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Jack Whitten, Chief

Nuclear Materials Safety Branch B
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety
Region IV/Nuclear Regulatory Commission

August 11, 2011

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Dear Jack

Thank you for your help. Per our conversation on August 4, 2011,

Our immediate corrective actions were to submit NRC Form 241 and pay the required general license fee for the calendar year of 2011. Also, to prevent any further violations, we had the gauge returned to the United States mainland to our office. The gauge arrived on May 27, 2011.

To prevent any future occurrences, our long term corrective actions are:

Provide training on how to read and interpret the reciprocity approval documents provided to Vector by the NRC. This training will be scheduled during the next retraining session and when hiring new operators. This retraining will be accomplished by September 1, 2011;

We will not take a portable nuclear density devise into exclusive Federal jurisdiction unless we have the reciprocity approval documents, when not working under the California license; in California or when working in exclusive Federal jurisdiction at any location. And we have established a protocol to contact Vector's RSO or RSO designee if there is any doubt whether an area of use could be an area of exclusive Federal jurisdiction;

We will now provide triplicate copies of the reciprocity approval document provided by the NRC and ensure that operators have one document in the transport case of the portable nuclear gauge, one copy in the transport vehicle, and one at the operator's office;

We have developed a procedure on our computer system (i.e. windows outlook calendar) for scheduling updates and reminders. For example, the calendar popup will notify the RSO or RSO designee that the 180 days is about to expire. This system will also notify the RSO or RSO designee of the need to file for reciprocity at the beginning of the next calendar year. When individuals change jobs, this system will be passed on to allow for an update of reciprocity issues to the new RSO or RSO designee.

Yours sincerely,

Kenneth R. Criley
Radiation Safety Officer for
Vector Engineering, Inc.

KRC/md

Torres, RobertoJ

From: Whitten, Jack
Sent: Friday, August 12, 2011 8:22 AM
To: Torres, RobertoJ
Subject: FW: Corrective Action Letter Re: Guam Portable Gauge
Attachments: Corrective Action for Temp Use and Storage.pdf

Roberto//

Vector's corrective actions. Please put this document in ADAMS and let me know what the ML# is for the document.

Thx//JackW

From: Margaret Dell-Era [<mailto:margaret.dell-era@ausencovector.com>]
Sent: Thursday, August 11, 2011 5:22 PM
To: Whitten, Jack
Cc: Ken Criley; 'Erik Olhoffer'; 'Bryan'
Subject: Corrective Action Letter Re: Guam Portable Gauge

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Jack-

As requested, attached is the corrective action for the portable gauge that was in Guam.

Margaret Dell-Era
Laboratory Project Manager
Environment & Sustainability

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Please consider the environment before printing this email.

Torres, RobertoJ

From: Whitten, Jack
Sent: Friday, August 12, 2011 8:30 AM
To: Torres, RobertoJ
Subject: FW: Information on Portable Nuclear Gauge Used and Stored in Guam
Importance: High

Roberto//

E-mail I sent Vector summarizing my understanding of their corrective actions.

Thx//JackW

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From: Whitten, Jack
Sent: Wednesday, August 10, 2011 2:43 PM
To: 'Margaret Dell-Era'
Subject: REQ: Information on Portable Nuclear Gauge Used and Stored in Guam
Importance: High

Margaret//

Just to be sure that I have correctly captured Vector's short term and long term corrective action would you please review the information provided below. If you agree, please put the information in a letter signed by a Vector manager (RSO or you as the RSO designee), scan the letter with signature into a PDF, and send to me via e-mail for my records.

The following is what I recall that we discussed on August 4, 2011.

The short term corrective actions include:

- (1) immediately submitting the NRC Form 241 and paying the requisite general license fee for calendar year 2011.
- (2) To prevent any additional violations, Vector elected to return the gauge to the U.S. mainland and this action was accomplished on May 27, 2011.

The long term corrective actions include:

- (1) provide training for the operators on how to read and interpret the reciprocity approval documents provided to Vector by NRC. This training will be scheduled during the next retraining session and when hiring new operators (specify when Vector plans to complete the retraining);
- (2) establish a prohibition of not going into exclusive Federal jurisdiction unless having the reciprocity approval documents, when not working under the California license; in California or when working in exclusive Federal jurisdiction at any location;
- (3) establish a procedure to contact Vector's RSO, or RSO designee if there is any doubt whether an area of use could be an area of exclusive Federal jurisdiction;
- (4) provide triple copies of the reciprocity approval document provided by NRC and ensure that operators have one document in the transport case of the portable nuclear gauge, one copy in the transport vehicle, and one at the operator's office. Vector has implemented this procedure; and
- (5) develop an updated scheduling system for their computers. When conducting reciprocity in exclusive Federal jurisdiction Vector's RSO or RSO designee will have a popup in the calendar notifying the RSO or RSO designee that the 180 days is about to expire. The calendar popup system will also notify the RSO or RSO designee of the need to file for reciprocity at the beginning of the next

calendar year. When individuals change jobs, the system will have a mechanism to allow for an update of reciprocity issues to the new RSO or RSO designee.

I appreciate your help in resolving this concern.

Thx//JackW

Jack E. Whitten, Chief
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Region IV/Nuclear Regulatory Commission

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