

Telephone Conversation Record

Caller: William Snell, Health Physics Manager, NRC Region III /RA/

Called: Gary Williams
VHA National Health Physics Program
(501-257-1572)

SUBJECT: DECOMMISSIONING QUESTIONS REGARDING AMENDMENT REQUEST FOR SOUTHERN ARIZONA VA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM, TUCSON, ARIZONA (LICENSE NO. 03-23853-01VA)

Date: July 25, 2007

Discussion: The following issues were discussed with Gary.

1) Did not survey drains and sewer lines. "Assuming" they are not contaminated based on dilution is not acceptable. Drains and sewers sometimes contain areas where contamination can accumulate and create "hot spots". 2) Fixed measurements not taken where wipes collected so could not evaluate for loose versus fixed contamination. 3) Discuss: background determination, efficiency determination for detectors used, methodology for conversion to dpm/100 cm², and release criteria (DCGL). 4) Provide calibration records for instruments used. 5) Discuss demolition of incinerator and what surveys were conducted. 6) Provide additional information on hold-up tanks, septic tanks and sewer lines. How many were there, how big were they, how often were they used, etc. 7) Attachment A mentions a "grid layout", but there is no discussion of scans being performed. Were scans performed?

Gary indicated that most of this information is not available, otherwise it would have already been provided. He agreed that the surveys of the drains were inadequate and they gave the Permittee a violation for that. He also believed that the incinerator was in another building and there were no holdup tanks or septic tanks. Gary would get what additional information he could.