

Equipment removed from AEC plant

MODEL CITY — Equipment will be removed beginning today from the Atomic Energy Commission's Boron-10 production plant on Pletcher Road.

Trucks will haul out equipment that is in excess of AEC needs and has been sold to a private company. This follows an AEC's decision that it no longer needs to keep the plant on a standby status.

The plant has been shut-down since 1971.

It was operated by Nuclear

Materials and Equipment Corp. (NUMEC).

The plant was closed because quantities of boron, used as reactor shields and in radiation detection devices, were sufficient.

The AEC determined that its present inventories of Boron-10, a non-radioactive material, are sufficient to meet demand. When additional quantities are required, private industry has capabilities of meeting AEC needs.

Only a portion of the plant's process equipment will be removed. There are no plans to dispose of any buildings or other structures and the AEC will continue to provide personnel for maintenance and protection of remaining government-owned, property,

equipment and material, including uranium ore bearing materials in storage.

The equipment was purchased by Eagle-Picher Industries Inc., of Miami, Okla., which produces boron for commercial sale. They have made arrangements with Roadway Transit of Buffalo for loading and hauling away the equipment.

The equipment consists of 75 items such as steel tanks, pumps, gauges and scales.

Much of the equipment in the plant, including office equipment has previously been transferred to other AEC facilities following the 1971 shutdown.

The trucks will be operating from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. today through Friday and the

company estimates it will take about two weeks to complete the removal.

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