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## Environmental Services

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May 21, 2008

Director, Office of Federal and State Materials  
and Environmental Management Programs  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
One White Flint North  
11545 Rockville Pike  
Rockville, MD 20852

Subject: Report of Damaged Tritium Exit Sign

To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to 10 CFR § 31.5(c)(5), Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. ("Wal-Mart") provided a report to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission ("NRC") on April 10, 2008, regarding a damaged tritium exit sign ("TES") that it discovered at its Clarkville, Indiana store. Wal-Mart provides the supplemental report at Attachment A as a result of additional information obtained on May 7, 2008.

Information on the damaged TES is provided below:

<u>Serial #</u>	<u>Curies</u>	<u>Date of Damage</u>	<u>Store Location</u>
251798	14.5	unknown	1301 Veterans Pkwy, Clarksville, IN

Please contact me at (479) 204-9914, if you have any questions regarding this letter or the attached report.

Sincerely,

*for* Jennifer May-Burst

Richard Dailey  
Radiation Safety Officer  
Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.

cc: Karen Roberts, Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.  
Thomas Poindexter, Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP

Attachment

FSM#10  
FSME

## Attachment A

### A. Description of Events

On March 13, 2008, a Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. ("Wal-Mart") Store Manager from store #4851 in Clarksville, Indiana, called the Wal-Mart radiation safety hotline to report a damaged tritium exit sign ("TES"). The TES was installed in the non-public stockroom area of the store. Although available information does not suggest that the TES was damaged recently, Wal-Mart directed a Certified Health Physicist ("CHP") from Dade Moeller & Associates ("Dade Moeller") to visit the store to investigate the TES, conduct radiological surveys, and decontaminate the area, as necessary.

### B. Actions Taken

A CHP visited the Clarksville store on May 7, 2008 and identified the remaining pieces of the TES, which consisted of the broken backing only. The CHP was able to identify the serial number of the TES, which was previously not visible.

The CHP interviewed managers and associates, and determined that the TES had likely been damaged for at least one year and that it was most likely hit by a forklift or similar device. Managers and associates did not have any additional information about when or how the TES was damaged. No one at the store has any information about what happened to the remaining pieces of the TES, including the tritium-containing tubes.

The CHP removed the TES from installation and packaged it for shipment according to protocols established by a specific licensee authorized to receive TES for disposal. The CHP used a direct monitoring device to identify levels where contamination may be present, cleaned those levels below 1000 dpm/100 cm<sup>2</sup>. The CHP next took swipe samples of the areas identified with the direct monitoring device. Swipe samples for removable contamination involved wiping a 100 cm<sup>2</sup> area (approximately 4 x 4 inches) with a small disc-shaped paper filter. The samples were placed in small vials and transported to Dade Moeller's certified laboratory. The results are reported in Table 1.

**Table 1**

<b>Swipe Survey for Removable Tritium Contamination</b>			
<b>Location Number</b>	<b>Sample ID</b>	<b>Sample Location</b>	<b>Removable Activity (dpm/100 cm<sup>2</sup>)</b>
S1	82	Field blank	11
S2	83	Concrete floor, 2 m north of TES	180
S3	84	Concrete floor, 2 m south of TES	81
S4	85	Concrete floor, 1 ft north of TES	36
S5	86	Concrete floor, 1 ft south of TES	75
S6	87	Concrete floor, 1 ft east of TES	390
S7	88	Concrete floor, 1 ft west of TES	2,300
S8	89	Concrete floor, below TES	150

S9	90	Red shelving cross beam, behind TES	64
S10	91	Red shelving cross beam, right of TES	64
S11	92	Red shelving cross beam, left of TES	290
S12	93	Field blank	-6
S13	94	TES shipping package	20
S14	95	TES shipping package	-9
S15	96	Hazardous waste package	3
S16	97	Hazardous waste package	-9

All areas show removable contamination levels below 1000 dpm/100 cm<sup>2</sup>, except for one area. Because two decontamination attempts involving multiple alcohol sprays and paper towel wipes were made on the concrete floor prior to the swipe survey, the CHP believes the elevated result represents ALARA levels. The CHP recommends no additional actions.

C. Shipping Details

The damaged TES was transferred to a specific licensee authorized to receive the damaged TES on May 8, 2008. A report of that transfer will be sent under separate cover.