

NOV - 9 1989

In Reply Refer To:
License: 35-13157-01
Docket: 30-02922/89-01

Muskogee Regional Medical Center
ATTN: William R. Kennedy, C.E.O.
300 Rockefeller Drive
Muskogee, Oklahoma 74401

Gentlemen:

This refers to the routine, unannounced radiation safety inspection conducted by Ms. L. L. Kasner of this office on October 6, 1989, of the activities authorized by NRC Byproduct Material License 35-13157-01, and to the discussion of our findings held by the inspector with members of your staff at the conclusion of the inspection.

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

During this inspection, the inspector reviewed the organization of the nuclear medicine department and the roles of individuals named as authorized users under the license. The inspector observed that several individual's responsibilities within the program had changed during this inspection period, but that key individuals such as the Radiation Safety Officer (RSO) had maintained their appointed positions. The inspector also reviewed the roles of your consulting medical physicists and the services they provide with respect to the radiation safety program and its management.

The inspector observed that individuals in your program, particularly those delegated as members of the Radiation Safety Committee (RSC), appeared to communicate effectively and generally performed program audits that were directed to safety issues. The audits performed by your consulting physicist appeared to have been useful in identifying procedures and program areas where radiation safety practice could be improved. However, it was observed that your RSO had been absent from the majority of the RSC meetings and had failed to provide management with annual program reviews during this inspection period. Although the RSO may delegate tasks to alternate individuals as you have done with your consulting physicist, it must be emphasized that the RSO is responsible for the overall effectiveness of the radiation safety program. This responsibility includes oversight of the program to coordinate the efforts of those individuals performing tasks related to the program, directing audits that adequately identify safety issues or areas of noncompliance, and providing guidance to management. The NRC expects the RSC to participate in management audits and committee meetings where policies and procedures related to the radiation safety program are developed or reviewed.

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*C:NMIS
Cl.Cain
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During this inspection, certain of your activities were found not to be conducted in full compliance with NRC requirements. Consequently, you are required to respond to this matter in writing, in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.201 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations. Your response should be based on the specifics contained in the Notice of Violation enclosed with this letter.

The response directed by this letter and the accompanying Notice is 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.

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

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:
A. B. BEACH

A. Bill Beach, Director
Division of Radiation Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosure:
Appendix - Notice of Violation

cc:
Oklahoma Radiation Control Program Director

bcc:
DMB - Original (IE-07)
RDMartin
ABBeach
LAYandell
LShea, RM/ALF (AR-2015)
*CLCain
*RJEverett
*LLKasner
*NMIS
*MIS System
*RIV Files (2)
*RSTS Operator
*REHall, URFO

*W/766

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