

Georgia Department of Natural Resources

4244 International Parkway, Suite 114, Atlanta, Georgia 30354

Lonice C. Barrett, Commissioner
Environmental Protection Division
Harold F. Reheis, Director

August 10, 2001

Mr. Paul H. Lohaus, Deputy Director
Office of State Programs (03D23)
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Mr. Lohaus:

Earlier this week I received an inquiry concerning licensing and distribution of sources exempt from regulation. Specifically the call was inquiring about mixed isotope source for calibrating gamma spectroscopy systems. These sources contain eight to ten different isotopes two of which have traditionally been accelerator produced, 57 Cobalt and 88 Yttrium. What is the proper way for licensing an Agreement State licensee for the distribution of these sources to persons exempt from regulation?

Volume 3 of NUREG 1556, Section 5.4, paragraph two, states that as a general rule NRC does not accept applications for radiation safety evaluation and registration of sealed sources and devices containing NARM. It further states that exceptions are made to this general rule regarding by-product material commingled with NARM. Since the gamma spectroscopy sources are not "sealed sources" will NRC evaluate, registers and authorizes the distribution of these sources? Or does NRC authorize the distribution of the by-product material and the AS authorize the distribution of the NARM?

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Thomas E. Hill, Manager
Radioactive Materials Program

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