Maurice Messier LFMB, MNBB 4503

AUG 1 6 1989

Docket No.: 030-02935 License No.: 36-01395-01

Control No.: 70893

Veterans Administration Medical Center P.O. Box 1034 3710 S.W. U.S. Veterans Hospital Road Portland. Oregon 97207

Main

Attention: Mr. Barry L. Bell

Medical Center Director

Gentlemen:

Enclosed is the NRC license amendment which you requested.

Please review the enclosed document carefully and be sure that you understand all conditions. If there are any errors or questions, please notify us so that we can provide appropriate corrections and answers.

Any future correspondence relating to your license should specifically reference your license and docket numbers to expedite your inquiry.

Sincerely,

Original Signed

Beth A. Riedlinger Health Physicist (Licensing) Nuclear Materials Safety Section

Enclosure: Attachment A (original)

Amendment No. 87 to License No. 36-01395-01 (original and copy)

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Distribution

bcc w/original concurrence, copy of license, and original correspondence: License docket folder (Peggy) bcc w/copy of license and correspondence: Inspection folder (Peggy) bcc w/copy of license: Reading file (Frances)
bcc w/correspondence and 2 copies of license:
Maurice Messier, LFMB, MNBB 4503 license only: State of Oregon B. Riedlinger J. Montgomery D. 5 F. Browne KOV 8/16/89 REQUEST COPY YES / NO REQUEST CORY] REQUEST COPY REQUEST COPY REQUEST COPY (NO) YES / NO YES YES NO YES



UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

JUN 0 8 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR: Robert J. Pate, Chief

00 :112 All: 00 Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards Branch, RV

FROM:

John E. Glenn, Chief

Medical, Academic, and Commercial

Use Safety Branch

Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety, NMSS

SUBJECT:

AMENDMENT OF LICENSE NO. 36-01395-01, VAMC-PORTLAND, OREGON

(TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE REQUEST DATED FEBRUARY 16, 1989)

This is in response to your technical assistance request dated February 16, 1989 regarding an amendment request by VAMC-Portland for the disposal of I-125 radioimmunoassay waste after decay-in-storage for five half lives. The request, described in a letter dated December 22, 1988 submitted by the licensee, has been reviewed and the following direction is given:

- The licensee requests an amendment for the disposal of solid I-125 radioimmunoassay waste after decay-in-storage for five half lives, based on the following information:
 - A. A six month analysis by VAMC-Portland of the radioactive material receipt and disposal records revealed that the RIA laboratory receives approximately 800 microcuries per month of I-125 in kit form. This results in the generation of less than 300 microcuries per month in the form of solid waste precipitate in the bottom of the test tubes. Approximately 200 microcuries is accumulated in a single 55 gallon barrel.
 - B. The requirement to store bound I-125 solid waste results in valuable long term storage space being occupied by large volumes of test tubes containing minimum quantities of radioactive material.
 - C. The licensee has demonstrated the possession of survey instrumentation adequate for the detection of small quantities of I-125.
 - D. The licensee has described adequate monitoring procedures that will be conducted prior to disposal.
- 2. According to the information submitted by the licensee, their current possession level requires compliance with waste disposal regulations contained in 10 CFR 35.92. This section requires that all byproduct material with a physical half life of less than sixty-five days be held for a minimum of 10 half lives prior to monitoring and disposal in ordinary trash.

3. The proposed decay-in-storage of approximately 200 microcuries per barrel of I-125 radioactive waste for a period of five half lives would result in the disposal of small quantities of radioactive material that are frequently exempted from NRC disposal regulations. After decay-in-storage for five half lives, the quantity of I-125 present in a single 55 gallon barrel is approximately 7 microcuries, over 25 times less than authorized for possession by the general license in 10 CFR 31.11. That section exempts general licensees from the disposal requirements of 10 CFR Part 20. That quantity is also within the range of exempt quantities allowed for unlicensed receipt, use, and transfer in 10 CFR 30.18. In particular, 10 CFR 30.15(9)(ii) permits licensees to transfer up to 10 exempt quantities in one package.

Based upon the information and procedures submitted, the licensee may dispose of solid I-125 radioimmunoassay waste that has been held in storage for a minimum of five half lives as ordinary waste. The following amendment may be issued to the previously referenced license:

"Notwithstanding the requirements of section 35.92 of 10 CFR Part 35, the licensee is authorized to dispose of radioactive waste containing I-125 from RIA kits in ordinary trash after being held for decay for a minimum of five (5) half lives. The licensee shall monitor these wastes as described in 10 CFR 35.92(a)(2), and maintain the records described in 10 CFR 35.92(b).

If there are any further questions, please contact Janet Schlueter at FTS 492-0633.

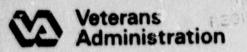
John E. Glenn, Chief

Medical, Academic, and Commercial

Use Safety Branch

Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety, NMSS

Portland Division 3710 Southwest U.S. Veterans Hospital Road P.O. Box 1034 Portland OR 97207



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In Reply Refer To:

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region V Material Licensing Branch 1450 Maria Lane, Suite 210 Walnut Creek, CA 94596

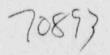
THRU:

Director, Nuclear Medicine Service (115) VA Central Office 810 Vermunt Avenue NW Washington, D.C. 20420

SUBJ: AMENDMENT OF LICENSE #36-01395-01

- The Veterans Administration Medical Center, Portland, Oregon, is submitting supplemental information for amendment of its license (NRC #36-01395-01, Reference #030-02935, Control #70893) for use of materials at the Vancouver, Washington facility, as per your request.
- The exact location of the Vancouver, Washington facility is Fourth Plain and D Street in Vancouver, Washington. The mailing address for the facility is VA Medical Center, Vancouver Division, P.O. Box 1035, 3710 Southwest U.S. Veterans Hospital Road, Portland, Oregon 97207.
- The exact name of the facility is the Vancouver Division of the VA Medical Center of Portland, Oregon.
- In order to expedite matters, we request amendment at this time for only one laboratory. Radioactive material will be used only in the proposed counting room and the proposed lab area indicated in the attachment of our previous submission. This is in Bldg. T-2285 of the Vancouver Division. Material will be used by Dr. James Metcalfe, W.D., Associate Chief of Staff for the Vancouver Division. He will be using less than 1 millicurie of tritium in radioassay work.

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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

- 5. The Vancouver Division of VAMC Portland houses a 120 bed nursing home care unit; miscellaneous support beds, including one for drug and alcohol abuse; and some intermediate care hospital beds. It was once a complete hospital facility, but now it is used in support of the Portland facility. The two rooms which are proposed for use of material are in an old laboratory service area. This area is no longer necessary for that purpose since laboratory analysis is now performed at the VAMC Portland. A map of the facility is enclosed as attachment #1.
- 6. Your consideration in this matter is appreciated. Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact our Radiation Safety Officer William K. Tuttle III, Ph.D., at (503)220-8262, ext. 5853 commercial or 424-5853(FTS).

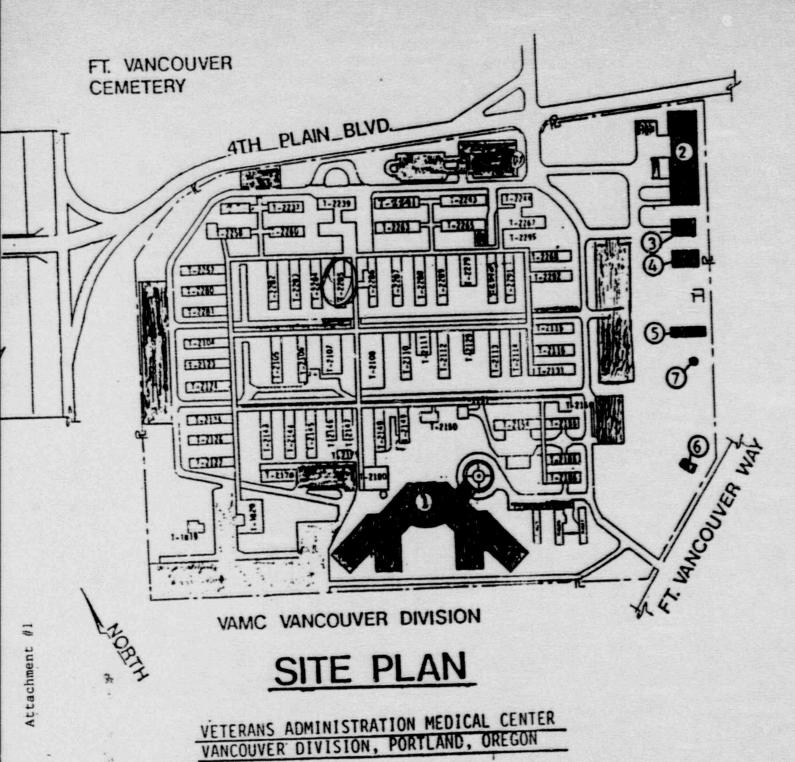
BARRY L. BELL

MEDICAL CENTER DIRECTOR

JAMES W. FLETCHER, M.D.

Director, Nuclear Medicine Service ()

Veterans Administration Washington, DC 20420



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Docket No.: 030-02935 License No.: 36-01395-01

Control No.: 70893

V. A. Medical Center P.O. Box 1034 3710 S.W. U.S. Veterans Hospital Road Portland, Oregon 97207

Attention: William K. Tuttle III, Ph.D.

Radiation Safety Officer

Gentlemen:

This is in reference to your request dated December 22, 1988 for amendment of your byproduct material license. In order to complete our review, we need the following information:

- 1. Please specify the exact location of your Vancouver, Washington facility by giving the address, street, and zip code.
- Please provide the exact name of the facility if other than the V.A. Medical Center, Portland, Oregon.
- 3. A more complete description of this facility will be necessary including:
 - a. Identification and description of the building(s) and departments where byproduct material will be used.
 - b. The type of research with byproduct material that is planned.
 - c. Drawings of the facility to illustrate the above would be helpful.

The description of your facilities should be thorough as has been the case in your past correspondence with us.

We will continue the review of your amendment request upon receipt of this information. In order to continue prompt review of your application, we request that you submit your response to this letter within 30 calendar days from the date of this letter. Please reply in duplicate, and refer to Mail Control No. 70893.

Sincerely,

Beth A. Riedlinger Health Physicist (Licensing) Nuclear Materials Safety Section Memorandum for:

John Austin, Acting Chief

Medical, Academic, and Commercial Use Branch

From:

R. D. Thomas, Chief

Nuclear Materials Safety Section

SUBJECT:

REQUEST FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Based on the February 13, 1989, telephone conversation between Janet Schlute of your staff and Jim Montgomery of the Region V office, I am submitting a "Request For Technical Assistance" for the V.A. Medical Center, Portland, Oregon. The licensee will need to be granted an exemption from 10 CFR 35.92(A)(1).

The licensee appears to possess radiation survey instrumentation sufficient to accurately measure iodine 125.

In a May 12, 1986, license amendment request the licensee described his instrumentation as follows:

- 3 Eberline Model ESP-1 survey meters
- 3 HP-270 energy compensated probes
- 1 HP-260 thin window probe
- 2 HP-210L thin window shielded pancake probes
- 1 Eberline Mini-Scaler Model MS w/one LEG-1 low energy gamma probe, one SPA-3 scintillation probe and one HP-290 thin window G.M. probe.

Please advise if additional information is needed.

R.D. Thomas, Chief Nuclear Materials Safety Section

Enclosure: V.A., Portland amendment request