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William J. Walker, Jr., Ph.D.
Material Licensing Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle and
Material Safety, NMSS
U S Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

SUBJECT: Review of Final Generic Environmental Statement on Routine Use of Plutonium-Powered Cardiac Pacemakers - Supplement 1

I would agree with the conclusion of NUREG-0060 and Supplement 1 if the plat powered pacemakers were the only ones available with the advantages of their parameters. In view of NUREG-0060 and Supplement 1, however, if the information on the lithium pacemaker is accurate both with respect to their life span and reliability then it is difficult to justify the use of a nuclear powered unit. Since the current lithium powered units have a life expectancy in the order of ten years it may well be surmised that the majority of patients will not outlive the lithium pacemaker. Those that do can certainly have the replacement and apparently from an economical standpoint it is possible that the Nuclear powered unit may equal as many as three lithium units.

Therefore, based on the information provided, namely relative life span and cost it does not appear advantageous or useful to authorize the routine use of platonium powered pacemakers. These statements are based on the assumption that the information contained in NUREG-0060 and Supplement 1 is complete and accurate.

Frank H. DeLand

FRANK H. DELAND, MD
Chief, Nuclear Medicine Service

Acknowledged by card. 11/16

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