

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH STEPHEN C. GLEASON, DIRECTOR

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

January 25, 2001

Marcia Howard, Administrator Nuclear Materials Safety Program Ohio Department of Health PO Box 118 Columbus, Ohio 43266-0118

Re:

VEECO Instruments, Inc.

Dear Ms. Howard:

I received the enclosed letter from Clayton Bradt, Principal Radiophysicist with the New York Department of Labor. He relays information that VEECO Instruments, Inc., has sold the portion of their business that involves the distribution of beta-backscatter devices to Justech, Inc., of West Chester, Ohio.

This letter is to inform you of an issue regarding these devices containing generally licensed radioactive materials. During one of our routine inspections of generally licensed materials, we discovered that the devices contained material in excess of that listed on the Sealed Source and Device Registry (SS&D). The SS&D listing was issued to Unit Process Assemblies Technology in October 1976 with a 50 uCi maximum for Pm-147. However, the devices identified at the Iowa facility contained 600 uCi of Pm-147.

In doing further research, we found that Unit Process Assemblies Technology was purchased in The New York Department of Labor allowed VEECO 1994 by VEECO Instruments. Instruments to increase the maximum for the Pm-147 probe first to 75 uCi and then up to 900 uCi without updating the 1976 SS&D to reflect the changes in ownership and the activity of the source.

We attempted to obtain an updated SS&D from the New York Department of Labor, but succeeded only in receiving a copy of the license they issued to VEECO Instruments. The copy of the license does not include any information regarding environmental and safety issues for the device. No such documentation has been provided in spite of contacts from both our office and the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

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According to the enclosed letter from Clayton Bradt, VEECO Instruments has sold this portion of their business to Justech, Inc., of West Chester, Ohio. Mr. Bradt stated that Justech, Inc., was seeking a license from Ohio and that VEECO Instruments intended to cease its activities in November.

This letter is just to bring you up to date on a situation that arose from an inspection conducted in Iowa that may impact the Ohio radiation materials program. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Joyce Spencer at 515-725-0310 or me.

Sincerely,

Donald A. Flater, Chief

Bureau of Radiological Health

515-281-3478

cc: Michael Justice, Justech, Inc.

Paul Lohaus, USNRC, STP

James L. Lynch, USNRC, Region III

enc:

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STATE OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF LABOR DIVISION OF SAFETY AND HEALTH RADIOLOGICAL HEALTH UNIT

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GEORGE E. PATAKI
Governor

SAN 16 2001

JAMES T. DILLON
Acting Commissioner

January 9, 2001

Donald A. Flater, Chief Bureau of Radiological Health Iowa Department of Public Health Lucas State Office Building 321 E. 12th Street Des Moines, IA 50319-0075

Re: VEECO Instruments, Inc.

Dear Mr. Flater:

In your letter dated November 16, 2000, you expressed concerns over the distribution of beta-backscatter devices by VEECO Instruments, Inc. to general licensees in your state. I have been advised by VEECO that they have sold this portion of their business to Justech, Inc., of West Chester, Ohio. It is my understanding that Justech is in the process of applying for a license with the State of Ohio and will be submitting a request for an SS&D review as well. During the transition period, VEECO will continue to provide support for devices distributed under its license, but expects to terminate operations by November of this year.

If you have further questions, I suggest that you contact either Frank Ferrandino at VEECO (516-738-9300), or Michael Justice at Justech (513-755-1381).

Clayton J Bradt, CHP Principal Radiophysicist

Regard's

cc:

Frank Ferrandino, VEECO Instruments, Inc. Duncan White, USNRC, Region I Paul Lohaus, USNRC, STP