

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

PROGRAM MANAGER FOR ROCKY MOUNTAIN ARSENAL COMMERCE CITY, COLOR ADO:80022-1748

April 11, 2002



REPLY TO ATTENTION OF

Office of the Commander

Mr. Ellis W. Merschoff Regional Administrator United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission Region IV 611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 400 Arlington, Texas 76011-8064

Dear Mr. Merschoff:

Following your written request dated April 5, 2002, described below are the actions that have been completed to maintain the radiation safety program for the Rocky Mountain Arsenal (RMA).

Only individuals who are qualified and trained are allowed to operate Troxler Nuclear Test gauges. Mr. Elijah Jones, Civilian Executive Assistant, from my staff has reviewed the training records of individuals assigned to operate the test gauges and verified they are qualified. Individuals must complete eight hours of training provided by the test gauge manufacturer, Troxler, and attend an annual refresher on proper operation of the test gauge, Radiation Safety, and Department of Transportation (DOT) requirements. The gauges are stored in a locked shed and a key to the shed is only assigned to only those who meet the training requirements.

Mr. John Balzer, RMA Army Health and Safety Manager, has been appointed the Radiation Safety Officer (RSO) to oversee the National Radiation Commission (NRC) licensed activities at RMA. This week he is attending a 40-hour Radiation Safety Course in Gaithersburg, Maryland at the Radiation Safety Academy. When Mr. Balzer returns on April 15, 2002, an amendment to Byproduct Materials License 05-07157-02 will be completed naming him as RSO and submitted to your office before April 30, 2002.

License requirements have been maintained that includes leak tests, inventories, and surveys conducted on a semi-annual basis, and training for those individuals authorized to use equipment containing sealed sources. Training for individuals using sealed sources includes emergency response procedures and notification requirements in the event of an incident involving the loss or theft of licensed materials. Mr. Elijah Jones has reviewed these records and verified them as complete. Although not required, a radiation dosimetry program is maintained for individuals who operate the Troxler Nuclear Test Gauges, and Mr. Jones has reviewed those records as well.

Once Mr. Balzer is approved as RSO, I believe all the compliance requirements for the NRC Byproduct Materials License issued to RMA will be met. Although we had a lapse in coverage of an RSO, the day-to-day requirements for an effective radiation safety program were always maintained.

Copies of this letter were forwarded to:

- a. Major M. Weslyn Erickson, Chief Counsel, Program Manager Rocky Mountain Arsenal, (AMSSB-PM-ORMA-CL), Commerce City, Colorado 80022-1748.
- b. Program Manager Rocky Mountain Arsenal, (AMSSB-PM-ORMA-D), Document Tracking Center, Building 129, Commerce City, Colorado 80022-1748.

You may direct inquiries to Mr. John Balzer at 303-289-0102 or the undersigned at 303-289-0956.

Sincerely

Henry J. Davis

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Commanding