

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

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**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:**

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EDO --G20050627



7715  
SFA  
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.

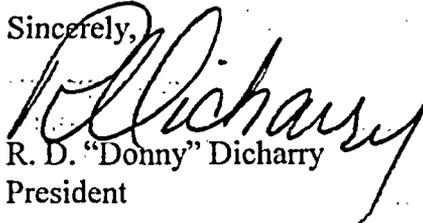
I am the chairman of an ANSI subcommittee that is in the process of revising ANSI Standard N43.9 "*Specifications for Design and Testing of Apparatus for Gamma Radiography.*" The primary responsibility of the revision committee is to identify and attempt to address known safety issues. The NMED is the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