

August 29, 2001

MEMORANDUM TO: Dwight D. Chamberlain, Director
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety
Region IV

FROM: Cynthia D. Pederson, Director */RA by M. Dapas acting for/*
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety
Region III

SUBJECT: SHUT DOWN OF REGION III LABORATORY

As you are aware, the Region III laboratory is being shut down based on a lack of budgeted resources beginning in Fiscal Year 2002. To prepare for this shut down, Region III will cease counting radiological samples on September 17, 2001. Any samples from Region IV which have not already been forwarded to Region III for counting, should not be sent without first coordinating with Mr. Gene Bonano of my staff. This is to ensure that we will be able to complete counting the samples before September 17. We will ensure that any samples we have already received will be counted prior to September 17, or they will be forwarded to the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE) for counting. All future samples collected by Region IV should be sent directly to ORISE for analysis.

In addition, Region III will no longer be acting as the source of sampling supplies (e.g., containers) for Region IV. If necessary, Mr. Bonano can provide assistance as to where we are purchasing our supplies as well as cost estimates.

You should also be aware that we will no longer be maintaining, reviewing or revising the Laboratory Procedures as they currently exist. Region IV has one of the controlled copies of these procedures. Several of these procedures address the protocols for the field collection of samples, chain of custody, etc. We will be reviewing and updating these procedures as part of our plan to convert them into Regional Procedures. When that is completed, we will forward copies to Region IV.

If you have any questions, please contact Gene Bonano, Bill Snell or Bruce Jorgensen of my staff.

cc: L. Camper, NMSS
J. Buckley, NMSS
J. Caldwell, RIII
M. Dapas, RIII

CONTACT: B. Jorgensen, DNMS
(630) 829-9615

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