



Environmental Services

Rich Dailey, Sr. Director

Radiation Safety Officer

1300 SE 8th Street, MS 0605
Bentonville, AR 72716-0605
Phone 479.204.9914
Rich.Dailey@wal-mart.com
www.walmart.com

September 10, 2008

Dr. 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 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, in the state of Connecticut. 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 #3548, located in Waterbury, Connecticut.

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>
266092	20.0	Early 2008 (est.)	910 Wolcott St., Waterbury, CT
266096	20.0	Early 2008 (est.)	910 Wolcott St., Waterbury, CT

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

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Attachment A

A. Description of Events

On June 19, 2008, Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. ("Wal-Mart") representatives and its contractor, Shaw Group, Inc. ("Shaw"), visited Wal-Mart store #3548 in Waterbury, Connecticut 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 Waterbury store, Shaw discovered two damaged TES. TES Serial #266092 had broken tritium-containing tubes. TES Serial #266096 was without its backing or any of its tritium-containing tubes. Both TES were installed in the garden center area of the store.

B. Actions Taken

Interviews with the store managers and associates indicated that both TES were damaged when the fence in the garden center was taken down during a remodeling project in early 2008. The remodel contractor disposed of TES Serial #266092, and the backing and tritium-containing tubes of TES Serial #266096 in a construction roll-off. The remaining pieces of TES Serial #266096 were kept in a trailer outside of the store. The construction roll-off was taken off-site for disposal on June 16, 2008. The current location of the construction roll-off is unknown. Shaw removed and packaged the remaining pieces of TES Serial #266096 for transfer according to a protocol established by Isolite, a specific licensee authorized to receive TES for disposal.

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 Waterbury store to conduct radiological surveys 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 are planning to visit the Waterbury store by September 26, 2008. Wal-Mart anticipates providing the NRC with a supplemental report within 30 days after the date 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 remaining parts of TES Serial #266096 to a specific licensee authorized to receive damaged TES, within 30 days after the date of the CHP visit.