

April 17, 2002

Ms. Carol Oberdorfer, President
Dickerson Community Association, Inc.
22030 Big Woods Road
Dickerson, MD 20842

Dear Ms. Oberdorfer:

I am responding to your letter to Chairman Meserve dated March 15, 2002, expressing concerns about the security of radioactive material at Neutron Products, Inc. in Dickerson, Maryland. The State of Maryland has entered into an Agreement with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) under which the NRC discontinues its authority to regulate certain radioactive materials, and the State assumes that authority. Under this Agreement, the State of Maryland has jurisdiction over Neutron Products. We are providing a copy of your letter to Roland G. Fletcher, Environmental Program Manager, Maryland Radiological Health Program, at (410) 631-3300. We have asked the State to respond to you directly regarding the concerns you raised.

NRC shares your concern that licensed radioactive material needs to be adequately secured against terrorist attacks. After the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the NRC issued advisories to licensees and Agreement State agencies, urging them to establish and maintain a high level of alertness to security-related matters. In addition, NRC initiated a top-to-bottom review of all aspects of our safeguards and security programs. Any additional security requirements which are established as a result of this review will be communicated to Maryland, other Agreement States, and the licensees for appropriate implementation at licensed facilities.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Martin J. Virgilio, Director
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

cc: Roland G. Fletcher, Manager
Maryland Radiological Health Program

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Martin J. Virgilio, Director
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
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Maryland Radiological Health Program

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