



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I
631 PARK AVENUE
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406

7 NOV 1978

Docket No. 50-170

Defense Nuclear Agency
Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute
ATTN: Colonel Darrell W. McIndoe, USAF
Director
Bethesda, Maryland 20014

Gentlemen:

Subject: Inspection 50-170/78-04

This refers to the inspection conducted by Mr. L. Briggs of this office on October 11-13, 1978, of activities authorized by NRC License No. R-84 and to the discussions of our findings held by Mr. Briggs with Mr. E. Still and others of your staff at the conclusion of the inspection, and to a subsequent telephone discussion between Mr. L. Briggs and Dr. Tyler on October 24, 1977.

Areas examined during this inspection are described in the Office of Inspection and Enforcement Inspection Report which is enclosed with this letter. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, measurements made by the inspector, and observations by the inspector.

Based on the results of this inspection, it appears that certain of your activities were not conducted in full compliance with NRC requirements as set forth in the Notice of Violation, enclosed herewith as Appendix A. These items of noncompliance have been categorized into the levels as described in our correspondence to you dated December 31, 1974. This notice is sent to you pursuant to the provisions of Section 2.201 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations. Section 2.201 requires you to submit to this office, within twenty (20) days of your receipt of this notice, a written statement or explanation in reply including: (1) corrective steps which have been taken by you and the results achieved; (2) corrective steps which will be taken to avoid further items of noncompliance; and (3) the date when full compliance will be achieved. In addition to the need for corrective action regarding these specific items of noncompliance, we are concerned about the implementation of your management control systems that permitted them to occur. Consequently, in your reply, you should describe in particular, those actions taken or planned to improve the effectiveness of your management control systems.

7901020044

7 NOV 1978

With respect to Appendix A, we note that you have corrected Item No. E, and therefore you need not address yourself to this matter in your response.

In accordance with Section 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter and the enclosures will be placed in the NRC's Public Document Room. If this report contains any information that you (or your contractor) believe to be proprietary, it is necessary that you make a written application within 20 days to this office to withhold such information from public disclosure. Any such application must be accompanied by an affidavit executed by the owner of the information, which identifies the document or part sought to be withheld, and which contains a statement of reasons which addresses with specificity the items which will be considered by the Commission as listed in subparagraph (b) (4) of Section 2.790. The information sought to be withheld shall be incorporated as far as possible into a separate part of the affidavit. If we do not hear from you in this regard within the specified period, the report will be placed in the Public Document Room.

Should you have any questions concerning this inspection, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,

E. C. Brunner, Jr., Acting for
Eldon J. Brunner, Chief
Reactor Operations and Nuclear
Support Branch

Enclosures:

1. Appendix A, Notice of Violation
2. Office of Inspection and Enforcement Inspection
Report Number 50-170/78-04

cc w/encl:

Captain J. T. Casady, USAF, Chief, Physicist, AFFRI Reactor