

Mr. Darrel Wiedeman,

Hi! Sorry, this took longer than an hour to send. My boss was at a meeting. Attached is the scanned in report, which will be sent hard copy to Region III and to the NRC Document Control Desk.

Thanks,
Karen Lapajenko McGuire
TACOM Health Physicist/Radiation Safety Officer
DSN 786-7635/Comm. 586-574-7635
Fax DSN 786-5277/Comm. 586-574-5277
E-mail lapajenk@tacom.army.mil



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY TACOM LIFE CYCLE MANAGEMENT COMMAND
6501 East 11 Mile Road
Warren, MI 48397-5000
March 21, 2005

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

US Army TACOM Life Cycle Management Command
Safety Office

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

Reference: Incident Report Under 10 CFR 30.50, Event
Number 42336, Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) License
21-01222-05

Dear Sir/Madam:

The referenced incident was reported on 14 February 2006 via e-mail to the NRC Operations Center with initial notification to NRC Region III on 13 Feb 06.

The incident involved a Tester, Density and Moisture (Soil and Asphalt) Nuclear Method Campbell Pacific Model MC-1 (CCE), NSN 6635-01-030-6896, Serial Number M18012172. The MC-1 Tester had on manufacture (in 1977) 10 mCi of Cesium 137 and (in 1978) 50 mCi of Americium 241/Be. The sources are solid, sealed, and double encapsulated. The MC-1 Tester was shipped from a storage depot (under DLA NRC Licensing) in California to Ft. Leonard, MO around 11 April 2005. The tester was sent to Campbell Pacific for repair and calibration around 2 March 2003, prior to being shipped to Ft. Leonard Wood, MO. The manufacturer indicated a warranty of 2-3 years from their repair/calibration work.

The incident occurred at the US Army Chemical School at Ft. Leonard Wood, MO. Unofficial notification was provided to our Command (NRC Licensee) 7-8 February 2006 with official notification to our Command on 10 February 2006.

The incident involved the MC-1 Tester's locking mechanism not preventing the shaft of the guide tube from moving downward and exposing the Cesium 137 source, when the lock is locked and the handle pushed down on. Basically, there was a problem with the handle not locking

in place. It is unknown if the latch mechanism (pin) is defective or just the lock or even if both are defective. The tester handle could be moved through the locking mechanism no matter which position the key was in or whether the key was in or out. The tester lock wouldn't engage and leaning on the handle moved it. The shutter was in place and closed.

The problem was discovered by the Non-Commissioned Officer In Charge (NCOIC) during preoperational checks. The NCOIC locked the handle and when he went to carry it by the handle the handle moved. The NCOIC then notified school personnel and the tester was stored away. The tester was stored in a locked container (DOT 7A container with padlocks) in a locked room and in a locked restricted building. The keys to the padlock were in the key control area in the administration offices. The chemical school at Ft. Leonard Wood took steps to see that no one worked with the tester to prevent the source from being exposed out of the bottom of the tester. No personnel were exposed and the sources were never exposed during the incident. The tester in its DOT 7A container prevents the movement of the sources, thereby preventing the sources from being exposed.

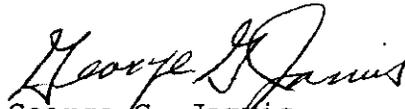
Campbell Pacific provided instructions to use duck tape or fiber tape around the guide tube and under the handle to ensure the source cannot fall outside the tester base, and to cover the shutter with the tape. These instructions were provided to Ft. Leonard Wood and the tester was prepared, and shipped in its DOT 7A container to Campbell Pacific. Campbell Pacific indicated that performing the above ensures the radiation profile didn't change and the tester is suitable for shipment. The tester arrived at Campbell Pacific on 16 March 2006. Campbell Pacific will determine if the tester is repairable. If it isn't repairable, the tester will be disposed of by Campbell Pacific. The tester if repaired will be sent back to the depot for future fielding.

Users of the MC-1 Testers were notified via newsletters, conferences and training schools of the requirement to report testers with safety defects. If you have any questions

-3-

regarding this matter, please contact Mrs. Karen Lapajenko
McGuire at (586) 574-7635/6194.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "George G. Jarvis".

George G. Jarvis
Safety Director

CF:
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Region III, ATTN:
Materials Licensing Branch, 2443 Warrenville Road, Suite
210, Lisle, IL 60532-4352