

**TREAT AS
SENSITIVE
INFORMATION**

Environmental Services

Rich Dailey, Sr. Director

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June 12, 2008

Charles Miller, 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 Signs

Dear Dr. Miller:

Pursuant to 10 CFR § 31.5(a), Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. ("Wal-Mart") is a general licensee of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission ("NRC") because it possesses and uses byproduct material in the form of tritium exit signs ("TES") regulated by the NRC. Consistent with 10 CFR § 31.5(c)(5), Wal-Mart is providing the subject report regarding three damaged TES that it discovered at its store #1942, located in Holland, Michigan.

Attachment A provides a brief description of the events associated with the damaged TES and corrective actions taken. Information on the damaged TES is provided below:

<u>Serial #</u>	<u>Curies</u>	<u>Damage Date</u>	<u>Store Location</u>
254558	20.0	03/08-04/08 (est.)	2629 North Park Dr., Holland, MI
254559	20.0	03/08-04/08 (est.)	2629 North Park Dr., Holland, MI
unknown	20.0 (est.)	01/08-04/08 (est.)	2629 North Park Dr., Holland, MI

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

Sincerely,



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

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

FSHEO

Attachment A

A. Description of Events

On May 13, 2008, Wal-Mart representatives and its contractor, Shaw Group, Inc. ("Shaw") visited Wal-Mart store #1942 in Holland, Michigan to inventory tritium exit signs ("TES"). Wal-Mart has retained Shaw, an environmental services contractor with extensive experience with the management of radioactive material, for its company-wide program to inventory TES. During the inventory at the Holland store, Shaw discovered three damaged TES: TES, serial #254558 ("TES 254558"), TES, serial #254559 ("TES 254559"), and a TES with an unknown serial number. TES 254558 is missing its frame and faceplate, and had cracked tritium-containing tubes. TES 254559 has a cracked frame, cracked faceplate, and cracked tritium-containing tubes. The third TES has no frame, faceplate, or tritium-containing tubes. TES 254559 and TES 254559 are installed in the non-public stockroom area of the store. The third TES was installed in the tire and lube area of the store.

B. Actions Taken

Interviews with the store managers and associates provided little information as to when or how TES 254558 and TES 254559 were damaged, though one associate thought that both were damaged a month or two ago. The third TES was damaged when a tire hit it possibly one to four months ago. The Wal-Mart Radiation Safety Officer ("RSO") directed Wal-Mart representatives and a Certified Health Physicist ("CHP") from Dade Moeller & Associates ("Dade Moeller") to visit the Holland store to conduct radiological surveys, package the TES for disposal, and decontaminate the area to ALARA levels, as necessary. Dade Moeller is a contractor retained by Wal-Mart with the responsibility to assess the radiological impacts of damaged TES.

Wal-Mart representatives and a CHP visited the Holland store on June 11, 2008. The CHP cleaned the mounting locations for both TES and conducted swipe surveys of the areas deemed likely to have become contaminated by wiping a 100 cm² area (approximately 4 X 4 inches) with a paper disk. The disks were then placed in 7 ml vials and shipped to Dade Moeller's certified laboratory. Wal-Mart anticipates providing the NRC with a supplemental report within 30 days of the date of this report including the results of that visit.

C. Long-term Corrective Actions

Wal-Mart has implemented and communicated protocols to its stores for the proper handling of TES to ensure public health and safety and the protection of its employees. It is also inventorying all of the TES at its sites across the country to re-establish the accuracy of its records and to track the current locations of the TES. The intent of this program is to ensure that all TES are accounted for and are handled properly. As a part of this program, Wal-Mart has employed Shaw to inventory TES, and a team of CHPs from Dade Moeller to properly handle TES and prepare and arrange for their return to a specific licensee.

D. Shipping Details

Wal-Mart anticipates shipping the damaged TES to a specific licensee authorized to receive the damaged TES, within 30 days of this report.