



# 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 Sign

Dear Director Miller:

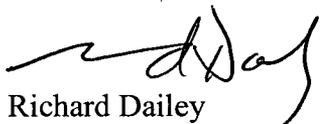
Pursuant to 10 CFR § 31.5(a), Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. ("Wal-Mart") is a general licensee of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission ("NRC") because it possesses and uses byproduct material in the form of tritium exit signs ("TES") regulated by the NRC. Consistent with 10 CFR § 31.5(c)(5), Wal-Mart is providing the subject report regarding one damaged TES that it discovered at its store #2522, located in Escanaba, 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>
298225	20.0	After 05/06/2008 (est.)	601 N. Lincoln, Escanaba, 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.

*FSMC - 62810 - SUNS'S REVIEW COMPLETED*  
*"Historically Available"*

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

*09/10/2008*

*FSMELD*

## Attachment A

### A. Description of Events

On July 18, 2008, Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. ("Wal-Mart") representatives and its contractor, Shaw Group, Inc. ("Shaw"), visited Wal-Mart store #2522 in Escanaba, Michigan to inventory tritium exit signs ("TES"). Wal-Mart has retained Shaw, an environmental services contractor with extensive experience in the management of radioactive material, for its company-wide program to inventory TES. During the inventory at the Escanaba store, Shaw discovered one damaged TES with a damaged frame and tritium-containing tubes that failed a glow test. The TES is installed in the non-public stockroom area of the store.

### B. Actions Taken

Interviews with the store managers and associates indicated that the TES was hit by a forklift and damaged sometime after an earlier TES inventory conducted on May 6, 2008. Accordingly, 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 Escanaba 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 Escanaba store on August 12, 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 cm<sup>2</sup> area (approximately 4 X 4 inches) with a paper disk. Wal-Mart anticipates providing the NRC with a supplemental report by September 11, 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 after the date of the CHP visit.