



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

COLLEGE PARK CAMPUS

Tel. (301) 454-4906

~~FOR~~
TERA
Division of
Mathematical and Physical Sciences and Engineering
College Park, MD 20742

September 13, 1979

Mr. Boyce H. Grier, Director
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
Region I
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA

Gentlemen:

This is to respond to the requirements of IE Bulletin No. 79-19 Packaging of Low-Level Radioactive Waste for Transport and Burial. Since we operate a University research facility, at a maximum of 250 kilowatts, we do not generate significant levels of low-level radioactive waste. The waste we do generate is usually either:

- a) foils and or substances purposely irradiated in the facility for research purposes. These materials are either allowed to decay to background or are packaged by the Campus Radiation Safety Office for shipment to burial, or
 - b) approximately once every several years we replace a standard demineralizer in our coolant clean-up loop. The old cartridge does contain low-levels of radioactivity and is also packaged by our campus Radiation Safety Office for disposal.
1. The campus Radiation Safety Office does maintain a current set of DOT and NRC regulations concerning the transfer, packaging and transport of low-level radioactive waste material.
 2. A current set of requirements placed on the waste burial firm before packaging low-level radioactive waste material for transfer and shipment to an agreement state is maintained by the campus Radiation Safety Office.
 3. Mr. Edward Blackburn; Director, Environmental Safety and Radiation Safety Officer
Mr. Larry Herbert; Chief Assistant, Radiation Safety Officer
Mr. Benjamin Creech; Assistant Radiation Safety Officer
 4. Detailed instructions and operating procedure are given to all personnel involved in the transfer, packaging and transport of low-level radioactive waste. Each of these activities is conducted by a trained group of individuals in the campus Radiation Safety Office.

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Mr. Boyce H. Grier
September 13, 1979
page two

5. Mr. Creech attended retraining sessions. Periodic retraining of individuals involved will be accomplished on a more formal basis and proper record will be maintained.
6. Biyearly reviews of each individuals campus license to utilize radioactive materials are conducted. Periodic inspection of all spaces so licensed are made by the Radiation Safety Office to insure compliance with written procedures. Additionally, Mr. Creech is kept fully informed concerning all reactor operations which might generate ex-core products.
7. We have in place an informal management audit procedure of all low-level radioactive waste disposal activities. To comply with this Bulletin we will establish and maintain a management-controlled audit function of all transfer, packaging and transport activities to provide assurance that personnel, instructions and procedures, and process and transport equipment are functioning to ensure safety and compliance with regulatory requirements.
8. A management-controlled audit of our low-level radioactive waste handling and disposal will be performed within 60 days of the issuance of Bulletin No. 79-19 (Aug. 10, 1979). Written records will be maintained for inspection.
9. a) The reactor generates about 2 cubic feet of low-level radioactive waste approximately every two years in the form of an ion exchange resin. No shipments were made in 1978 or the first six months of 1979.
b) The quantity of waste associated with this resin is of the order of fractions of millicuries.
c) No liquid low-level radioactive waste was generated.

Should you have further questions concerning our activities, please contact either Dr. R. Belcher or Dr. F. Munno (301-454-2812).

Sincerely,

Frank J. Kerr

Frank J. Kerr
Provost, MPSE Division
University of Maryland

FJK:jc

CC: Harry Kriemelmeyer
Frank Munno

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