



Environmental Services

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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 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 two damaged TES that it discovered at its store #250, located in Warsaw, Missouri.

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>
297082	20.0	unknown	103 West Polk St., Warsaw, MO
297097	20.0	unknown	103 West Polk St., Warsaw, MO

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

FSMR. 608-10 / SENSE REVIEW COMPLETE

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08/19/08

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Attachment A

A. Description of Events

On July 12, 2008, Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. ("Wal-Mart") representatives and its contractor, Shaw Group, Inc. ("Shaw"), visited Wal-Mart store #250 in Warsaw, Missouri 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 Warsaw store, Shaw discovered two damaged TES. TES Serial #297082 has tritium-containing tubes in the letter "T" of the word "EXIT" that do not glow. This TES is installed in the non-public receiving area of the store. The second damaged TES, TES Serial #297097, had tritium-containing tubes in the direction arrow that did not pass a glow test. This TES is installed in the electronics and photo shop aisle.

B. Actions Taken

Interviews with the store managers and associates provided no information as to when or how either TES was damaged. 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 Warsaw store to conduct radiological surveys, package the TES for disposal, and decontaminate the areas 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 Warsaw store on August 6, 2008. They interviewed store managers and associates, and the CHP 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. Wal-Mart anticipates providing the NRC with a supplemental report by September 5, 2008.

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.