



January 20, 1995

Mr. Thomas E. Hill  
Manager  
Department of Natural Resources  
Environmental Protection Division  
Radioactive Materials Program  
4244 International Parkway, Ste. 114  
Atlanta, GA 30354

Dear Mr. Hill:

In reference to your January 15, 1995 letter about the INEL recommendations and report, we would like to make the following comments:

**Recommendation 1**

An oil sample has been taken for testing and sent to an independent lab as per our letter of January 10, 1995. We have no objection to sharing the report with you when it is received, as well as any other persons you deem necessary.

**Recommendation 2**

Oil samples can be taken from 5 installed Gamma Knife sites as we perform our semi-annual preventative maintenance visits. This schedule allows the samples to be taken by the end of February. All samples would then be sent to the same independent lab for comparable testing.

**Recommendation 3**

Elekta can accomplish an oil analysis between initial set-up and first patient use.

**Recommendation 4**

The current 40µm filter used in all installed sites is the size recommended by the manufacturer of the hydraulic unit. As soon as a Unit becomes available, Elekta will test a 20µm filter during factory set up. This will be done with the assistance of the manufacturer.

**Recommendation 5**

The second emergency tool has been ordered for all sites. These tools will be distributed as soon as we receive them.

Mr. Thomas E. Hill  
Page Two  
January 20, 1995

**Recommendations 6 & 7**

Elekta sent LGU Memo #003 to all users. This memo recommended that the sites review their safety procedures. We will also write a memo describing the use of the new emergency tool and reiterate at that time the importance of reviewing their site safety procedures.

**Recommendation 8**

Elekta has no quarrel with the use of a VCR; however, the television system provided with the Gamma Knife does not run at the same frequency as U.S. standard and is not operational when power to the Gamma Knife is shut off (as would normally be done as part of emergency procedures). Because of the aforementioned items, we recommend that the users install the VCR on their own camera and monitoring system. The users would need to develop their own patient release forms and ensure that they were signed prior to taping a patient.

We also have comments to the INEL report and conclusion. The screen units which Elekta discussed with INEL are intended only to act as debris stops, not filters. The system's primary filter, which is currently a 40µm unit, is the oil cleaning unit. As relayed in our comments to Recommendation 4, we will test a 20µm filter and then utilize 40µm screen units if the 20µm filter proves compatible with the system.

Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to contact our offices.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Martin Knotts in cursive script.

Martin Knotts  
Project Manager

cc: Catherine Gilmore  
Richard Grome  
Dana L. Bergstrom

ELEKTA

January 20, 1995

Mr. Thomas E. Hill  
Manager  
Department of Natural Resources  
Environmental Protection Division  
Radioactive Materials Program  
4244 International Parkway, Ste. 114  
Atlanta, GA 30354

Dear Mr. Hill:

It was a pleasure speaking with you this morning. As we discussed, this letter of response regarding Attachment 1 will not be disseminated with the INEL report, however, we did want to record our comments with your office.

The design of the system is such that valve 38 opens under a no power situation and the throttle valve 21 closes completely. We would always prefer to remove the patient via use of throttle valve 21 to provide a slow down of the patient bed at the end of travel, however, without power we must provide a method whereby the patient can be removed from the unit. Valve 38 allows the aforementioned method to occur, however, it does not provide a method of slowing the patient bed at the end of travel as throttle valve 21 does when power is present.

We hope the above information clarifies the function and reasoning of the valve set up. Please do not hesitate contact our offices should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

*Martin Knotts*

Martin Knotts  
Project Manager

cc: Catherine Gilmore  
Richard Grome  
Dana L. Bergstrom