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Docket: NRC-2008-0419

Security and Continued Use of Cesium-137 Chloride Sources and Notice of Public Meeting

Comment On: NRC-2008-0419-0014

Security and Continued Use of Cesium-137 Chloride Sources: Granting Extension of Comment Period

Document: NRC-2008-0419-DRAFT-0047

Comment on FR Doc # E8-22688

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USNRC

Submitter's Representative: David Loeb sack

Organization: Free Radical and Radiation Biology Program

Government Agency Type: State

Government Agency: State of Iowa

General Comment

To whom it may concern:

In 1947, the University of Iowa established the Radiation Research Laboratory (RRL) at the University of Iowa and named Dr. Titus Evans Director. By 1961, the Laboratory was sufficiently staffed to request permission for a degree-granting program. Since then, the Program has graduated nearly 150 advanced degree candidates. A reliable radiation source has been a necessity for most of the research carried out by the graduate students and faculty. In 1954, the RRL installed a General Electric Maxitron 250 X-Ray machine and in 1986 obtained a 12,000 Curie Cesium -137 source manufactured by the J. L. Shepherd firm.

Besides the research done at the RRL, numerous people in other departments of the University of Iowa have been highly dependent upon the radiocesium source. These include the departments of Pathology, Internal Medicine, Microbiology, Pharmacology, Biological Sciences, Civil and Bio-Engineering, and Physics.

Without this radiation source, research in many areas would be severely

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E-RFDS = ADM-03
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hampered.

The radiocesium unit is operated by well- trained Free Radical and Radiation Biology personnel and properly secured with locks and a security code.