

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III
2443 WARRENVILLE ROAD, SUITE 210
LISLE, ILLINOIS 60532-4352

March 29, 2019

EA-19-019 EN 53694 NMED 180485 (Closed)

Ms. Maha Srinivasan, MS Radiation Safety Officer Wayne State University Health Physics Department 5425 Woodward Avenue, 3rd Floor Detroit, MI 48202

SUBJECT: NRC REPORT NO. 03001995/2019001(DNMS) - WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

Dear Ms. Srinivasan:

Between October 26, 2018 and March 4, 2019, inspectors from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) conducted an in-office review of the circumstances surrounding a missing liquid scintillation counter containing a sealed source of radium-226. The NRC initiated this review after Wayne State University contacted the NRC Operations Center on October 26, 2018, to report that this device had gone missing, followed by a written report dated November 14, 2018. A copy of that report can be found in the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), accessible from the Commission's website at https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html, under Accession Number ML18348B253. Mr. Ryan Craffey of my staff presented the findings of this review to you by telephone on March 14, 2019.

During this review, the NRC staff examined activities conducted under the terms of your NRC Materials License related to public health and safety. In addition, the staff examined your compliance with the Commission's rules and regulations. The in-office review consisted of interviews with personnel and an examination of information provided by the University to the NRC.

Based on the results of this in-office review, the NRC has determined that a Severity Level IV violation of NRC requirements occurred. The violation concerned the failure to secure licensed material – approximately 10 microcuries of radium-226 – from unauthorized removal or access, as required by Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) 20.1801.

The violation was evaluated in accordance with the NRC Enforcement Policy, which can be found on the NRC's website at http://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/regulatory/enforcement/enforce-pol.html. The agency determined that the violation met the criteria from Section 2.3.2.b of the Policy to be considered a Noncited Violation (NCV), because: (1) you identified the violation; (2) you attempted to correct the violation and address the potential for recurrence of a similar violation in a reasonable period of time; and (3) the violation was not considered to be repetitive or willful. Therefore, as a credit to your radiation safety program in identifying and addressing issues in a timely fashion, the NRC will not issue a Notice of Violation on this matter.

The NRC staff agreed with your assessment that the root cause of the incident appeared to be a lack of adequate administrative control for disused laboratory equipment. Furthermore, the NRC staff noted that the corrective actions detailed in your written report appear to adequately address this root cause.

The NRC has concluded that information regarding this incident and the underlying violation, including the corrective actions taken and planned to address the potential for recurrence of a similar violation, is already adequately addressed on the docket in this letter and in your written report. Therefore, you are not required to respond to this letter unless the description herein does not accurately reflect your corrective actions or your position. In that case, or if you contest the violation or significance of this NCV, you should provide a response within 30 days of the date of this inspection report, with the basis for your denial, to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Document Control Desk, Washington DC 20555-0001, with copies to: (1) the Regional Administrator, Region III; and (2) the Director, Office of Enforcement, United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and any response you provide will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC's Public Document Room or from the NRC's ADAMS. To the extent possible, any response should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or security-related information so that it can be made publicly available without redaction.

Please feel free to contact Mr. Craffey if you have any questions regarding this inspection. Mr. Craffey can be reached at 630-829-9655.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Aaron T. McCraw, Chief Materials Inspection Branch Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

Docket No. 030-01995 License No. 21-00741-08

cc: State of Michigan

Letter to Maha Srinivasan from Aaron McCraw, dated March 29, 2019

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