

DCB/DCB

OCT 23 1989

30-6961 70-152

Purdue University
ATTN: Mr. Kenneth Burns
Vice President,
Physical Facilities
Lytle J. Freehafer Hall
of Administrative Services
401 South Grant Street
West Lafayette, IN 47907

Licenses No. 13-02812-04; SNM-142

Gentlemen:

This refers to the routine safety inspection conducted by J. W. Patterson of this office on July 20 through July 28, 1989 of activities authorized by NRC Material License No. 13-02812-04 and No. SNM-142, and to the discussion of our findings with you and members of your staff at the conclusion of the inspection.

The inspection was an examination of activities conducted under your license as they relate to radiation safety and to compliance with the Commission's rules and regulations and with the conditions of your license. The inspection consisted of a selective examination of procedures and representative records, observations, independent measurements, and interviews with personnel.

In addition to the above areas, the inspector examined corrective actions regarding the apparent violations found during our June 10-14, 1985, inspection of License No. 13-02812-04. We have no further questions regarding the corrective actions taken for two of the three violations identified during the 1985 inspection; however, one repeat violation was found during this inspection and is described in the enclosed Notice.

During this inspection, certain of your activities conducted under License No. 13-02812-04 appear to be in violation of NRC requirements, as specified in the enclosed Notice; a written response is required for each violation. Violation No. 1 is a repeat item. In your response to this violation, please describe why your proposed corrective action is expected to be more successful in preventing future or similar violations than your previous corrective action. No violations were identified for License No. SNM-142; however, we are concerned about glove box operations and uranium rod handling and transfer procedures/practices that have allowed uranium chips to contaminate floor areas beneath the glove box in the FBBF facility. Additionally, we are concerned with the adequacy of your calculational methods for determining airborne concentrations in the FBBF. Consequently, in addition to your response for the violations of License No. 13-02812-04, please also describe your actions to address these apparent weaknesses associated with activities conducted under License No. SNM-142.

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This inspection also included a review of an excessive film badge exposure reported to the NRC by letter dated January 20, 1989. Based on our review, we concur that the exposure recorded by the film badge was not a valid personnel exposure and was an exposure to the badge only. Therefore, we consider this matter closed.

The responses directed by this letter and the accompanying Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, PL 96-511.

We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning this inspection.

Sincerely,

D. J. Sreniawski, Chief
Nuclear Materials Safety
Section 1

Enclosure: Notice of Violation

cc w/enclosure:
DCD/DCB (RIDS)

RIII
Patterson/gd
10/19/89

RIII
Sreniawski
10/18/89