Michael Gillin, Ph.D. Professor, Radiation Oncology Medical College of Wisconsin 8701 Watertown Plank Road Milwaukee, WI 53226

Dear Dr. Gillin:

I am writing to follow up my letter of March 22, 2000, which responded to your February 22, 2000 letter to Chairman Meserve, concerning our inspection at a hospital where you deliver services. You had raised the concern that the inspection interfered with ongoing patient treatments. You suggested that we review our guidelines on this matter. We indicated that we would inform you of the results of our review.

Our long standing policy is that Nuclear Regulatory Commission activities, including inspections of medical facilities, should be conducted such that they do not interfere with patient care. During our training courses, inspectors are instructed to avoid interfering with patient care during inspections, and the written training manual includes the same instructions. However, based on our review of our training and procedures in light of the concerns raised in your letter, we have concluded that this issue needs more emphasis. For example, the written procedures used by inspectors on a day-to-day basis do not address this issue. Therefore, we plan to revise the applicable training manual and inspection procedures, to place more emphasis on this important policy and to provide additional guidance for conduct of inspections without interfering with patient care.

Thank you again for bringing this matter to our attention. If you have further questions, please call me at 301-415-7197.

Sincerely, /RA/

Donald A. Cool, Director Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

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Donald A. Cool, Director Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

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Our long standing policy is that Nuclear Regulatory Commission activities, including inspections of medical facilities, should be conducted such that they do not interfere with patient care. We confirmed that this policy is included in our inspector training manual, and we believe it is generally understood. However, we concluded that the policy is not adequately covered in our quidance and procedures used by inspectors on a day-to-day basis. Therefore, we will revise the applicable documents, as appropriate, to emphasize this important policy.

Thank you again for bringing this matter to our attention. If you have further questions, please call me at 301-415-7197.

Sincerely.

Donald A. Cool, Director Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

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