



STATE OF
WASHINGTON

Dixy Lee Ray
Governor

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES

Olympia, Washington 98504

July 9, 1980

Ms. Marie Janinek
State Relations Officer
Office of State Programs
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Dear Ms. Janinek:

This letter and attachments constitute Washington's report for the third quarter of the transportation contract between the state of Washington and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. For purposes of reporting, the quarter is considered to have started March 10, 1980 and ending on June 9, 1980.

During the third quarter of this contract the Transportation and Waste Management (T&WM) subunit completed full staffing except for one remaining vacancy. The T&WM subunit now consists of a supervisor, two radiation health physicists, two radiation control monitors and an administrative intern for the summer. The intern is assigned to T&WM for the months of June, July and August in order to organize the subunits reports, files and statistics.

Coverage at the NECo site during this quarter was full time except for the week of May 19 through May 23, 1980. During this quarter we continued to observe many violations of DOT regulations and/or license conditions. Our site surveillance findings are outlined further in Attachment "A" of this report.

As noted above the week of May 19 was missed due to curtailment of air and ground traffic to the Richland area following the volcanic eruption (explosion) of Mt. St. Helens. Regulatory coverage at the site was provided by a U.S. Regulatory Commission inspector who was staying in Richland at the time of the heavy ash fall.

During the week of May 19, thirteen shipments of radioactive waste arrived at the NECo site. All shipments were accepted. Since this agency was unable to provide an inspector at the site during the week of May 19, we are herein informing you of the shipments we missed. Attachment "B" of this report lists the shipments accepted and unloaded during the week a state inspector was absent from the site.

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Following a period of training, new staff people were individually assigned the responsibility of visiting and/or inspecting, airports, shipping ports, nuclear medicine facilities, industrial radiographers, uranium mills, the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard and a nuclear pharmacy. Some of the facilities mentioned were visited prior to the start of the contract's third quarter. However, during this quarter emphasis was placed on making inspections at a greater number of locations and closer analysis of potential radiological handling problems.

During this quarter, personnel from the Transportation and Waste Management subunit continued to make numerous telephone contacts and visits to handlers of radioactive materials. Telephone contacts provided useful information in many cases by allowing us to rule out places having questionable materials, handling or shipping problems. However, some telephone contacts indicated a need for follow-up visits and were so scheduled. Attachment "C" of this report lists the facilities contacted by phone along with places actually visited.

Prior to the end of the third quarter, thermoluminescent dosimeters (TLD's) were obtained and placed in several areas throughout the state where potential radiation problems were indentified. The third quarter ended without adequate exposure time on the TLD's to warrant the processing of the devices. Therefore, no TLD exposure data is included with this third quarter report.

Sincerely,



T. R. Strong, Head
Radiation Control Section

TRS/mh

Attachments

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