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ARMY SERVICE FORCES
UNITED STATES ENGINEER OFFICE
MANHATTAN DISTRICT
OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE

IN REPLY REFER TO EIDMK-11

7 March 1946.

Subject: Meeting of Manhattan Project Technical Advisory Committee on Isotopes.

MEMORANDUM to Lt. Col. H. L. Friedell.

1. A "Manhattan Project Technical Advisory Committee on Isotopes" has been formed of members from major laboratories of the District concerned with the production and uses of non-fissionable isotopes. The general functions of the committee will be to afford:

a. Exchange, between the chief users and producers of isotopes (separated and radioactive) within the project, of information on isotope requirements, production, distribution, measurement, and uses.

b. Expert technical advice to the District on the matters referred to in "a".

2. Because of the great interest of medical groups in isotope applications, it has been suggested that you be urged to sit in on the first meeting of the committee which is to be held here 20 March afternoon and 21 March morning, probably at Clinton Laboratories. It is further suggested that you would be in a position to advise on matters pertaining to the Rochester Area, from which no laboratory representation has been planned. Since the Advisory Committee is advisory to the District Office, those attending committee meetings from the District Office are not considered voting members.

3. A proposed agenda for the meeting is inclosed. Any suggestions you have would be appreciated.

PAUL C. AEBERSOLD.

1 Incl:
Cy. of Agenda.

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PAUL C. ASSERMOLD.

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Date 1/24/94

PROPOSED AGENDA FOR FIRST MEETING
OF
MANHATTAN PROJECT TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ON ISOTOPES (STABLE AND RADIOACTIVE)*

*(Non-fissionable)

Proposed Meeting - Oak Ridge: 20 March 2 - 5 PM
21 March 9 - 12 AM

A. INFORMATION AND STATUS:

1. Reasons for Committee and Meeting:

a. Informational -- Exchange of information and views on production, distribution, and use of isotopes, between chief isotope producers and users, from major parts of project.

b. Expert technical advice to District Office -- Research Division wishes to aid in achieving maximum overall benefits obtainable by intra-project cooperation -- desire advice from members authorized by laboratory directors to represent their areas on isotopes: (1) needs, (2) cooperative production, (3) cooperative measurements, and (4) cooperative distribution.

2. Non-Project Distribution: -- Proposals and Status: (10 minutes)

3. Status of Radioisotope Production:

a. Clinton Laboratories (15 minutes)

b. Hanford Piles (20 minutes)

c. 60-inch Cyclotron (10 minutes)

4. Status of Stable Isotope Separation Program:

a. Y-12 (15 minutes)

b. Berkeley (10 minutes)

B. ESTIMATED NEEDS (Rough Values):

1. Radioisotopes (particularly, biologically important):

a. Project Distribution:

(1) Next six months.

(2) Following year thereafter.

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b. National, Non-Project Distribution:

(1) First six months of distribution.

(2) Following year thereafter.

2. Stable Separated:

a. Stock-pile sufficient for research in physics and chemistry in nation.

b. Rate of production for biological applications on national scale.

C. PRODUCTION SUGGESTIONS (Discussion of):

1. Radioisotopes:

a. C^{14}.

(1) Use of irradiated graphite in fulfilling needs. (Also, plus magnetic separation of C^{14})

(2) Nitrogen (n, p) methods -- relative merits.

(3) Cooperative production and distribution.

b. H^3.

(1) Comparison of methods.

(2) Cooperative production and distribution.

c. P^{32}.

d. Other widely-required radioisotopes.

2. Separated Stable Isotopes:

a. Clinton Laboratories list of suggested uses and priorities.

D. DISTRIBUTION SUGGESTIONS (Discussion of):

1. Possible means for effecting equitable distribution within the project of scarce isotopes, stable or radioactive:

a. Members of Project Technical Advisory Committee on Isotopes could be consultants concerning fulfillment of project requests

b. Just allowances in distribution could be made to reward efforts of the initiator of production or the processor, but no monopoly desirable.

c. Pooling could be instituted for amounts of widely-demanded scarce isotopes that are in excess of the immediate needs of the processing area.

2. Paper charges could be made for radioelements produced by piles (similar to charges for cyclotron bombardments). Would indicate to user the value (particularly in manpower and materials of the producer) of the isotopes.

3. Issuance of stable isotopes could be on a loan basis for many uses.

4. Applications for isotopes should have more details given concerning specifications, intended uses, and amounts for each use -- similar but simpler form than that proposed for non-project applications.

5. Occasional accountability given for amounts used and unused of scarce isotopes.

E. ALLOCATION AND PRIORITY MATTERS (Discussion of):

1. Allocation of scarce materials for duplicatory investigations with same isotopes:

   a. Cases when advisable.

   b. Cases when not advisable.

2. Basis for assessing priority of production when an order of production needs to be established.

3. Relative preference in scheduling and allocation of requests in following cases:

   a. Project member for immediate problems of District.

   b. Project member for non-immediate fundamental problems.

   c. Former project member for fundamental investigations related to Project.

   d. No-time member of project for investigations not related to project.

4. Earmarking a fraction of output for non-project distribution even when project members could use all of produced amounts.

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F. FUTURE FUNCTIONS OF COMMITTEE (Discussion of):

1. Project-wide advice to District Office.

2. Advisability of regular meetings adjacent to Plutonium Project Information Meetings.

3. Proposals to District Office concerning future isotope production, e.g., radioelement producing pile, special magnetic separations, etc.

4. Fostering a program of standardizing radioactivity measurements (cooperation with L. F. Curtiss and R. D. Evans).

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