

Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation  
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Telephone (203) 386-7533



Michael Reichard  
Health Physicist  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
2100 Renaissance Boulevard, Suite 100  
King of Prussia, PA 19406-2713

December 14, 2018

Re: Inspection of H.S.I., Trumbull, CT

Dear Mr. Reichard:

I am responding to your December 12, 2018 phone call regarding our investigation of the disposal of radium dials from the Helicopter Support, Inc. (H.S.I.) facility in Trumbull, CT. H.S.I is a subsidiary of Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation (Sikorsky).

On August 22, 2018, All American Waste delivered a mixed metals container from H.S.I. to a reclamation facility, Sims Metals Management, North Haven, CT. The radiation sensor detected eight radium aviation dials. Dials were part of the last of various consignment aircraft parts in storage at H.S.I. since 2004. These were from historical sales activities. There are no longer any of these types of obsolete aircraft parts at H.S.I.

Corrective actions have focused on management system improvements associated with communication, training, inspections, and audits. These have included:

- Immediate musters of applicable H.S.I. employees, and inspection and interviews of personnel in all work areas.
- Inspections and interviews of Sikorsky site personnel in Engineering and Test facilities, Engineering Warehousing, and Third-Party Logistics sites in Stratford, CT, North Haven, CT, Milford, CT, Rochester, NY, and West Palm Beach, FL.
- A part number and nomenclature search for radium dials and other legacy aircraft parts that are sealed sources. None were found in Sikorsky or Third-Party logistics sites.
- Musters of site waste handlers and operations personnel at US Sikorsky sites.
- Written alerts to Sikorsky engineers. The email distribution included over 1,000 managers and engineers. All musters and alerts included photos of radium dials and other legacy aircraft sealed sources, and Sikorsky RSO contact information.
- Recovery of 2 additional radium dials in engineering storage. As with the original 8 dials, the dials were properly disposed of by Radiation Safety Associates, Hebron, CT. Non-radium dials, on site in Stratford, were cataloged to facilitate future inspections.

We have also added a review of any potential legacy sealed sources to our annual Part 20 Program Evaluation. Please contact me if you require any additional information.

Sincerely,

SIKORSKY AIRCRAFT CORPORATION

Julius Vaughn  
Industrial Hygienist, Radiation Safety Officer