EDO Principal Correspondence Control

FROM: DUE: 09/16/05 EDO CONTROL: G20050627
DOC DT: 08/26/05
FINAL REPLY:

R. D. "Donny" Dicharry
Source Production & Equipment Co., Inc.

TO:

Chairman Diaz

FOR SIGNATURE OF : ** GRN ** CRC NO: 05-0445

Vietti-Cook, SECY

DESC:

Nuclear Material Events Database (NMED)

ROUTING:

Reyes
Virgilio
Kane
Silber
Dean
Cyr/Burns
Baker, OIS

DATE: 09/08/05

ASSIGNED TO: CONTACT:

NMSS Strosnider

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR REMARKS:

Add EDO and the Commission on for concurrence.

Template: SECY-017

E-RIDS: SECY-01

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

Date Printed: Sep 07, 2005 08:50

PAPER NUMBER:	LTR-05-0445	**LOGGING DATE:**	09/06/2005
ACTION OFFICE:	EDO		
AUTHOR:	R. Dicharry (SPEC)		
AFFILIATION:	LA		
ADDRESSEE:	CHRM Nils Diaz		
SUBJECT:	Nuclear material events database		
ACTION:	Signature of Secretary		
DISTRIBUTION:	Chairman, Comrs, SECY to Ack		
LETTER DATE:	08/26/2005		
ACKNOWLEDGED	No		
SPECIAL HANDLING:	Commission to review response prior to dispatch.		
NOTES:	OMC #7715		
FILE LOCATION:	ADAMS		
DATE DUE:	09/20/2005	**DATE SIGNED:**	

EDO --G20050627

spec
SOURCE OF QUALITY

7715
SKA
9/6/05

August 26, 2005

Mr. Nils J. Diaz, Chairman
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Subject: Nuclear Material Events Database

Dear Mr. Diaz;

The purpose of this letter is to request access to the Nuclear Material Events Database (NMED) online system in order to help identify the most significant radiation safety problems involving industrial radiography equipment.

I am the chairman of an ANSI subcommittee that is in the process of revising ANSI Standard N43.9 "*Specifications for Design and Testing of Apparatus for Gamma Radiography.*" The primary responsibility of the revision committee is to identify and attempt to address known safety issues. The NMED is the only compilation of reported equipment malfunctions in the United States.

An earlier edition of the standard, N432, is currently incorporated by reference in 10 CFR Part 34. The NRC staff involved with the revision effort have stated that they expect the revised standard to be incorporated into NRC regulation in the future.

At one time the NMED was available to the public. It has been restricted from public disclosure since 9/11. I understand that access to NMED is limited to U.S. regulators (including state regulators) and Federal entities, or in some cases their direct contractors.

I submitted a request for NMED access to the Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, which was denied. I was informed that the data is available via FOIA; however, that is not an acceptable alternative because of the expense and time required. Our committee does not receive funding for such expenses. Therefore, the only remaining alternative is to request access from the Commission.

Sincerely,

R. D. "Donny" Dicharry
President

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