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Office of Research and Graduate Studies

*05 APR -1 P12:15

March 22, 2005

Stephen Courtemanche U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Region 1 475 Allendale Road King of Prussia, PA 19406-1415

re:

Mail Control No. 136063

K-H ms-16 37-07-138-15

03012998

Dear Mr. Courtemanche:

The following reply is in response to your letter requesting additional information in support of Philadelphia Health and Education Corporation's license renewal application. The numbering in this response corresponds to your letter.

1. Please confirm that you do not possess more than 50 microcuries of Iodine-129.

Drexel University College of Medicine does not possess any Iodine-129.

2. Item 5.ii.c requests that your license be written in a manner so that you administratively control the "R-value" of this line item so that it does not exceed a value of 100. Current licensing policy does not permit this approach.

Since current NRC's licensing policy prohibits this approach, we rescind our request for isotopes with half-lives in excess of 120 days. If we need any long-lived isotopes not already specifically licensed, we will request an amendment to our license to add them.

3. Please provide copies of the most current leak test records for these sources and documentation from the recipient(s) indicating that the sealed sources are now in their possession.

These sources were placed in storage prior to disposal in 2001. Since leak tests are not required for sealed sources in storage and the retention requirement for leak test records is 3 years, these records were purged and are no longer available. See attached waste manifest and receipt document.

4. [Y]ou must show (1) that licensed facilities that are in use or that are not in use but are contaminated will only require the smaller financial mechanism and (2) your possession limits must be lowered so that the "R-value" does not exceed 10,000.

136063

Regarding part 1, we offer two arguments to show that any existing contamination that may exist will only require the smaller financial mechanism. First, Table 1 below shows the sum of authorizations granted by the Radiation Safety Committee.

Table 1: Total Assigned Possession Limits

	Possession limits issued by Radiation Safety Committee*	
Isotope	(mČi)	R-Value
Ca-45	15.8	1580
H-3	375	375
C-14	93	930
C1-36	0.1	10
I-129	0	0
Sum of the Ratios		2895

^{*}Includes authorized uses for all active and inactive (still at institution, but no longer using radioactive materials) authorized users.

The "R-value" for activity usage permitted by the Radiation Safety Committee at the institution is well below 10,000. The **actual** activity possessed would have been even less than this.

Table 2 lists areas with fixed or removable contamination exceeding 1000 dpm/100 cm² and the theoretical dose to the screening group in the first year of occupancy. Contamination data is based on the contamination surveys of all areas where radioactive materials are used conducted in the 4th calendar quarter of 2004 by the Radiation Safety Office. Dose modeling is based on DandD software (v2.1.0) using default building occupancy values.

Table 2: Contamination Present

		Theoretical Dose from	Number of Areas
		Contamination at	Surveyed
	Contamination Threshold	Threshold	Exceeding
Isotope	$(dpm/100 cm^2)$	(millirem/year)	Threshold
Ca-45	1000	0.00989	none
H-3	1000	0.00022	none
C-14	1000	0.00741	none
Cl-36	1000	0.0566	none
I-129	1000	0.769	none
Total Do	se	0.843	

Table 2 shows that current contamination levels at the facility would not require decontamination to meet release requirements; therefore, no additional financial assurance is necessary.

Part 2 is resolved by our response to question 2.

5. The first table on page 6 of your application describes the frequency at which surveys will be performed but does not describe what isotopes fall into which group. Please provide a list of example isotopes that comprise each group as you have done in the second table on page 6.

The first table on page 6 describes the frequency at which surveys will be performed based on activity and risk group. The second table provides criteria used to define the risk groups and sample isotopes. Therefore, the information you are seeking was provided in the original renewal application.

6. Your application contains a delegation of authority on page 8. The delegation of authority is supposed to be a stand alone document within the application signed by a senior management representative. Appendix J of NUREG 1556 Volume 11 contains a model Delegation of Authority that is acceptable to the NRC.

Because this is a renewal application and the appointed radiation safety officer and the authority granted to same have not changed, we felt that a simple reaffirmation of this was sufficient. Nonetheless, we will submit a stand alone delegation of authority.

7. [Y]ou state that refresher training will be offered as needed and at least annually. Confirm that refresher training will be attended by personnel requiring the training on, at least, an annual basis.

We confirm that personnel requiring instructions will receive refresher training on at least an annual basis.

8. Please provide a description of the minimum qualifications for instructors who provide radiation safety training.

All instructors will be employees of Drexel University Radiation Safety Office at a level of Radiation Safety Technologist or higher. From the job description:

One year of experience in radiation safety at an academic or medical facility is preferred; however experience in a research laboratory or clinical department where sources of radiation are used will be considered. An Associates Degree in health physics or Bachelor of Science degree in physics, biology, chemistry, or other science is required. Seven years experience at an academic/medical facility may substitute for the degree requirement. Certification in nuclear medicine, radiation therapy, or radiography technology will be considered in substitution for the degree requirement. The Radiation Safety Technologist must be knowledgeable in the use of a variety of radiation detection equipment that includes hand held survey meters and analytical equipment. The incumbent must have or quickly develop a working knowledge of radiation protection regulations, standards and practices at academic/medical facilities.

9. Under Item 10.6 you state, in part, that each source will be individually tested if the activity on the swab exceeds 0.05 microcuries. Please confirm that the limit should be 0.005 microcuries.

Confirmed.

If you have any further questions please contact Mr. Kent Lambert, Radiation Safety Officer, at 215-762-8768 or kent.lambert@drexel.edu. If I can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Leonard M. Stephenson, Ph.D.

Vice Provost for Research Dean of Graduate Studies

cc:

S. Murthy, Ph.D.

K. Lambert, M.S., CHP



P.O. Box 817 — Kingston, TN 37763 — (865) 376-0053

August 15, 2001

MCP/Hahnemann University Kent Lambert, Assistant RSO Radiation Safety Mail Stop 106 245 North 15th Street Philadelphia, PA 19102-1192

Dear Mr. Lambert:

This is to certify that the radioactive material picked up at your facility on May 8, 2001 on manifest number 50801-C has been disposed of at the Barnwell Waste Management Facility (operated by Chem Nuclear Systems, Inc.) at Barnwell, South Carolina.

Please reference the following table for detailed disposal information.

50801-C	MCP-1	BIO-01-56	0.19	0601-10920	7/25/01
		BIO-01-58	0.68	0601-10920	7/25/01
			0.07		

Total ft3 Buried 0.87

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at (865) 376-0053.

Sincerely

Michelle Ardary

Administrative Assistant

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Office of Research and Graduate Studies

To:

Kent Lambert, M.S., CHP

From:

Leonard M. Stephenson, Ph.D.

Vice Provost for Research and Dean of Graduate Studies

Date:

March 22, 2005

Subject: Delegation of Authority for Radiation Safety Officer

At the renewal of the NRC license granted to the Philadelphia Health and Education Corporation, the reaffirmation of the authority delegated to you as the institution's Radiation Safety Officer is appropriate. As Radiation Safety Officer, you continue to be responsible for managing the radiation safety program; identifying radiation safety problems; initiating, recommending, or providing corrective actions; verifying implementation of corrective actions; and ensuring compliance with regulations for the use of sources of ionizing radiation. You are responsible for the safe use of sources of ionizing radiation and the requisite authority necessary to meet these responsibilities has been delegated to you, including the authority to immediately stop any operations involving the use of sources of ionizing radiation in which health and safety may be compromised or may result in non-compliance with NRC regulations.