APPENDIX A

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Veterans Administration Medical Center
West Roxbury, Massachusetts 02132

Docket No. 030-01902
License No. 20-08551-01

As a result of the inspection conducted on June 28, 1989, and in accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions," 10 CFR Part 2, Appendix C (Enforcement Policy) (1988), the following violations were identified:

A. 10 CFR 35.60(b) requires that licensees conspicuously label each syringe, or syringe radiation shield that contains a syringe with a radiopharmaceutical and that the label show the radiopharmaceutical name or its abbreviation, or the clinical procedures to be performed, or the patient's name.

Contrary to the above, as of June 28, 1989, syringes containing radiopharmaceuticals were not labelled as required. Specifically, one cubic centimeter syringes at the West Roxbury, Massachusetts facility and all syringes at the Brockton, Massachusetts facility were not labelled as required.

This is a Severity Level IV violation. (Supplement VI)

B. 10 CFR 35.59(g) requires that a quarterly physical inventory be conducted of sealed sources in the possession of the licensee.

Contrary to the above, the required physical inventory was not conducted from November 1988 to June 28, 1989.

This is a Severity Level IV violation. (Supplement VI)

C. 10 CFR 35.220 requires that licensees authorized to use byproduct material for imaging and localization possess a portable radiation detection survey instrument capable of detecting dose rates over the range of 0.1 millirem per hour to 100 millirem per hour, and a portable radiation measurement survey instrument capable of measuring dose rates over the range 1 millirem per hour to 1000 millirem per hour.

Contrary to the above, on June 28, 1989, a portable radiation measurement survey instrument capable of measuring 1 millirem per hour to 1000 millirem per hour was not in your possession at the Brockton facility while byproduct material was used for imaging and localization.

This is a Severity Level IV violation. (Supplement VI)

D. 10 CFR 20.201(b) requires that each licensee make such surveys as may be necessary to comply with all sections of Part 20. As defined in 10 CFR 20.201(a), "survey" means an evaluation of the radiation hazards incident to the production, use, release, disposal, or presence of radioactive materials or other sources of radiation under a specific set of conditions.

Contrary to the above, surveys were not made to assure compliance with 10 CFR 20.301, which describes authorized means of disposing of licensed material contained in waste. Specifically, on June 28, 1989, technetium-99m contaminated waste measuring approximately three millirem per hour was detected in the normal trash.

This is a Severity Level IV violation. (Supplement IV)

E. 10 CFR 35.50(b)(1) requires that licensees check each dose calibrator for constancy with a dedicated check source at the beginning of each day of use and that the check be done on a frequently used setting.

Contrary to the above, a dose calibrator used to measure patient doses was not checked for constancy at the beginning of each day of use. Specifically, the dose calibrator was not checked for constancy on June 27 and 28, 1989, and from April 1 through May 8, 1989. In addition, the dose calibrator was not checked for constancy on 30 days when it was used to assay patient doses from January 1 through March 31, 1989.

This is a Severity Level IV violation. (Supplement VI)

F. 10 CFR 35.50(b)(3) requires that the linearity of the dose calibrator be determined at installation and quarterly thereafter.

Contrary to the above, as of June 28, 1989, dose calibrator linearity had not been determined at the required frequency. Specifically, the dates of the last linearity checks were: April 5, 1989, September 19, 1988, December 21, 1987 and July 20, 1987.

This is a Severity Level IV violation. (Supplement VI)

Pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 2.201, Veterans Administration Medical Center is hereby required to submit to this office within thirty days of the date of the letter which transmitted this Notice, a written statement or explanation in reply, including: (1) the corrective steps which have been taken and the results achieved; (2) corrective steps which will be taken to avoid further violations; and (3) the date when full compliance will be achieved. Where good cause is shown, consideration will be given to extending this response time.