

October 13, 1989

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1 of 2

Charles E. Norelius, Director  
Division of Radiation Safety and Safeguards  
U.S.N.R.C., Region III  
799 Roosevelt Road  
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

RE: License No. 37-18309-01MD (Blue Ash, OH)  
Allegation No. RIII-88-A-0185

Gentlemen:

This refers to your letter to Monty Fu dated September 11, 1989 requesting further information regarding allegations pertaining to substance abuse at two Syncor facilities (Allegation Nos. RIII-88-A-0185 and RIII-89-A-006).

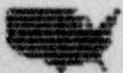
Specifically, you have requested a reassessment of the allegations related to the Blue Ash, OH facility taking into consideration past performance of the individual in question. Attachment A from my April 7, 1989 letter is enclosed for reference to individuals.

Certainly there was a performance issue involving Employee A as indicated in a memo from Employee C to Employee J dated 9/26/88 (Attachment D of Enclosure 1 in 4/7/89 letter). This date is within the time period the Blue Ash facility was under a Modifying Order by Region III of NRC. Several employees, including Employee A, worked extremely long hours to assure the NRC's Order for dual verification of licensed activities was met. Employee A stated in the response to the performance issue that emergency calls had been taken, and there were equipment failures which contributed to this incident. Stress associated with the dual verification of the Order was also a major factor contributing to the general fatigue of this person. The general conclusion was Employee A was extremely tired and simply overslept.

Employees C, E, F, and J were all interviewed about potential substance abuse by Employee A during the investigation conduct prior to my April 7, 1989 letter. All had access to the information contained in Enclosure 1 of my April 7, 1989 letter. None of these employees felt the behavior of employee A was indicative of substance abuse. As indicated in Item 5 of Enclosure 1 of my April 7, 1989 letter, Employees C, E, and F did not and do not have any reason to suspect substance abuse on by Employee A.

In summary, the conclusion that the allegation against Employee A was unsubstantiated was based on interviews with several individuals not just the facility manager. We apologize if this was unclear in the April 7, 1989 letter.

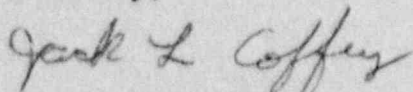
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Please contact me at (800) 999-9098 if can provide any further information regarding this allegation.

Sincerely,



Jack L. Coffey, M.S., B.C.H.P.  
Vice President, Quality and Regulatory

cc: Blue Ash file  
Syncor Distribution