

April 25, 2001

Larry J. Hathorne, Program Coordinator  
Fabrication Department  
Ford Motor Company  
P.O. Box 2110 - MD - 520  
Dearborn, MI 48123

SUBJECT: NRC REVIEW OF REPORT OF LOST NRD ION GUN SOURCE

Dear Mr. Hathorne:

This refers to your letter dated April 4, 2001, regarding the loss of a nominal 10 millicurie (approximately 5.9 millicurie at time of loss) polonium-210 NRD ion gun model P-2021-1303 (source Serial No. 120153). We have completed our review and have determined that violations of 10 CFR 31.5 occurred when you lost control of the source some time between October 2000 and February 2001.

Although violations of 10 CFR 31.5 were identified and because Ford Motor Company actions were not willful, it identified and reported the violations to the NRC, and it took appropriate corrective action to address the violations and prevent recurrence of similar problems, we are exercising enforcement discretion in accordance with the Interim Enforcement Policy for Generally Licensed Devices (Enforcement Manual, Section 8.6, (May 1, 2000; 65 FR 25368)), and not issuing any enforcement action for this violation. However, any future violations of 10 CFR 31.5 may be considered for enforcement action.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available **electronically** for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the *Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS)*. ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/ADAMS/index.html> (the Public Electronic Reading Room).

Sincerely,

*/RA/ D. Wiedeman for*

Geoffrey C. Wright, Chief  
Materials Inspection Branch

Docket No. 9990003  
General Licensee 10 CFR 31.5

bcc: PUBLIC IE-07

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