

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20555 - 0001

September 18, 2008

Ronaldo Minniti, Ph.D., Stephen Seltzer, Lisa Karam National Institute of Standards and Technology Ionizing Radiation Division 100 Bureau Drive, Mail Stop 8460 Bldg. 245, Rm. C220 Gaithersburg, MD 20878

Dear Dr. Minniti, Mr. Seltzer, and Ms. Karam:

Thank you for your letter dated August 25, 2008, addressed to Robert J. Lewis, regarding the security and continued use of cesium-137 chloride sources. We welcome your comments and appreciate your valuable perspective as the NRC gathers information to assist in the decision making process. I want to assure you that the NRC will carefully consider your insights before any action is taken in the future. Please note that your letter will be placed in the NRC's Agencywide Document Access and Management System (ADAMS).

While we have included your comments in our records, we also look forward to your participation in the workshop on September 29-30 that will provide early public input on major issues associated with the security and continued use of cesium-137 chloride sources. This will be an additional opportunity to express your views and to interact with others interested in this subject before any future actions by NRC or the Agreement States are initiated.

Again, thank you for your interest in this important matter.

Sincerely,
/RA/
John P. Jankovich, Ph.D.
Team Leader
Source Safety and Security Branch
Division of Materials Safety
and State Agreements
Office of Federal and State Materials
and Environmental Management Programs