



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION I  
631 PARK AVENUE  
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406

Docket Nos. 70-710  
30-8305

DEC 04 1979

Merrimack College  
ATTN: Father John Coughlin  
President  
North Andover, Massachusetts 01845

Gentlemen:

Subject: Combined Inspection 70-710 and 30-8305/79-01

This refers to the inspection conducted by Ms. J. McGinness and Ms. M. Campbell of this office on November 5 and 6, 1979 of activities authorized by NRC License Nos. SNM-648 and 20-8852-01 and to the discussions of our findings held by Ms. McGinness with Mr. William Garrett of your staff at the conclusion of the inspection.

The inspection was an examination of activities conducted under your licenses as they relate to radiation safety and to compliance with the Commission's rules and regulations and the conditions of your licenses. The inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, measurements made by the inspector, and observations by the inspector.

In addition, our inspector took smear samples in your preparation and storage areas which were analyzed in our Regional Office Laboratory in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania. The basic purpose of these independent measurements is to verify your capability for analyzing removable contaminations in your preparation and storage areas. The results of our analyses were in agreement with your results and indicate levels were below minimum detectable activities.

Based on the results of this inspection, it appears that certain of your activities were not conducted in full compliance with NRC requirements, as set forth in the Notice of Violation, enclosed herewith as Appendix A. These items of noncompliance have been categorized into the levels as described in our correspondence to you dated December 31, 1974. This notice is sent to you pursuant to the provisions of Section 2.201 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations. Section 2.201 requires you to submit to this office, within twenty (20) days of your receipt of this notice, a written statement or explanation in reply including: (1) corrective steps which have been taken by you and the results achieved; (2) corrective steps which will be taken to avoid further items of noncompliance; and (3) the date when full compliance will be achieved.

From the discussions at the conclusion of the inspection, it is our understanding that you plan to have your Radiation Safety Officer evaluate procedures used on radiation safety at the college on a continuing basis. It is also our under-

standing that he will keep an inventory of the radioactive materials that you possess. Please confirm our understandings in your reply to this letter.

In accordance with Section 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter and your reply will be placed in the Public Document Room.

Should you have any questions concerning this inspection, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,



Robert O. McClintock, Chief  
Materials Radiological Protection  
Section

Enclosure: Appendix A, Notice of Violation