (3-4) were all loaded up and sent with the extrusion order. While running this extrusion, it must be attended to at all times; leaving us no time to leave the press to eat lunch. Our lunch was eaten on the job site.

In 1992, there was a hazardous clean up in Extrusion. We were not told what the clean up was for, nor did they shut the department down. Professional hazardous crew came in looking like men from Mars (makes one wonder). But, we didn't have suits or ventilators as they had.

My biggest concern is that I worked on and around No. 7 press (which extruded the metal) for ten years. This material has all been found now with high levels of uranium. When it would rain, everything would be covered in dust from the beams and we were never advised that this could be or was uranium dust. At times the dust from the Magnesium department would be so heavy and smoky, especially on rainy days, it was difficult to breathe or to see 40 feet away. One building would be the size of an oil tanker, four stories tall. Entire plant was 35 acres under the roof.

Also, we ran experimental metal for FMC and Allied Signal back in 1993. It was magnesium as far as we knew.

Further, Affiant sayeth not.

Dated: 2-2-2007

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN before me this 2ND day of + BRAND SWORN before me this 2ND day of ToFICIAL SEAL"

Gary L. Fletcher

Notary Public, State of Illinois My Commission Exp. 03/07/2007

STATE OF ILLINOIS	)
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COUNTY OF MADISON	)

#### Affidavit of

My name is

In of 1989, I worked two months in the Leaching department. There I learned the process of reclaiming magnesium from sludge that was brought over from the Pot Room. There was quite a large pile of sludge already. I did my job and never questioned anything. Several months later while working back in the Casting department, I was told by one of the old timers,

that there was thorium in that sludge and that it might not be good for you. So I asked my ex-coworkers in Leaching if they knew anything about this thorium. They said that they asked the same questions to their supervisors and the belief was if you had no allergic reactions to it, you was safe working around it. Since I worked a short time in that department, my worries were small then.

In 1992, I worked in the Extrusion department on No. 7 Press for about one year when one company, Martin-Marietta, leased the No. 7 Press for a week "work cycle". They brought in their own metal billets to run through the press. It was a process never ran before by me. It involved using composite carbon follower blocks. It was very hard and heavy metal to extrude. Much different than aluminum or magnesium. I asked several of the Martin-Marietta employees what alloy this was and they all gave the same answer, "special alloy". We had no reason at the time to believe it was harmful. We believed it was R and D research because of the intense attention being paid by the Martin-Marietta employees. They would take every single metal chip, every piece of scrap, everything, even the crates the billets came in which were made of wood. One month later, the Martin-Marietta Company came back and leased the No. 7 Press out again; this time for three days. We would run six to seven billets a day for Martin-Marietta in both months during their "work cycles". I worked on this press for a dozen years and this was the only time we ever did this process.

During the 1990s, the thorium being processed in the Pot Room was Thor230 I was told. But, the thorium above me on 7 press was Thorium 232; very different indeed. The Department of Energy stated in 1989, in 1993, again 1996, Thorium 232 and Uranium 238, both in concentrations were above and exceeding guidelines. So, the Thorium 232 was what we ran for Martin-Marietta, in secret, from me and my co-workers, with no protection, no warning, no choice. You cannot make your decision without taking these facts into account. This contamination was preventable.

During 1999 and 2000, I rode over to Casting one day. While there, I brought back to my desk a small, silver bar ingot. We used it as a paper weight. I now know it was a bar of beryllium. We used it daily for over a year unaware of its hazards and health risks.

In July, 2000, I was one of the few employees who witnessed the entire clean up process by FRUSAP and Army Corp. of Engineers of the uranium clean up. The entire factory was laid off that week during the clean up.

In January, 2002, I started getting ill. I had a rash, arthritis, and it slowing got worse. The company knew of my condition because they paid my insurance bill. In 2002, the: company got rid of me and all other union employees. The company re-opened the factory under a new name and hired new employees.

I have had lung problems since 2000. I was treated by doctors, but they could not find a cause. I never smoked in my whole life. I was never sick or ill in my entire life. But, now I can barely use my hands or walk or stand for long periods of time. I'm covered with a painful skin rash and have arthritis in almost every joint in my body. I'm on social security disability for the rest of my life. I am only years old.

My wife has many illnesses that I believe were caused by secondary contamination, along with my children and grandchildren. All of my grandchildren are dead, but one. My first granddaughter was born with a birth defect. She had to breathe through a tube in her neck since birth until she died in years old. The second grandson spent the first four months in an incubator, and has respitory problems still. my third grandchild died inside the womb at six months pregnancy.

Further, Affiant sayeth not.

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN before me this Z day of I lung if

Notary Public

"OFFICIAL SEAL" SUZANNE W. CALLAHAN MY COMMISSION EXPIRES OCT. 10, 2009

STATE OF ILLINOIS	)
•	)
COUNTY OF MADISON	)

#### Affidavit of

• My name is

I started work at Spectrulite Consortium Inc. (SCI) in
1989. My first job was as a security guard. As a security guard I recall a fire
that started on the magnesium floor that caught the roof on fire. Myself as well as plant
personnel went to the outside on the roof to extinguish the fire. We were told that the
workers were melting radioactive chips when the roof caught fire. We did not have any
protective equipment on and were not instructed to put any on. All employees involved
in fighting the fire inhaled a large amount of smoke.

In 1991, I was promoted to a foreman in the casthouse of the plant. It should also be noted I also worked as a foreman in the extrusion department. At one point, I can't recall the date, we were either melting radioactive chips or casting metal with thorium in it. At the end of the shift, personnel from the lab ( ) came to the plant and checked our bodies and clothes with a Geiger counter. We also had to remove our work clothes and give them to the lab personnel. At this point, we again were not wearing protective masks or informed to do so.

At some point after the strike of 2002, I was working as a fork truck driver and my job was getting all magnesium scrap and aluminum scrap in the plant. This was after SCI had filed bankruptcy. Also at some point after the strike and before Magnesium Electron leased the premises in August of 2003, an outside contractor came in and did a check for radioactive material. I cannot be sure of the date when this occurred; only that it was during the above-mentioned timeframe. The scrap and other items they found were placed next to a scrap scale in casting across from the magnesium floor. The scrap and other items was roped off but the scale was within two feet of the scrap and was used daily by myself and other employees. We were not warned to use another scale or to wear protective equipment around the roped off scrap and items. As of my getting ill and being terminated, the contaminated scarp and other items were still next to the scale.

In 2005 I was admitted to the hospital with an enlarged heart, atrial fibrillation and congestive heart failure. I was terminated by Magnesium Electron on

due to my health condition. I am currently receiving the company's disability from Mutual of Omaha for two (2) years.

It should also be noted that until the rafters were cleaned on the magnesium floor, whenever there was a pop, blow, or explosion, there was an extremely large amount of dust that would fall from the rafters. The dust was so thick that one could not see more than one to two feet in front of themselves. I am unsure of the cleanup date on the rafters, but I experienced several blows that caused the above-mentioned problem.

The above accounts are to the best of my memory, knowledge and recollection.

Further, Affiant sayeth not.

Dated: 2-2-07

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN before me this 2ND day of FEBRUAR

, 2007

Notary Public

"OFFICIAL SEAL"

Gary L. Fletcher Notary Public, State of Illinois My Commission Exp. 03/07/2007

# Caustic House/ Room/Building

In the extrusion department, there was an add-on type building that was referred to as the "caustic house". This small building was located near the south end of the sonic tank and was accessed thru a garage door from the main extrusion building and also from the exterior by another garage door. There are different types of corrosive substances that were used to clean manufactured alloys from steel tooling. Caustic was mistaken by many at the plant as an acid because they knew no better, in fact, caustic is the opposite of an acid, it is a base. The caustic that was used in this particular building was a white powder and had a salt effect. It left the air with a dry feeling like salt and even left a crystal like substance like salt. If the dry powder was touched by bare skin, it would make a severe rash and or chemical type burn. Caustic becomes very corrosive when it becomes wet. Wet caustic can be a lot more efficient when it is introduced to the element of heat. Knowing these two principles, it will be more understandable to grasp the idea and the conditions of the caustic house. The caustic tank was a metal panel type unit that was "T" shaped if one was to look at it from a bird's eye view. The tank was rather large and used an air lance to agitate the caustic solution. If the solution was not agitated, it would evaporate leaving behind a block of the caustic substance similar to the effect as if one was to dry out a pool of salt water. There was also a heating unit that was incorporated with the caustic tank. The hotter the solution, the more aggressive the caustic was. Caustic was best used to dissolve very large quantities of aluminum. Tooling from the presses was placed in this tank to eat away processed alloys from events such as flashes and left over pieces left of extrusion that were left from the prior job, but the steel tooling was virtually unaffected by the solution. Due to the fact that caustic gets really active when it is wet and the fact there was a heating apparatus in addition to the caustic tank having boiling hot solution with the air lance to agitate the solution, the air condition in the caustic room was hot and humid. If one was to enter this room with humid and warm air, the individual would become severely irritated due to the corrosive particles in the air. The individual's eyes would start to burn and at bare minimum feel as if they had salt or sand in them. The individual's throat would become irritated and even their sinuses would as well. Many times people would get nose bleeds from this room. There was an eyewash station in this building, and it was splashing distance from the caustic tank, plus the common sense idea that water makes caustic more corrosive, but there was one there nonetheless. This eyewash station was covered in the caustic residue. There was also a phone in the caustic house that was directly tied in to the guard shack in case of emergency. A few times some of us tried it out and discovered it was not alive connection. There was a ventilation fan that drew air from the caustic house out side and into a stainless steel duct. The duct went along the main building of extrusion and then made its way upward to clear the top of the extrusion building and into the open air. The caustic that was no longer usable due to contamination or other reason undisclosed by management was supposed to be taken to the slurry pit. In my time there, the slurry pit was inoperable as explained later on in my statement. The caustic tank was falling apart and had many leaks in it. When it was running, it put caustic in the open air. There were white crusty and white flaky deposits everywhere in the caustic house. The deposits would be on the walls, floor, ceiling, switches, safety stations, crane, straps, chains, and crates, literally everything. Many of the times I went into the caustic house, my skin

would appear to be sunburned and dry to the point of cracking. This was due to the fact that the air was so corrosive from the humid and warm air from the open caustic tank. There was no adequate safety equipment given for the caustic tank. I was given full arm length rubber gloves, an apron, and a plastic splash guard for my face. My skin was still subject to the open air which contained active caustic. The flakes would fall and land on myself as well as others. Many times I had to make way to the locker rooms to strip down because the flakes had fallen down into my collar and into my shirt. Most of the time this irritation would result in the same feeling and rash that one would get from handling fiber glass insulation. When tooling was put into the caustic it would let off colored gases and additional odors. All of these odors were put into the open air of the plant and the outdoors. The caustic tank leaked extensively. The solution was leaking so bad that it emptied a few times overnight and onto the ground. When the slurry pit was deemed unusable, I was instructed to dispose of the waste caustic on the ground and into the public sewer system. I did contest this order and I was told to dilute it with running tap water if I was that worried about it.

# Old Dies in the Caustic House

There was an unorthodox housecleaning attempt made by the company prior to 2000. I was in die assembly with another worker, He and I were the only two scheduled die assemblymen at the time. In the caustic house there was an invisible line that divided the room in two halves of north and south with the points of the invisible line being the garage door from extrusion to the garage door to the outside of the caustic house. The southern half was where the caustic tank and all of its components were located and on the north end of this room was a significant amount of old dies to what we were told to be old light end presses that did not exist any longer. These dies were covered in a fiberous dust and the residue from the caustic tank in addition to bird droppings. According to old timers at the facility the dies had been there for twenty plus years and it was an out of sight out of mind expression. There was also a single doorway on the north wall of this room to a very large and multiple room office that was rendered abandoned for some unknown reason. My fellow die assemblyman and I were instructed to clean all dust from these dies, then to put any of them in the acid tanks to clean any visible left over metal from past jobs. Once the dies were clean we were told to put them in the steel bin to be sold off to the scrap company. Before we could even get started, the company brought in a 20 to 30 yard sized dumpster with an opening door so we could drive fork trucks into it and then we were told that they were going elsewhere to be scrapped and not to the regular scrap place. Just out of curiosity my co-worker and I looked up some of the dies and discovered that some belonged to presses that were still used in the light end of the extrusion department. To clean up all of the dust we were given air lances and dust masks. To give an understanding on how much dust was on the dies, one die in particular had an opening in it as big as a tennis ball, and it was filled completely with this fiberous type of dust. I would guess there to be easily one thousand of these types of dies and several cubic yards of this dust. So in short, an air lance was used to blow this dust all out and into the open floor where a broom and street sweeper could access it. The dust was placed in with the regular trash. The dies were cleaned as instructed and placed meticulously in the dumpster. For several days I encountered

headaches and nose bleeds along with nasty dark dirty substances from my nose. I also had a severe cough that lasted for several days and shortness of breath that last longer. Not to mention again that this fiberous dust was air born in the room to the point that you could not see daylight thru it. The garage doors were open and this dust did make its way to the open air outdoors. This is what I was instructed to do by management. Ironically, within a couple weeks time, some outside contractor came in to clean radioactive dust from the rails and upper beams. It was explained to me that they only had a contract to do the removal of the dust that was off the ground, and that was the only place that radioactive dust was left over. I was also told that the radioactive dust was in trace elements. I was told that the dust was harmless and that if one was to eat a shoebox full of this dust in question, that it would give them no more than an upset set stomach. Within a year's time of this clean up is when workers started having strange symptoms, for example

# **Heavy Press Bone Yard**

There was an area in extrusion that was referred to as the heavy press bone yard. It was between the die assembly area and the die shop. This area was also caddy corner north of the extrusion foreman's office. Every individual walked past this area to go to the heavy end of extrusion and all heavy press workers passed near it also. To the best of my recollection, this area was no smaller than 30 foot by 30 foot, and I do believe it to be no larger than 80 foot by 80 foot. This area contained very large pieces of heavy press tooling that required cranes to move, and some smaller pieces as well that could be lifted by hand. These pieces were covered in inches of a fiberous dust that had not been disturbed in a long time. The old timers claimed that the tooling in this area had not been used in over 20 years. They also claimed that the tooling could never be used for anything and that it had been used only once and it was contaminated. The old timers claimed that the tooling was not salvageable for other jobs on the press because it would contaminate that job. The old timers never said that it was radioactively contaminated; they just lead me to believe it was contaminated with bad batch of metal. As with the other request to clean some areas, this was on that list as well as with the dies in the caustic house. This area took several days to clean. The same technique was used as in the caustic house, though I believe to have cleaned this area first relevant to the caustic house. I shoveled this dust into several trash bins and the street sweeper had many more full bins it had swept up from the air lances blowing the dust out into the isles. The dust went thru the department and did not stay local to the bone yard or the surrounding isles. It was in the water fountains, at other work stations, on picnic tables, etc. Many workers of the department were complaining of headaches from the dust. Some workers were complaining of breathing troubles and requested the air lances be restricted from use on the dust. The argument from the old timers was once again, "the dust has been there for over twenty years so why is it a problem now, we cannot breath or see thru this stuff and its making us sick". When all dust was blown from the bone yard and finally settled and removed via street sweeper and shovel, the area was clean dust. I was not in charge of removing the tooling though, maintenance took care of that part of the job. I would also like to add this detail, I was given a dust mask for this clean up that was done with air lances and my co-workers at the surrounding work stations were offered nothing. Some

took it upon themselves to request dust masks. And as stated, the workers did complain of symptoms of headaches, nosebleeds, and difficulty breathing. The dust and debris was also placed in with the regular garbage for disposal.

## **Slurry Pit**

There was a station that was outdoors, between the rolling mill, and extrusion at the north end of the facility. My experience here is miniscule but has potential significance. I was told that the slurry pit was designed to break down used caustic, back into parts much safer for disposal rather than the full strength waste caustic solution. It appeared to me that there were several fish hatchery like tanks separate from each other but yet connected by some form of control. It appeared there was an out house like building that had a ladder that went to a lower level of this station. The simple appearance of this station looked a lot more technical once you looked inside this out house like structure that was central and incorporated to this slurry pit. It has multiple electrical control panels, gauges, conduit, pipes, pumps, charts, etc. It appeared to have no power or functional mechanical means anymore. The station was extremely damaged due to exposure to the elements and the excessive corrosion of the caustic it was supposed to have been designed to break down. The lower end of the outhouse like building was full to ground level of liquid and caustic as well. The tanks were damaged to the point that they leaked onto the ground and into the sewer system. and I took a plastic tank full of used caustic to this slurry pit and were instructed to empty the used caustic into the north most tank. When we did, it all went into the tank and leaked right back to the ground. We advised management of this and they did not seem to be concerned. We were then told to just go ahead and dispose of it into the sewer system with running water to help dilute the solution. We questioned this task and were told that it was acceptable and safe and we were even told that it was the way that it has been done in the past. This incident as well as another similar incident was reported anonymously to the EPA. A reminder is that, this caustic was soaking into the ground, and all it needs to recharge is water and can charge even more with heat. Each time it rains it recharges, and on hot summer days it charges.

# **Canteen**

The canteen was an area central to the production departments and was used universally for breaks and meal times. Surrounding the canteen were several picnic type of areas that were completely exposed to the plant with no partitions or walls. The canteen itself was constructed as an add-a-room. The canteen contained several vending machines in addition to open cup soda and coffee machines. The entry ways were made from a thin metal type of door in which there were two; one located on the south wall of this room, and the other on the east wall of this room. The walls were made in a modular fashion that could easily be penetrated with a kick and the east wall contained large plastic-glass windows. There was a water fountain within this room which had to be wiped down and the water had to be run for a short time before one could drink from it due to the accumulation of the dust and oil that was present in the environment and air. The canteen had no air filtering or purification system. There was a window type of air conditioning unit for the summer months, and there was a heater for the winter months.

The canteen was located within 100 feet of the 7 press area. When the outside contractors came into the facility to clean the rails of suspected radioactive substances, the plastic sheeting they used to separate their clean up zones from the general plant was significantly close to the canteen. Many times employees called off work due to getting severely ill from eating items from the canteen. I myself had gotten deathly ill from eating in the canteen and brought it to several people's attention. The foods in the vending machines were inspected and the food was in date and not expired. When an employee would call off work, it had to be done thru the guard shack. The guards recorded the phone calls for verification and record sakes. Information for a call off was the employee's name, clock number, department, shift that was being called off, the expected return date, and the illness causing the call off. There were many recorded call offs due to canteen related sicknesses. Many workers including myself saw immediate effects within an hours' time of eating from the canteen. Severe vomiting and dehydration were common. One time I went home after getting ill from the canteen and had to go to the emergency room. There was blood in my vomit and the doctor's were baffled. A scope was done on my stomach internally. My doctor stated that the inside of my stomach was raw and seeping blood all over, but he could not isolate a specific origin of the bleeding. I was diagnosed with gastritis and ever since I have had a problem eating certain foods and fruit juices.

## **Water Fountains**

There was water fountains located throughout the plant. The water fountains were located out in the open and exposed to the plant's contaminated environment. I personally have had to clean water fountain surfaces for sanitation purposes. Any employee would have to wipe down a fountain and let the water run for a short time to get the grit, grime, and fiberous dusts rinsed off the stream of drinking water so they did not ingest any. If an employee would have just used the fountain, within 10 minutes afterwards, the next individual would have to re-wipe the fountains again. Pigeons would often poop in the water fountains, and several fountains even had feathers from pigeons that would bath in the water fountains. Almost all fountains in the plant were up against the walls and under the crane rails. In extrusion near 7 press, there was such a fountain. The fountain was installed within 20 feet of 7 press for the sole reason of preventing the operator and workers of 7 press from having to leave the press for a simple drink of water. This fountain was one of the worst fountains relative to sanitation. People made many complaints about the dirty fountains and the horrible tasting water. There were never any modifications such as putting booths or a roof like device over the fountains to keep the air born contaminates from building up on the fountains. The way the complaints were dealt with was an inline water filter for each water fountain that were claimed to remove the same things as a standard household type of water filter that gets installed on a refrigerator and ice maker. As a janitor, I was not given a cleaning product exclusively for fountains; I was to figure out how to do that on my own with what resources I had. As I had stated though, the metal dust from near by work stations, the old dust from years prior, the pigeon wastes, the oil, and chemicals from nearby equipment, and machines always kept the drinking water contaminated. There were cases that people complained of getting nauseated and getting headaches after drinking from the water fountains in the plant. had even told me personally that she brought her own bottled water because she said the water tasted like fish and she was not going to take any chances with a recent kidney transplant. This statement was completely out of character for this lady to say in respect to her company relevance. was also one of a handful of Diabetics that worked at the facility that had severe near death complications while employed at the facility that were dismissed as typical symptoms that came with the territory of Diabetes. I do know of several individuals that were diagnosed with Diabetes within a years' time collectively. I would also like to state if I haven't yet, that I am a Diabetic and have been since age 2, but my symptoms went extreme after I started working for Spectrulite.

## **Areas Where Ammonia Odors Were**

There was an area located outdoors from the interior of the plant and between casting and central shops on the south end of the facility. This area was quite visible from College Street and the general public. There was another area similar to this outside of the pot room between casting and extrusion on the northern part of the facility, but this part was not visible to the general public. The materials that were placed in these areas were left over waste from the pot room's magnesium pots. Some of these large pieces of waste were as large as an economy car; they were a perfect cast from the magnesium melting pots. These solid masses of waste would sit for several days to cool off for further disposal. The waste would smolder and smoke and let off clouds of a white ammonia odor. The ammonia type of odor was overwhelming more than often. The smell would be so strong that workers could not walk 100 feet or more near the stuff without becoming overtaken by the fumes. Many times upon entering and leaving work, the smell from this waste was very much present blocks away from the property. On humid nights the smell and smoke was amplified. There was evidence of left over magnesium left in the molten hot solid waste by magnesium's trademark blinding white burn. I and others had become very ill with nausea and burning eyes from walking the main sidewalk in and out of the plant when this waste material was present. Typically I have seen half a dozen or so of these huge waste masses in the front or south part of the facility and a much larger pile of the same waste material stored in-between casting and extrusion in the northern part of the facility. This material was so hot that it literally cooked the ground solid better than a concrete company could ever create.

# **Hydrochloric Acid Tank**

In extrusion, there was a work station/area referred to as die assembly. This work station was located north, caddy corner from the extrusion foreman's office. Die assembly was mainly responsible for assembling dies for all of the presses in extrusion, and getting them to the presses' ovens and removing used dies from completed press runs. All presses used dies to get the specific shape for each job run. The assembled die could be best explained like the Play-Dough fun factory. The Play-Dough would be the metal that casting had sent for the press to extrude. The die would be the little cut out shape in the Play-Dough fun factory to squeeze the material thru. Once the material would be squeezed thru, it would be a long, linear piece of metal with a shape noticeable from viewing it down the length of the extrusion. A pencil is a good shape to explain this

also. A pencil is solid, straight, and linear. Depending on the pencil, if one was to look at it from the end and down the length, they may notice it to be round or hexagon. This is my attempt to explain the extrusion process as simply as possible and the use of dies in the presses. The company very rarely threw any dies out for scrap. The dies were heavy steel to resist heat and wear and tear. There were dies, holing rings, backers, and bolsters from back in the days when the facility first opened. Some dies were as small as 6 inches in diameter, and some were as larger than 30 inches in diameter. When a die came back from being used on the press, it was die assembly's job to clean any left over metal from the dies or tooling. Some jobs came back with little or no metal from the extruded job. Very often dies and tooling were returned back to die assembly with half a billet hanging out of the die from the job that the presses were using them for. The handed down way of ridding traces and large amounts of extruded metal from these dies was to let them cool and submerge them in the caustic tank or the hydrochloric acid tank. Caustic had zero effect on magnesium but it had a crippling effect on aluminum. Hydrochloric acid would destroy magnesium and would remove trace amounts of aluminum if the tooling would fit into the hydrochloric acid tank. The hydrochloric acid tank was located at the die assembly work station. It was a tank similar to a wash basin that sat off the floor. The tank was nearly two foot deep and three to four feet squared. The tank was open topped with no adequate ventilation. When metal was submerged into this tank, gases and clouds would appear. A strong sulfuric odor would be present. Workers including myself had gotten headaches and nose bleeds as well as nausea from these fumes. Several times the fumes got so overwhelming the extrusion foreman's office had to be vacated. The foreman's office was between 100 and 150 feet from this tank. The foreman's office had doors and was not fully exposed to the plant environment. A note to this is that unlike the caustic tank, the hydrochloric tank did all of this at room temperature. Hydrochloric acid would weaken in strength as it was used. We had no accurate means of monitoring the acid's potency, just eyeballed it on how fast the acid could eat away the metal we were intending on cleaning from dies and tooling. When acid was considered to be too weak to keep, it had to be disposed of. Do not let this statement sound reassuring that the acid no longer worked, it still worked, just not as efficiently for time. Very rarely was it in my character to contest or question tasks handed to me by authority figures. I was instructed to dispose of used hydrochloric acid into the public sewer system. There was a gray PVC pipe added to the bottom of the hydrochloric tank that was controlled by a ball cock valve. The pipe was aimed over the top of a floor drain that went to the public sewer system. I was told that if I thought the practice was immoral to turn on the garden hose and run it with the draining tank to dilute the used acid further. The EPA was given an anonymous call about this integral with the call about the slurry pit. This is also the tank that was used to clean the smaller dies from the caustic house that I was told to clean that were allegedly going to be shipped out to be scrapped.

# **Thorium Toolboxes**

There were many folklore type of stories about Thorium and other questionable metals in the facility told by old timers, and that were denied by any official that had a responsibility to face such statements. Thorium was one of the common told stories

amongst the old timer's legends. Because all conversations were passed as legend and folklore in addition to the laugh it off attitude everyone had, there was a false sense of security being manipulated relevant to the Thorium and other questionable substances in the facility. I will say that I have first hand seen items that were made of Thorium and even confirmed by supervisors. Some of these items were lunchboxes, toolboxes, thin plates to cover picnic tables to give them a solid surface, full sized utility carts, various pieces from old press runs that workers tucked away as souvenirs, full sized slabs, and even pieces hidden in abandoned lockers are some I recall. For a metal that I was lead to believe was accounted for, there was at one time workers taking the Thorium plating and cutting it and welding it to make these items. One utility cart in particular was in extrusion; it was the size of a small hotdog type cart and was even being used by maintenance employees. Before a contractor came in to do a clean up, it was allegedly confiscated and properly disposed of by this contractor. A couple years later I discovered that this cart made of Thorium was the same utility cart I was using as a janitor in the rolling mill.

# **Experiences in the Rolling Mill**

I was placed in the rolling mill due to multiple compounding medical restriction due to my degenerative health. The only job I could go to with my plant seniority was the janitor's position in the rolling mill. The rolling mill was full of old timers that had more knowledge of history than anywhere I had been in the facility. I took notice that more than half of the men in that department and ones that had been in that department that went to other jobs in the facility had adopted children. After I came to know these men that they could not have children which aroused my suspicions of a common link. I also realized that there was a history of prior workers and a few recent ones that had committed suicide and had been plagued with mental illness. I thought that it was relevant to stresses of shift work and hard living. I noticed that more than half of the men young and old had significant health problems and the workers that had been there for more than 20 years had spouses and children with severe health ailments too. At the time I considered each person's case to be isolated and not relevant to the factory. Hind sight is 20/20, I now understand that there is a common denominator and that is the factory. The company's unwritten policy of a need to know basis was very apparent as well as the out of sight out of mind attitude. I as a janitor had unrestricted access to the entire department other than active work stations. All cubby holes, locker rooms, offices, abandoned rooms, storage rooms, etc. I could do my job and observe at the same time. I had access and expectations to clean long forgotten areas including abandoned offices. There were solid Thorium slabs tucked away in the rolling mill. I was told the slabs were Thorium by my co-workers. I asked foremen about it, they told me to simply not touch the slabs, but they pose no danger being nearby. These slabs got moved around every so often because they were allegedly in the way from time to time. Several times, these Thorium slabs were set right outside of my original janitor's supply room. From time to time I would look for things to clean so I could stay busy. I had taken it upon myself to clean out the abandoned lockers from the men's locker room/shower room in the rolling mill on the north end. In this locker room I found all sorts of artifacts. I also found old samples of metal. I was instructed to never dispose of metal in the trash, but to figure if it

was magnesium or aluminum and dispose of it in the appropriate alloy's scrap bin. Most of the time all of the relevant information about pieces of metal was stamped or written on each individual piece of metal such as alloy, die number, run number, job number, and lot number. In the case of the pieces I had found in the abandoned lockers, many items were not marked. Some old timers that were entertained with the idea that a younger worker or any worker at the plant would actually make work for their self stopped by the locker room from time to time. Several old timers swore that many of the pieces I had taken from the lockers were in fact Thorium and other metals that had no business being in the plant. My first janitor's cart was made of Thorium and oddly enough was the same cart that was allegedly confiscated from extrusion some time prior. I had asked some of the foremen why the Thorium was still present in the department if there was a contractor that was in a year earlier doing a clean up. I was told that the company had a grant to pay for the clean up. The contract was contingent to the clean up was enough to pay for the crane rails in extrusion only. It was also detailed to me that the only threat was the dust on the crane rails in extrusion which is why there was only enough money to clean that isolated area. I was also told that the contractors were paid only for dust on the rails, not to remove solids or anything on the ground or lower than the overhead crane rails. I was also told that no other department was a concern therefore again that only the crane rails in extrusion needed cleaned and that is why the contract was set forth and that is also why there was just enough negotiated grant money to do only the job the contractors did.

was the supervisor that consistently rattled off all of these details. The foremen under him merely repeated what they were told by

There were locations in the rolling mill that I cleaned up that were far worse in respect of quantity and quality of dust than I had ever witnessed in the facility. When I cleaned up these areas, the dust was placed with the rest of the daily garbage and not in any special disposal bins.

was the man that was responsible for taking all of the factories trash bins and dumping them into the ones that the trash service picked up. did this everyday on the day shift.

passed away from an apparent heart attack.

There were always deaths of workers past and current, but they were intermittent and typical. I realize though, that once the clean ups began, the rates of deaths and illnesses were significantly frequent. It was almost like a milestone in a timeline beginning in 1999 to 2000. I also recall several employees acquiring Diabetes around this time.

and were two of these men that got Diabetes, and they came to me with their questions and personal experience with the disease. There were others as well, but these two stick out in my mind the most.

# A Personal Note about My Health

I am adding this section in to my statement just in case. It is evident to me that as this investigation furthers, so does more questions and scenarios. I have been a full blown brittle insulin dependant Diabetic since age 2. I have done the best I could have with my Diabetes. The worst thing that had ever happened was that on graduation morning from high school, I went into a Diabetic coma. I had no ill effects or complications from this specific coma. I had worked continually since I was eight years old. I went to school; I did as I was supposed to and succeeded. Other than the coma, I never missed or called off work nor got ill. I worked as many hours as possible and even worked for weeks at a

1997 I time with no days off. There were no side effects what so ever. In was fortunate to have been hired on at Spectrulite. I actually enjoyed working there for the most part. I served my 90 working days on probation and became a union member. Shortly after becoming a union member, my Diabetes took an extreme turn for the worst and never stopped to look back or recover. I went into another Diabetic coma, I lost my eyesight completely in both eyes, I got neuropathy in all four extremities, and I came to be mentally ill and even suicidal. Medicine did not help, it made other complications worse. I was always ill from one complication or another. Eventually after all of the hardship and experiences, I filed for disability and it was awarded immediately. Since these conditions set in, they have not reversed and more have joined in. I get nose bleeds that required tampons to be placed up my nose to stop the bleeding, my stomach is very sensitive to a lot of foods I used to enjoy, I now have kidney disease, I get chest pains regularly, in addition to other conditions including respiratory difficulties. I will say that I had my eyes removed from their orbital sockets and had them worked on which helped greatly, but now my vision corrected fluctuates about 20/100 which is not good and the extent of my visual damage is earth shattering. Once I left the factory, the rapid degeneration of my conditions was not as radical though they still plague me daily. The speed at which all of these complications kicked in was all done in less than a year. Surgeons originally attempted to repair my eyes using cauterizing lasers to stop the internal bleeding that was causing my vision loss. The laser surgeries and treatments never helped, they made it worse. Any time I ever got sick was directly attributed to my Diabetes. I had accepted that back then because I had no knowledge of what I do now. Now with the insight I have been given thru this investigation, I am rethinking my health and conditions. For two years on my best days I could not see more than hints of light and unidentifiable moving objects. Some days during these two years I could not tell the difference between dark and light. These two years are when my daughter was starting to walk, and grow, this was my first born I am referring to. I was young and missed some things I was expected to experience in life.

# **Buried Radioactive Waste and other Suspicious Statements Told at Orientation**

When I hired in at the plant, was in human resources and the spokesperson for new hire orientation. We were told about basic company policies such as call offs, pay days, and general safety. The only mention of radioactive material was done by and in a very joking manner. She gave the story the feel of folklore and rumor. She did not confirm or deny the story she was about to tell. stated that she had heard there was a hill outside of casting on the facility's property that contained buried radioactive waste that made up the hill. The entire conversation was treated as a joke and rumor with

even laughing as she told it resulting in the rest of us new hires laughing as well. Comments were even made that the ground may glow at night. She made it sound so science fiction nobody even considered the story to pose any concern. New hires were also informed that the facility took great care of the surrounding poverty stricken community by hiring minorities, women, under educated individuals, individuals with health condition, and friends and relatives of existing workers that may not have the resources or skill to get employment elsewhere. Looking back now, I see what the true

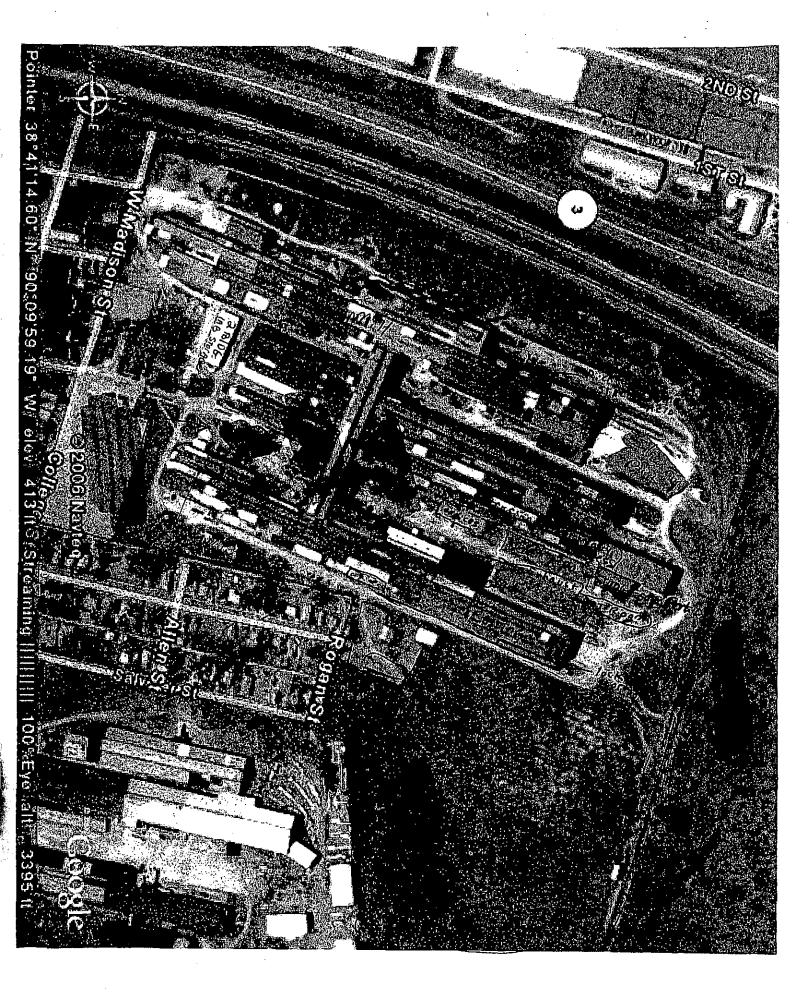
intention was. If a family member was to become ill, if they worked at the plant, it would be difficult to say if the individual got sick from home or work, in addition to getting sick from an exposed worker coming home and bringing contamination with them. If a person with health issues was hired, if they became ill, it would be safe to say it was pre-existing. Undereducated people may not have the intelligence to realize that they are messing with harmful materials or waste, plus an undereducated person may feel intimidated of losing their job/income if they became insubordinate by asking questions relevant to safety/suspicion. Traditionally and historically, minorities have been stereotyped to not have extensive financial or economical resources. What I mean to say is, if a minority came up with a claim that he or she was exposed to harmful items, they would not be taken seriously with the attitude that they are a minority and do not deem a threat due to lack of support in various levels. To validate my claim, look at where the facility is located. The contamination that poisoned the employees had to poison the community in which it is located. This community is stricken in poverty and the lack of resources for these residents to get justice is less likely than that of a non minority community. Many of these community members worked at this facility. As I stated, now I see why such statements and goals were set by the company.

A person's goal in life is to be successful, and acquire things such as a family. These men and women worked at this facility to provide for these goals and families. Nobody went to work specifically to get ill or make their family and friends ill. Nobody went to work to make the community ill. These men and women went to work to, to make a living, not die, or live a shortened life because of illness.

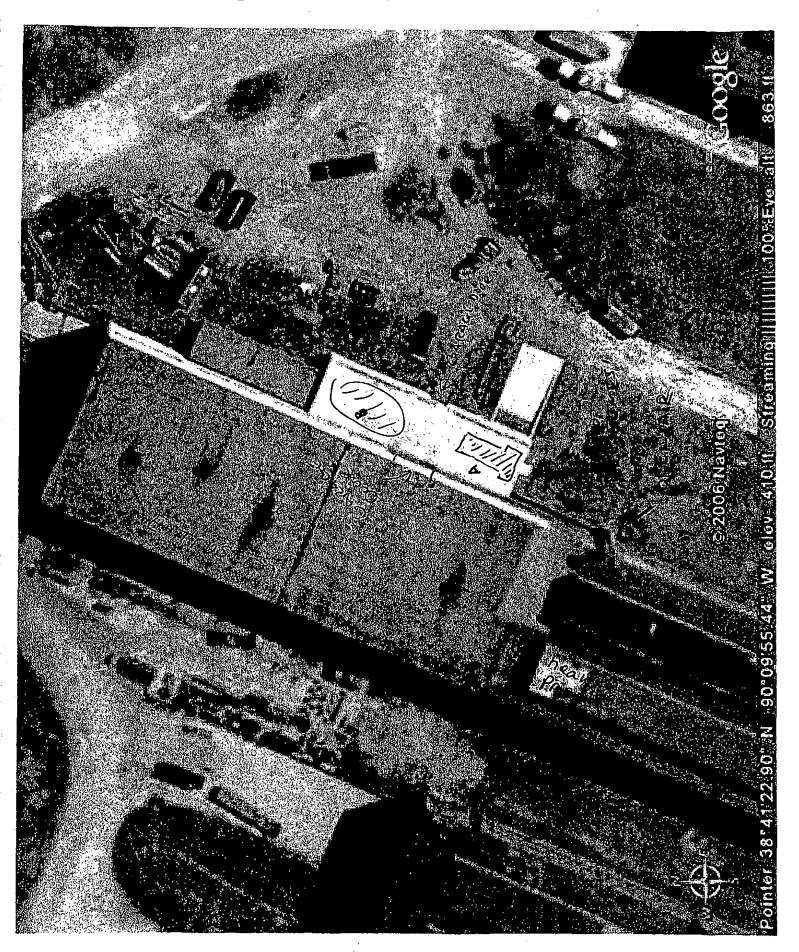
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Official Seal Ann Carlisle Notary Public, State of Illinois My Commission Expires March 17, 2009

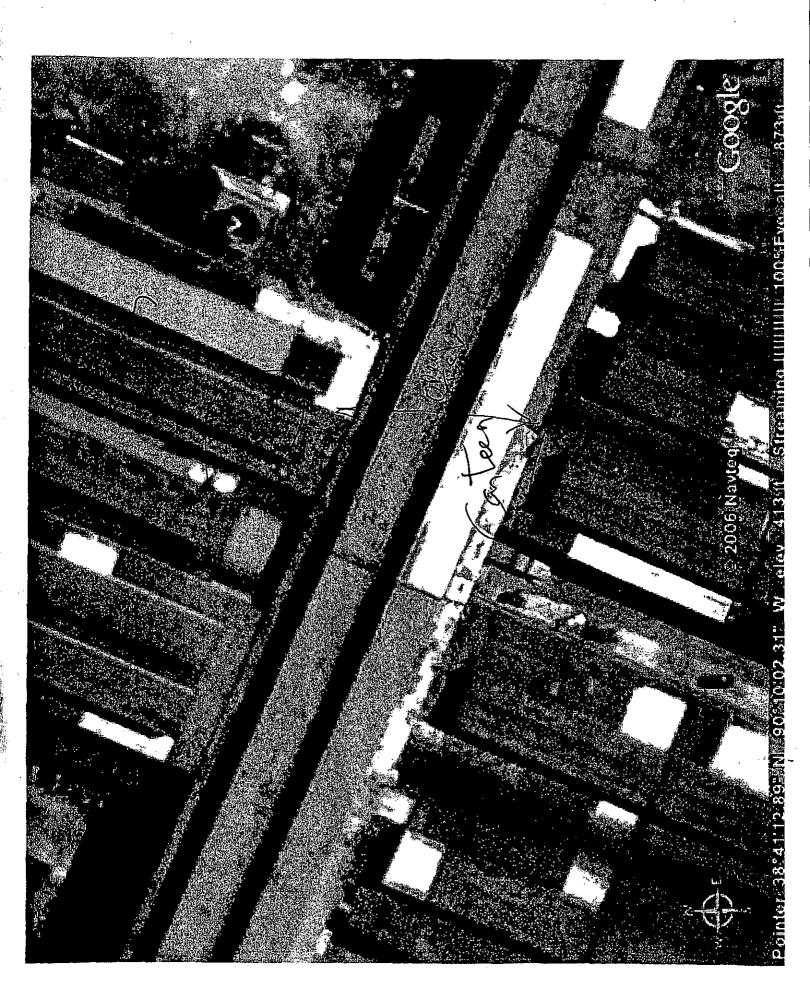
ann Carliele Madrion Country October 11, 2006



15 - Dies that were cleaned and scrapped A - Caustic tank







ACTIVATI
STATE OF ILLINOIS )
COUNTY OF MADISON )
Affidavit of
My name is I worked at Dow Chemical from 1968 to We worked we thorium as long as I worked in the Mill. We rolled it, cut it, and processed it. In shipping sent it to different customers. The one we were talking about was Rocky Flats. We a received metal back I also worked in Casting at both ends. Also I worked all over the play when I was in Maintenance.
Further, Affiant sayeth not.
Dated: 2-5-07
SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN before me this 5 day of gallary, 200  Analy Public  OFFICIAL SEAL  DONNA JEREMIAS-ELLIOTT  NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF IL  MY COMMISSION EXPIRES ON  FEERUARY 28, 2010