

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR PERSONNEL INVOLVED WITH RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS

The purpose of this questionnaire is to assist CABRERA Services, Inc. in collecting information for a Historical Site Assessment (HSA) for the Walter Reed Army Medical Center Forest Glen Annex in Silver Spring, MD and the leased Buildings (Taft Building and Gillette Building) in Rockville, MD. The HSA findings will be used to design and perform radiological surveys, as necessary to support release of the selected installation. Please complete this questionnaire to the best of your recollection, and include any additional explanations in the Additional Notes/Comments section on the last page of this questionnaire or on an attached sheet of paper.

Date of Interview: July 31, 2008 (SUPPLEMENT TO INTERVIEW FROM JUNE 2006)
Name of Interviewer: Paul Valentinelli and Mike Barsa
Mode of Communication(s): Conversations during site walk
Contact Information: Mr. David Burton, WRAMC Health Physics, 6900 Georgia Ave NW, Building 41, Washington, DC 20307

1. What is your name and what is/was your job title/position?

Dave Burton, Chief – License Support Branch, Health Physics Office, WRAMC; Assistant Radiation Protection Officer

2. During what span of years have you worked, or did you work, at this installation?

Mr. Burton has worked at WRAMC since 1987 (21 years).

3. How many years have you worked with radioactive materials?

Mr. Burton has worked with radioactive materials the entire time he has been employed at WRAMC (21 years).

4. Can you name or identify the radioactive commodities or devices that you or anyone else might have worked on within the selected installation? What isotopes did they contain?

Radioactive materials at Forest Glen primarily have come in the form of small sources (mostly sealed) for usage in laboratories. Mr. Burton mentioned there was a portable lead paint analyzer in Building 101 at one point long ago before the building was turned over to Montgomery County.

5. Can you identify any locations/areas/buildings of known use or storage of radioactive material used at the selected installation, including fuel, raw materials, experiments, products, and liquid and solid effluents and wastes? (Be specific; Bldg/room numbers, outdoor areas, etc.)

Mr. Burton was able to confirm the list of Buildings/Rooms developed during the records review. This list included Buildings 101, 188, 500, 501, 503, 504, 506, 508, 509, 511, 512, 513, 516, 149A, Gillette, and Taft.

6. Where and how was the shipping and receiving of radioactive material handled?

All material is purchased through Mr. Burton. It comes through Building 41, where it is checked in and then taken to the authorized requestor.

7. Did any of the radioactive commodities or devices contain radium-226, cesium-137, hydrogen-3 (tritium) or cobalt-60? How did you handle these items (e.g., standard procedures, contamination controls, personal protective equipment, etc.)?

Yes, these isotopes have been present in sources used in Forest Glen labs. Mr. Burton has source inventories as well as leak test records. The WRAMC Health Physics Office maintains a license with NRC, but has its own internal authorizations and procedures for handling/tracking radioactive materials.

8. Did your standard operating procedures address disposal of radioactive materials or contaminated material/waste? Are you aware of any disposal, or incineration, of radioactive material onsite or if rad material was transferred to an industrial landfill as non-rad trash?

Mr. Burton's group collects its own waste, as well as waste at Forest Glen. Liquids are disposed of in the sewer at Forest Glen after decay. Solid waste is held for decay at Building 516 (formerly DORF), and then shipped to licensed disposal facility (i.e. Barnwell). Mr. Burton has never seen any record or heard of any on-site waste disposal.

9. Was animal research, with radioactive material, ever performed at the site? Describe.

There is reference to radiological material usage in Building 512, which formerly operated as a veterinary quarantine for sick animals, but radiological materials were not used for this purpose.

10. Are you aware of the presence of any radionuclide-containing exit signs or smoke alarms?

Not applicable.

11. Were electronic maintenance activities performed on equipment with electron tubes? Where?

Not applicable.

12. Describe what would happen if a radioactive commodity or device was damaged or broken. Whom would you tell? What special procedures would have been implemented?

Mr. Burton would have been notified and appropriate HPO procedures would be taken.

13. Do you recall any instance of broken or leaking sources or any other contamination incidents or accidents? Describe as accurately as can be recalled, including dates, specific rad materials and forms, contamination levels, areal extent of contamination, and disposition.

None mentioned.

14. Are you aware of any studies/reports that may have identified contaminated areas and the isotopes activated? Describe.

Mr. Burton maintains routine survey reports for all rooms and buildings authorized to use radioactive materials. These surveys are completed on a regular basis, and any incident would have been noted.

15. Are you aware of any chemical use/storage/spills/releases involving any type of solvents or fuels?

None mentioned.

16. Are there any other individuals you feel should be interviewed regarding the above items?

Many of the buildings being investigated ceased using radiological materials many years ago, and no primary users of radioactive materials within the buildings can be located, so Mr. Burton is really the only authority on the matter.

17. What areas would you concentrate on if you were conducting a radiological close out survey of the selected installation?

Most buildings/areas already have been closed out, with appropriate decommissioning documentation available in the Health Physics Office.

18. Additional Notes / Comments:

ATTACHMENT A: QUESTIONNAIRE FOR PERSONNEL INVOLVED WITH RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS

The purpose of this questionnaire is to assist Cabrera Services, Inc. in collecting information for a Historical Site Assessment (HSA) in support of the Environmental Condition of Property (ECP) Phase I for selected Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) installations. The HSA findings will be used to design and perform radiological surveys, as necessary to support release of the selected installation. Please complete this questionnaire to the best of your recollection, and include any additional explanations in the Additional Notes/Comments section on the last page of this questionnaire or on an attached sheet of paper.

Date of Interview: June 20, 2006

Name of Interviewer: Bob Dover

Selected BRAC Installation: Walter Reed Army Medical Center

Mode of Communication(s): Face-to-face interview

Contact Information: Mr. David Burton, WRAMC Health Physics, 6900 Georgia Ave. NW, Bldg 41, Washington, D.C. 20307

1. What is your name and what is/was your job title/position?

Dave Burton, Assistant RPO

2. During what span of years have you worked, or did you work, at this installation?

Mr. Burton has worked at this installation since 1987.

3. How many years have you worked with radioactive materials?

Mr. Burton has worked with radioactive materials since he has been employed at this installation.

4. Can you name or identify the radioactive commodities or devices that you or anyone else might have worked on within the selected installation? What isotopes did they contain?

In Building 1 (the original hospital), nuclear medicine was used, but it was moved out in the 1960s. Since that time, there has been no isotopic work.

5. Can you identify any locations/areas/buildings of known use or storage of radioactive material used at the selected installation, including fuel, raw materials, experiments, products, and liquid and solid effluents and wastes? (Be specific; Bldg/room numbers, outdoor areas, etc.)

Building 54 (AFIP) has a specific list of rooms requiring authorization. Mr. Burton has a database with the rooms that are currently and were requiring authorization. This began over 20 years ago. T2 was decommissioned, and DCI is now in Building 7. Building 7 has a list of rooms requiring authorization. Mr. Burton does not know what the "Isotope Lab" in Building 92 is. DCI was in Building 38 as well, and is currently being remodeled.

6. Where and how was the shipping and receiving of radioactive material handled?

All radiological material is purchased through Mr. Burton, and physically comes to Building 41. It is checked in and then brought over to the person who requested it. The only exception is that Nuclear Medicine purchases their own materials.

7. Did any of the radioactive commodities or devices contain radium-226, cesium-137, hydrogen-3 (tritium) or cobalt-60? How did you handle these items (e.g., standard procedures, contamination controls, personal protective equipment, etc.)?

None known.

8. Did your standard operating procedures address disposal of radioactive materials or contaminated material/waste? Are you aware of any disposal, or incineration, of radioactive material onsite or if rad material was transferred to an industrial landfill as non-rad trash?

The group Mr. Burton is with collects their own waste, as well as the radiological waste at Forest Glen. They dispose of liquids in the sewer at Forest Glen, and hold the rest for decay.

Building 40 had a room there to hold waste before it went to Forest Glen, and the liquids went into the drain there. They have smear sampled these, and they were clear.

9. Was animal research, with radioactive material, ever performed at the site? Describe.

None known.

10. Are you aware of the presence of any radionuclide-containing exit signs or smoke alarms?

None known.

11. Were electronic maintenance activities performed on equipment with electron tubes? Where?

Not applicable.

12. Describe what would happen if a radioactive commodity or device was damaged or broken. Whom would you tell? What special procedures would have been implemented?

Not applicable.

13. Do you recall any instance of broken or leaking sources or any other contamination incidents or accidents? Describe as accurately as can be recalled, including dates, specific rad materials and forms, contamination levels, aerial extent of contamination, and disposition.

None known.

14. Are you aware of any studies/reports that may have identified contaminated areas and the isotopes activated? Describe.

The building has not been decommissioned. Building 91 was cleared in around 1990, but it was not a full decommissioning. The official decommissioning began in the late 1990s. Mr. Burton has his own records of smears he performed in Building 38.

15. Are there any other individuals you feel should be interviewed regarding the above items?

Mr. Burton did not mention any other individuals.

16. What areas would you concentrate on if you were conducting a radiological close out survey of the selected installation?

Mr. Burton does not recommend concentrating on any specific areas.

17. Additional Notes / Comments:

Building 2 was constructed during the 1960s, and is still used. There are a number of rooms that require authorization to enter.

An authorization is for radiological use that Mr. Burton assigns after a user has applied for one.

Building 40 contained the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (WRAIR), but it is now at Forest Glen and nothing is left at WRAMC.
