



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION IV  
611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400  
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4005

March 5, 2008

CAL No. 4-08-001

SABIA, Inc.  
ATTN: Mr. Clinton Lingren, President  
2300 North Yellowstone Highway  
Idaho Falls, ID 83402

SUBJECT: CONFIRMATORY ACTION LETTER

Dear Mr. Lingren:

On February 29, 2008, you reported a strontium-90 contamination event which resulted in extensive contamination of certain areas within your facility and radioactive contamination of at least one of your employees.

Pursuant to a telephone conversation between you and Mr. James Miller, Radiation Safety Officer, SABIA, and Mr. Leonard Wert, Director, Division of Nuclear Materials Safety, NRC Region IV on March 4, 2008, it is our understanding that you will take the following actions which will be completed by the dates specified:

1. You will make arrangements for thorough dose assessments for all workers potentially exposed to strontium-90 no later than March 17, 2008. As a result of this analysis, you will assign a dose to each worker in accordance with 10 CFR 20, Subpart C. As appropriate this will include the skin dose, critical organ dose, dose to lens of the eye, and the total effective dose equivalent. In addition to meeting the applicable reporting requirements of 10 CFR 19 and 10 CFR 20, you will report the dose information to Mr. Wert, Director, Division of Nuclear Materials Safety, NRC Region IV.
2. You will take immediate actions to confirm compliance with NRC security requirements at your Idaho Falls facility, including those contained in any NRC Orders issued to you previously. You will confirm such compliance in writing to Mr. Wert, Director, Division of Nuclear Materials Safety, NRC Region IV no later than March 6, 2008.
3. You will obtain services for the decontamination of your Idaho Falls facility including the decontamination of all surfaces and/or removal of all contaminated materials. (This excludes any sealed sources of byproduct material in your inventory prior to the incident.) The service provider must hold a license for such work issued by the NRC or an Agreement State. You will provide in writing to us the plans for decontamination prior to beginning any decontamination work. These plans should be submitted no later than 60 days of this letter. With the exception of activities in direct support of arrangements for decontamination, you will allow no person to enter the facility before receiving written concurrence by us. We will review your decontamination plans against the applicable provisions in Subpart E of 10 CFR 20 and the guidance in NUREG 1757 "Consolidated Decommissioning Guidance".

Additionally, you will inform us of your arrangements to comply with NRC security requirements during the decontamination work activities. You will not begin decontamination activities until we review your plans. After decontamination is complete, you will provide, in writing to us, the results of final radiation surveys of the facility. These communications should be addressed to Mr. Wert, Director, Division of Nuclear Materials Safety, NRC Region IV.

4. Before you resume licensed operations, you will provide a written report to Mr. Wert, Director, Division of Nuclear Materials Safety, NRC Region IV, detailing your corrective actions to prevent recurrence of this or a similar event.

Pursuant to Section 182 of the Atomic Energy Act, 42 U.S.C. 2232, you are required to:

- 1) Notify me immediately if your understanding differs from that set forth above;
- 2) Notify me if for any reason you cannot complete the actions within the specified schedule and advise me in writing of your modified schedule in advance of the change; and
- 3) Notify me in writing when you have completed the actions addressed in this Confirmatory Action Letter.

Issuance of this Confirmatory Action Letter does not preclude issuance of an order formalizing the above commitments or requiring other actions on the part of the licensee; nor does it preclude the NRC from taking enforcement action for violations of NRC requirements that may have prompted the issuance of this letter. In addition, failure to take the actions addressed in this Confirmatory Action Letter may result in enforcement action.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosure(s), and your response will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the NRC's document system (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC Web site at [www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html](http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html). To the extent possible, your response should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be made available to the Public without redaction. If personal privacy or proprietary information is necessary to provide an acceptable response, then please provide a bracketed copy of your response that identifies the information that should be protected and a redacted copy of your response that deletes such information. If you request withholding of such material, you must specifically identify the portions of your response that you seek to have withheld and provide in detail the bases for your claim of withholding (e.g., explain why the disclosure of information will create an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy or provide the information required by 10 CFR 2.390(b) to support a request for withholding confidential commercial or financial information). If safeguards information is necessary to provide an acceptable response, please provide the level of protection described in 10 CFR 73.21.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Elmo E. Collins  
Regional Administrator

SABIA, Inc.

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Docket No. 030-35997  
License No. 11-27727-01

cc:  
Craig Halverson  
Idaho INEEL Oversight Program

bcc (via E-Mail distribution):

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 Whitten - JEW1  
 L McLean – MLM1  
 Suzanne Woods, OE  
 S Merchant - OE

SUNSI Review Completed: \_\_LDW\_\_ ADAMS: × Yes ☐ No Initials: \_\_LDW\_\_× Publicly Available ☐ Non-Publicly Available ☐ Sensitive × Non-Sensitive

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final:R\ DNMS

| RIV:DD:DNMS | D:DNMS  | D:ACES/RC      | DRA      | RA        |
|-------------|---------|----------------|----------|-----------|
| CLCain      | LDWert  | KSFfuller      | ATHowell | EECollins |
| /RA/        | /RA/    | /RA/CMarco for | /RA/     | /RA/      |
| 3/04/08     | 3/04/08 | 3/4/08         | 3/4/08   | 3/5/08    |

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