

PERKIN-ELMER

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June 13, 1979

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Inspection and Enforcement  
631 Park Ave.  
King of Prussia, Pa. 19406  
Attn: Mr. Robert McClintock

Re: License Number: 06-02135-08  
Expiration Date: April 30, 1984  
Loss of Ni-63 - Electron Capture Detector Cell

Gentlemen:

This letter should be considered supplementary to mine of 22 May, 1979.

An investigation of the events surrounding the loss of the electron capture detector cell containing Ni-63 has been completed by corporate security and an analysis of the internal control procedures utilized with regard to such cells has been made by the Director of Corporate Safety. To date the cell has not been recovered.

From these reports it can be concluded that the missing cell was removed from a locked wooden cabinet in the shipping room. Paperwork documents the presence of the cell at each control point from receipt on the premises, through testing, up until delivery to the shipping room. It is unlikely that the cell was removed inadvertently.

At the time of the loss, the cabinet in the shipping room was so constructed that it would have been possible to remove a cell without unlocking it, but this procedure would have required the destruction of the cardboard box in which the cell was packed. It has been suggested a new cabinet be constructed and this will be accomplished in the near future.

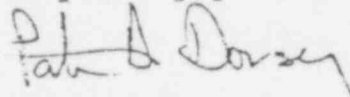
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It has also been suggested that the control procedure be modified somewhat so as to require signatures acknowledging receipt of the cells at each point along the route from corporate receiving through shipment. Furthermore, as each cell is shipped it will be logged with date, and serial number and signed for.

If any further information is required I will be pleased to supply it.

Very truly yours,



Patrick B. Dorsey  
Corporate Attorney

jlc

cc: Director of Inspection and Enforcement  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D. C. 20555

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