

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

JUN 0 3 1301

License No. 45-09963-01 EA 81-51

> Met Lab, Incorporated ATTN: O. W. Ward, III President 605 Rotary Street Hampton, VA 23661

Gentlemen:

An inspection conducted by the NRC Region II office on March 25 and April 10, 1981 of activities authorized by NRC License No. 45-09963-01 indicated that licensed activities were not being conducted with proper concern for health and safety. This was demonstrated by an exposure to one of your employees in excess of those limits specified in 10 CFR 20.101 and failure to follow procedures which might have prevented the exposure. The safety significance of these matters was discussed with you by W. W. Peery of the Region II office by telephone on April 16, 1981.

After careful consideration of this matter, we propose to impose civil penalties in the cumulative amount of Four Thousand Dollars for the violations set forth as Items I A and B in the Notice of Violation enclosed as Appendix A to this letter. The violations have been categorized at the levels described in accordance with the Interim Enforcement Policy published in the <u>Federal Register</u> (45 FR 66754) October 7, 1980. Items II A through D in the enclosed Notice of Violation are not related to the overexposure and civil penalties have not been assessed for these items.

You are required to respond to the Notice of Violation and in preparing your response you should follow the instructions in Appendix A. You should give particular attention to those actions designed to assure continuing compliance with NRC requirements. Your reply to this letter and the results of future inspections will be considered in determining whether further enforcement action is appropriate.

CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

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Met Lab, Incorporated

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 the enclosures will be placed in the NRC's Public Document Room.

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Sincerely,

Victor Stello, Sr. Director Office of Inspection and Enforcement

Enclosure: Appendix A - Notice of Violation and Proposed Imposition of Civil Penalties