



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION II  
101 MARIETTA ST., N.W., SUITE 3100  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

MAY 6 1980

In Reply Refer To:  
RII:JPO  
70-1113

General Electric Company  
Attn: R. J. Alkema, General Manager  
Nuclear Fuel Department  
P. O. Box 780  
Wilmington, North Carolina 28401

Gentlemen:

Enclosed is IE Information Notice No. 80-19, "NIOSH Recall of Recirculating-Mode (Closed-Circuit) Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (Rebreather)," which addresses the NIOSH "stop-sales-and-recall" order to the manufacturers of the BioPak 60P rebreather respirator. Should you have any questions related to the enclosed authorization or guidance, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

James P. O'Reilly  
Director

Enclosures:

1. IE Information Notice  
No. 80-19
2. List of IE Information  
Notices Recently Issued

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cc w/encl:

A. L. Kaplan, Manager  
Licensing and Compliance Audits  
Post Office Box 780, Mail Code J-26  
Wilmington, North Carolina 28401

C. M. Vaughan, Manager  
Nuclear Materials Management  
Post Office Box 780, Mail Code K-88  
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UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

SSINS: 6870  
Accession No.:  
8002280674

*Dupe*

May 6, 1980

IE Information No. 80-19

NIOSH RECALL OF RECIRCULATING-MODE (CLOSED CIRCUIT) SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS (REBREATHER)

The NRC has been informed by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), the agency that tests and certifies respirators, that some of the NIOSH-certified respiratory protective equipment that NRC licensees use might have been modified by the manufacturer without approval by NIOSH. NIOSH considers such modified equipment not to be certified, even though it might bear their test and certification label.

The equipment in question is the BioPak 30P and 60P, NIOSH test-and-certification numbers TC-13F-84 and TC-13F-85, respectively. The BioPak 30P and 60P are respectively 30-minute and 60-minute, closed-circuit, recirculating-mode, self-contained breathing apparatuses (rebreathers), manufactured by BioMarine Industries, Inc. Our information leads us to believe that NRC licensees have purchased only the 60P equipment.

NIOSH has issued a "stop-sales-and" order to the manufacturer for this equipment. Licensees who have equipment should check with the manufacturer to determine what action to take to assure that their equipment is in certified status.

The manufacturer's address and telephone number are:

BioMarine Industries Inc.  
45 Great Valley Corporate Center  
Malvern, PA 19355

Tel: (215) 647-7200

IE Information Notice No. 80-19  
May 6, 1980

Enclosure

RECENTLY ISSUED  
IE INFORMATION NOTICES

Information Notice No.	Subject	Date Issued	Issued To
80-19	NIOSH Recall of Recirculating-Mode (Closed Circuit) Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (Rebreather)	5/6/80	All OL's, Research Reactor License, Fuel Cycle Facility License and Priority I
80-18	Possible Weapons Smuggling Pouch	5/5/80	All power reactor facilities with an OL, fuel fabrication and processing facilities and Materials Priority I licensees (processors and distributors)
80-17	Potential Hazards Associated With Interchangeable Parts On Radiographic Equipment	5/5/80	All radiography Licenses
80-16	Shaft Seal Packing Causes Binding In Main Steam Swing Check And Isolation Valves	4/29/80	All power reactor facilities in your Region with an OL or CP
80-15	Axial (Longitudinal) Oriented Cracking In Piping	4/21/80	All Light Water Reactor Facilities holding power reactor OLs or CPs
80-14	Safety Suggestions From Employees	4/2/80	All power reactor facilities with an OL or CP
80-13	General Electric Type SBM Control Switches - Defective Cam Followers	4/2/80	All light water reactor facilities holding power reactor OLs or CPs
80-12	Instrument Failure Causes Opening of PORV and Bleck Valve	3/31/80	All holders of power reactor OLs and CPs
80-11	General Problems with ASCO Valves in Nuclear Application Including Fire Protection Systems	3/14/80	All holders of Reactor OL, CP, fuel fabrication and processing facilities