



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
TWIN CITIES

Department of Environmental Health and Safety
Boynton Health Service, Room W-140
410 Church Street S.E.
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455
(612) 626-6002

November 17, 1989

Rose Pankratz
Region III
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
799 Roosevelt Road
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

Dear Ms Pankratz:

As discussed in our telephone conversation of November 16, 1989, the University of Minnesota Department of Chemical Engineering and the University Radiation Protection Program are proceeding with the action recommended by Mr. James Lynch, Region III NRC, during his May 22, 1989 inspection of the Gamma Irradiation Facility (NRC License # 22-00187-08). Arrangements have been made with U.S. Ecology, Inc. to pick up the ten Co-60 sealed sources which are no longer in use but have been in storage in the source storage pool. The scheduled date for shipment of these sources by U.S. Ecology is December 12, 1989. In addition, we have completed the removal of dirt and sediment (construction dust) from the bottom of the storage pool. This operation was completed the week of November 6th.

With respect to completion of the wipe test of the Cs-137 sources currently in use at the facility, the remote handling arms have been repaired and we have scheduled the completion of the wipe test for the week of November 20th. Results of this test will be forwarded to Region III NRC following completion of the replacement of the current pool water with demineralized water. Dr. William Smyrl has indicated to us that the demineralized water will be added to the pool after the removal and shipment of the Co-60 sources on December 12, 1989. He is hopeful that this operation can be completed by the end of December. Our routine analysis of the facility pool water continues to indicate no increase in Cs-137 or Co-60 concentrations. We will perform another analysis of the pool water when the addition of the demineralized water is accomplished, and will include these results with our final report.

If you require additional information or have questions concerning the current status of the Gamma Irradiation Facility, please call me.

Sincerely,
Jerome W. Staiger
Jerome W. Staiger
Radiation Protection Officer

JWS/dr
cc: Jim Lynch
Dr. William Smyrl

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