



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I
475 ALLENDALE ROAD
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406-1415

June 2, 2010

Docket No. 03035424

License No. 08-30607-01

Trent Crable
Chief Executive Officer
District Hospital Partners, L.P.
D/B/A The George Washington University Hospital
Office of Administration, Suite G2054
900 23rd Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20037

SUBJECT: COMMISSIONER WILLIAM MAGWOOD'S VISIT TO THE GEORGE
WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL BLOOD BANK ON APRIL 27, 2010

Dear Mr. Crable:

I would like to express my appreciation to you and to your staff for arranging a very informative visit to the George Washington University Hospital Blood Bank for Commissioner Magwood and his staff. As you may be aware, the Commission is considering a National Research Council recommendation to phase out the use of cesium-137 chloride in the United States due to the potential risk to public health and safety in the event cesium-137 chloride is involved in an accident or an attack. The information provided to the Commissioner by Elsie Lee, M.D., included the importance of self-shielded irradiators containing cesium-137 chloride, to medicine and to the safety of the nation's blood supply. Dr. Lee's efforts will allow the Commissioner to make a more informed decision when responding to the National Research Council's recommendation. Anis Chowdhury, Ph.D. deserves our special thanks for making all of the arrangements for the Commissioner's visit – all completed with less than 24 hours notice – and for addressing many of the Commissioner's questions. Thank you also to Gary Little, M.D. and Mr. Scott Zweifel who took time to meet with the Commissioner and to explain the controls put in place to restrict access to the irradiator.

Thank you again for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Original signed by John D. Kinneman

John D. Kinneman, Director
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

cc:
Anisuzzaman Chowdhury, Ph.D., Radiation Safety Officer

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John D. Kinneman, Director
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

cc:
Anisuzzaman Chowdhury, Ph.D., Radiation Safety Officer

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*see previous concurrence
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