



THOMAS J. VILSACK
GOVERNOR
SALLY J. PEDERSON
LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
STEPHEN C. GLEASON, DIRECTOR

November 16, 2000

Bon Cahill, General Manager
Ronan Engineering Company
8050 Production Drive
Florence, Kentucky 41042

Dear Mr. Cahill:

It has come to my attention that an individual selling your firm's products may not be providing accurate information to the clients in Iowa regarding the regulatory controls involved with generally licensed devices containing radioactive materials. I understand that as late as November 2, 2000, a sales representative named Paul Wisner had a conversation with a client who had purchased a model RLL1 source holder with four sources totaling 360 microcuries of Cesium-137. In that conversation, the client understood the sales representative to state that the RLL1 is not a generally licensed device and that there were no regulatory controls.

As I am sure you are aware, this device can be either specifically or generally licensed according to the Sealed Source and Device registration. In this particular instance, the device was shipped into Iowa as a generally licensed device.

As an agreement state, Iowa has implemented Iowa Administrative Code Chapters 38, 39, and 40. Applicable sections of these rules not only require the owners of these devices to register them annually with the Bureau of Radiological Health, but owners must also follow radiation safety practices that include leak tests, inventory, shutter checks, emergency procedures, as well as complying the manufacturer's recommendations for proper operations. In addition, these devices are subject to periodic inspection by the Bureau of Radiological Health.

Please inform your sales representatives that they need to be sure they relay accurate information to their clients regarding regulatory controls, which may vary from state to state. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Joyce L. Spencer at 515-725-0310 or me.

Sincerely,

Donald A. Flater, Chief
Bureau of Radiological Health
515-281-3478

cc: Heather Adams, Assistant Attorney General
James Lynch, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region III
John Steinbrunner, Sales Manager, Ronan Engineering Company
John A. Volpe, PhD, Kentucky Radiation Health and Toxic Agents

LUCAS STATE OFFICE BUILDING / 321 E. 12TH ST. / DES MOINES, IOWA 50319-0075
DEAF RELAY (HEARING OR SPEECH IMPAIRED) 1-800-735-2942 / INTERNET: [HTTP://IDPH.STATE.IA.US/](http://IDPH.STATE.IA.US/)

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE
515-281-5605
FAX/515-281-4958

EXECUTIVE STAFF
515-281-5604
FAX/515-281-4958

DIV. OF ADMINISTRATION & REGULATORY AFFAIRS
515-281-5784
FAX/515-281-4958

DIV. OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
515-281-5784
FAX/515-281-4958

DIV. OF FAMILY & COMMUNITY HEALTH
515-281-3931
FAX/515-242-6384

DIV. OF HEALTH PROMOTION, PREVENTION & ADDICTIVE BEHAVIORS
515-281-3641
FAX/515-281-4535

DIV. OF TOBACCO USE PREVENTION & CONTROL
515-281-6225
FAX/515-281-4535