



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Veterans Health Administration
National Health Physics Program
2200 Fort Roots Drive
North Little Rock, AR 72114

JUN 02 2004

In Reply Refer To: 598/115HP/NLR

Kevin G. Null
Division of Nuclear Material Safety
Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), Region III
2443 Warrenville Road, Suite 210
Lisle, Illinois 60532-4352

Dear Mr. Null:

I am forwarding the enclosed report from Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, for event number 40729. The report is dated June 1, 2004.

The basis for a report is under 10 CFR 31.5(c)(10) in that radioactive materials obtained under a general license were lost and the reporting requirements in 10 CFR 20.2201 must be followed. The NRC Operations Center was notified on May 6, 2004.

Per your telephone request, we are sending the report sans review or comment. Please note we consider the event to be within the scope of the National Health Physics Program, even though the radioactive materials were obtained under a general license.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact me at (501) 257-1571.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Lynn McGuire".

E. Lynn McGuire
Director, National Health Physics Program

Enclosure

JUN 3 2004



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Clement J. Zablocki Medical Center
5000 W. National Avenue
Milwaukee WI 53295-0001
June 1, 2004

In Reply Refer To: 695/00S

•National Health Physics Program (115HP/NLR)
Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
2200 Fort Roots Drive
North Little Rock, AR 72114

RE: Written Report per 10 CFR 20.2201(b) for NRC Event 40729

Per 10 CFR 20.2201(b) we are sending this report to the VHA NHPP for review and forwarding to the NRC.

- (i) Description of the licensed material involved, including kind, quantity, and chemical and physical form
Four (4) tritium exit signs of unknown manufacturer or model. Two possible manufacturers of the signs are:
 1. Shield Source Incorporated: 11.5 curies in approximately 1994
 2. SRB Technology: 20 curies in approximately 1994.
- (ii) Description of the circumstances under which the loss or theft occurred
The loss of the signs is assumed to have occurred during a construction project in 2001. The signs were most likely disposed or discarded with construction debris from the construction project.
- (iii) Statement of disposition, or probable disposition, of the licensed material involved
The signs were most likely disposed or discarded into a local landfill with other construction debris in 2001.
- (iv) Exposures of individuals to radiation, circumstances under which the exposures occurred, and the possible total effective dose equivalent to persons in unrestricted areas
No exposure of individuals to radiation is expected from this disposal or discarding of material.
- (v) Actions that have been taken. Or will be taken, to recover the material
No actions have or will be taken to attempt to recover the material since it most likely was disposed in a landfill in 2001 with other construction debris.