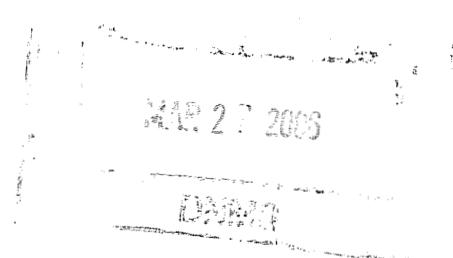




Instrumentation and Professional Services

March 16, 2006

Mrs. Jacqueline D. Cook, Senior Health Physicist
Nuclear Materials Licensing Branch
USNRC Region IV
611 Ryan Plaza Drive
Suite 400
Arlington, TX 76011-8064



Dear Mrs. Cook,

In compliance with 10 CFR 21, *Reporting of Defects and Noncompliance*, we are reporting a defect that was apparent in a Troxler, Model 3411 series, gauge that one of our techs discovered in Boise. On this particular gauge, the source rod weld had been defective, a substantial piece of the threaded source section failed, and allowed the source tip to become disengaged from the source rod. The gauge source was satisfactorily withdrawn into the shielded position and transported back to the Qal-Tek Associates facility in Idaho Falls for disposal. A picture of the defective component is attached.

At the time Qal-Tek Associates realized the defect, we notified Troxler Labs by telephone of the situation, but no other notifications were made.

In 2001, a similar situation occurred, again with a Troxler, Model 3411 series gauge, where the weld had been defective, but the source had not become disengaged from the rod. The source in that gauge was subsequently disposed.

If we can be of further assistance in this matter, please call me at the phone number listed below.

Sincerely,

Henry K. Peterson, RSO
Qal0Tek Associates, LLC

cc: H. Dale Snowder, Pres., Qal-Tek Assoc.
Bryce L. Rich, VP, Qal-Tek Assoc.

