

JAN - 5 1990

In Reply Refer To:
License: 35-04017-04
Docket: 30-11376/89-01

Century Geophysical Corporation
ATTN: John C. McGraff, CEO
7517 East Pine
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74115

Gentlemen:

This refers to the routine, unannounced radiation safety inspection conducted by Ms. L. L. Kasner of this office on December 1, 1989, of the activities authorized by NRC Byproduct Material License 35-04017-04, and to the discussion of our findings held by the inspector with your Radiation Safety Officer (RSO) and Operations Manager at the conclusion of the inspection.

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

The inspector observed that relations between your RSO and those individuals supervising logging personnel appeared to be effective in communicating program requirements and directing resolution of problems encountered in the field. She observed that program audits have identified items of noncompliance related to records and documentation of activities and that you have subsequently implemented effective corrective actions.

The inspector also responded to several questions raised by your RSO and other staff members regarding procedure changes submitted in your application for license renewal. These questions generally pertained to program requirements imposed under 10 CFR Part 39. She observed that your program had been conducted according to previously authorized procedures and that you had implemented some of the required program changes specific to Part 39.

During this inspection, certain of your activities were found not to be conducted in full compliance with NRC requirements. Two of these violations, reviewed in detail with your RSO, involved the failure to conduct adequate radiation surveys at your facility. The inspector determined that radiation surveys had been conducted randomly within your sealed source storage area as sources were removed for use. However, as reviewed with your RSO and demonstrated during this inspection, these surveys were not directed towards determining ambient radiation levels in this area and had not been performed frequently and thorough enough to determine radiation levels in work areas surrounding this space. This led to your oversight in posting a radiation area

RIV:NMIS *JJK*
LKasner:Im
1/4/90

C:NMIS *CLC*
CLCain
1/4/90

D:DRSS
WAB
ABBeach
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adjacent to your storage facility. Consequently, you are required to respond to this matter in writing, in accordance with the provisions of Section 2.201 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations. Your response should be based on the specifics contained in the Notice of Violation enclosed with this letter.

The inspector also reviewed the actions you had taken with respect to the two violations observed during our previous inspection conducted on July 20, 1987. She verified that the corrective actions for both violations had been implemented as stated in your reply dated October 5, 1987.

The response directed by this letter and the accompanying Notice is not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, PL 96-511.

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

Sincerely,
Original Signed By
A. B. BEACH

A. Bill Beach, Director
Division of Radiation Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosure:
Appendix - Notice of Violation

cc:
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Regional Administrator, Region IV
611 Ryan Plaza Drive, Suite 1000
Arlington, Texas 76011

Oklahoma Radiation Control Program Director

bcc:
DMB - Original (IE-07)
ABBeach
Glenda Jackson OC/LFMB (4503)
*RJEverett
*NMIS
*RIV Files (2)
*REHall, URFO
RDMartin
LAYandell
*CLCain
*LLKasner
*MIS System
*RSTS Operator
*W/766