



August 15, 1989

Norman L. McElroy, Chief
Nuclear Materials Safety, Section 1
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region III
799 Roosevelt Road
Glen Ellen, Illinois 60137

Re: Inspection of License by J. W. Patterson on June 21, 1989

Gentlemen:

It is not our practise to knowingly dispose of radioactive waste in normal trash. The Nuclear Medicine Technologist at our institution are required to handle or remove IV tubing, almost none of it contaminated with radioactivity. They did not realize that the tubing could become contaminated by the a small amount of Thallium-210 passing through it. They have been instructed that they are not to dispose of any IV tubing that has any possibility of being contaminated without checking it with a survey meter. This will become part of the radiation safety notebook that is used as a reference in our Nuclear Medicine Laboratory and that the Technologist are required to read yearly.

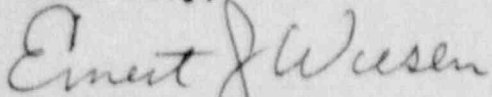
In regard to:


Violation 1: As required by 10 CFR 35.51, we calibrate our survey meters before first use, annually and following repair. We have records of this since we first started in house survey meter calibration. We relied on our monthly inspection to determine when the survey meter in the clinical and research laboratories needed calibration. There was no such procedure to inspect survey meters at other locations. We have taken our calibration information and complied it in a form that would will enable us to know the location of each survey meter and the date of required calibration. Pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 2.201, we submit the following for violation 1. First, we calibrated the meter in question (the only one we found out of calibration). Second, we compiled the data from the calibration records and established a form showing all known survey meters in the hospital and the required date of calibration so at the beginning of each month we know which meters will require calibration. We can then make arrangement to calibrate the meters. Third, the hospital is in compliance at the present time.

Violation 2: All packages except those from the diagnostic unit dose supplier were inspected. The procedures have been modified and revised to include all packages containing radioactive material. First, all packages received were inspected for external contamination. Second, procedures were rewritten and a form developed to record the inspection of packages containing radioactive material for external contamination. The Nuclear Medicine technologists will be given addition training. Third, the hospital will be in compliance by October 1, 1989.

If any additional information is required, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,


Ernest J. Wiesen
Radiation Safety Officer


Stanley Skubic, Ph. D.
Chairman, Radiation
Safety Committee