



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HEADQUARTERS US ARMY COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS  
MATERIEL READINESS COMMAND AND FORT MONMOUTH  
FORT MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY 07703

DRSEL-SF-H

21 February 1980

US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Region I  
631 Park Avenue  
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to a telephone conversation on 14 February 1980 between Dr. John Glenn, your organization, and Mr. Steven A. Horne, this command, subject: Notification of a Possible Incident. This conversation was initiated by this command as a compliance action under US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Byproduct Material License Number 29-01022-08 authorizing the possession and use of the AN/UDM-2 Radiac Calibrator Set, by the Department of the Army.

As was indicated in referenced conversation, as of this date this command has completed the mandatory recall program for examination of all AN/UDM-2 Radiac Calibrator Sets that was originally initiated in accordance with letter, DRSEL-SF-H, dated 29 May 1979 to your organization. During this program, examination of one of the last calibrators revealed a bloating in one of the sealed sources. Wipe tests were immediately performed to determine the extent, if any, of leakage and/or contamination due to this source. The results of the analysis revealed no removable contamination. It should be noted that source specifications permit a bloating of up to 0.030 inch. This is referenced in inclosures 2 and 3 of Supplement E to Application For Byproduct Material License dated 20 April 1978 which is included in Condition 16 of referenced NRC license. Further, only one source was discovered to be in a bloated condition out of a total of 396 calibrators manufactured, each of which contain five (5) sealed sources. Based upon the ALARA concept, no further examination of this source is being made in order to avoid unnecessary increased exposures to individuals performing the hazard investigation.

This command is initiating an increased surveillance program for the AN/UDM-2 Radiac Calibrator Sets. It will be performed by the health physics staff of this command's Safety Office and will include the periodic inspection of assets located at the depot and at the user level. Assets will be physically and visually inspected for bloating in addition to testing for leakage and/or contamination. This action is being taken under referenced NRC license as authorized in Supplement I of the application.

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As was indicated by Dr. Glenn during referenced conversation, this command was not obligated to report this situation since it was not effected by either Parts 19, 20 and 21 of Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations. However, it is the policy of this command to keep your office fully apprised on any matters concerning our NRC licenses.

Sincerely yours,



BERNARD M. SAVAIKO  
Chief, Safety Office

Copy Furnished:  
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