Stephen M. Karesh, Ph.D. President, Consultants in Nuclear Medicine 2910 W. Estes Avenue Chicago, IL 60645-2934

Dear Dr. Karesh:

I am responding to your December 19, 2003, letter to Dr. Travers, requesting confirmation that you are compliant with current licensing regulations and written assurance that your "Basic Radioisotope Handling Course" meets current guidelines. You indicated your company would be offering the course in Chicago, Illinois. Illinois is an Agreement State and you should refer any questions concerning the need for a radioactive materials license to the State of Illinois.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) does not review and approve courses such as you have described. It is the preceptor authorized user's responsibility to determine if the individual has satisfactorily completed the training and experience requirements in the regulations and has achieved a level of competency to function independently as an authorized user. It is the licensee's responsibility to approve in writing any individual before that individual can work as an authorized user. Whether your proposed instruction is sufficient to meet the classroom and laboratory training needs for an individual seeking authorized user status will be determined by that individual's existing knowledge and ability to achieve a level of competency to function independently. NRC will review all documentation from an NRC licensee to determine if the individual can be listed as an authorized user on the NRC license.

If you have any questions, please contact Donna-Beth Howe, Ph.D., at (301) 415-7848.

Sincerely

/RA/

Charles L. Miller, Director
Division of Industrial and
Medical Nuclear Safety
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

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