

DCB

DEC 22 1989

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American Radiolabeled Chemicals
ATTN: Surendra K. Gupta, Ph.D.
11612 Bowling Green Drive
St. Louis, MO 63146

License No.: 24-21362-01

Gentlemen:

This refers to the conversation on December 22, 1989, between you and Messrs. B. S. Mallett and R. J. Caniano of my staff regarding the use of erroneous shipping documents by your company.

During that conversation, you informed us that on approximately four occasions during the past year you or your staff knowingly mislabeled shipping documents in order to expedite the exportation of packages containing NRC licensed materials to a customer of yours in Switzerland. These packages contained carbon-14 labeled cyanides and methyl-bromide; yet, at your customer's request, shipping documents were prepared which indicated that the materials being shipped contained carbon-14 labeled glucose.

It is our understanding that in order to preclude this from recurring in the future you will:

1. Immediately instruct all of your staff on proper procedures to follow with regard to package and labeling of radioactive materials for shipment and to not mislabel any documents associated with shipping radioactive materials as was done in the examples described above.
2. Immediately implement a program wherein two staff members independently verify that all packages prepared by your staff for shipment and shipping papers have been prepared and properly labeled in accordance with all applicable regulations and are accurate.
3. Make arrangements for a consultant (R. M. Wester) to perform periodic audits of your shipping practices, including a review of shipping papers, to assure that you are in compliance with applicable regulations regarding the transportation and exportation of radioactive materials from your facility. The first of these audits will be accomplished during the week of December 25, 1989 and will continue on a monthly basis. If a consultant other than R. M. Wester will be used for these audits, it is our understanding that you will contact this office by telephone informing us of your selection prior to the audit.

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- 4. Notify your customer in Switzerland informing him that effective immediately all shipping documents will reflect the correct contents of all packages and that prior practices of misrepresentations will immediately cease.

Issuance of this Confirmatory Action Letter does not preclude the issuance of an Order requiring implementation of the above commitments. If your understanding differs from that set forth above, please contact this office by telephone at (708) 790-5500.

Sincerely,

A. Bert Davis
Regional Administrator

cc: DCD/DCB (RIDS)

bcc: J. Clifford, EDO
J. Lieberman, OE
J. Goldberg, OGC
R. Bernero, NMSS
J. Glenn, NMSS

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Caniano/jl
12/17/89

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Mallett
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