

JAN 25 1990

Mercer County Joint Township
Hospital
ATTN: Mr. James Wermert
Acting Hospital Administrator
800 West Main Street
Coldwater, OH 45828

License No. 34-18954-01

Gentlemen:

This refers to the routine safety inspection conducted by Dr. Bruce S. Mallett of this office on January 5, 1990, of activities authorized by NRC Byproduct Material License No. 34-18954-01 and to the discussion of our findings with you and members of your staff at the conclusion of the inspection.

The inspection consisted of a selective examination of procedures and representatives records, observations, and interviews with personnel. During the inspection, certain of your activities dealing with calibration of your Bicorn (NPI-50) survey meter appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements. Specifically, the instrument was not calibrated from December 14, 1988 to March 13, 1989, an interval exceeding 12 months. We have decided not to cite you for this violation based upon the following:

1. You have calibrated the instrument at the proper intervals since March 1989.
2. You self-identified the violation which was previously due to you not wanting to send the instrument for calibration during a time when your backup instrument was determined to be non-functional.

No response to this letter is required and we have issued you the enclosed NRC Form 591.

The inspector did express the following concerns which we call to your attention; no response is required.

1. You should review the technique your staff are using to analyze contamination wipe tests with a GM survey meter to ensure you do not contaminate the instrument while counting the wipe and to ensure you will be in compliance with 10 CFR 35.70(f) when your license is renewed.
2. When your license is renewed, you will need to modify your procedures to be in compliance with Sections 35.50 (linearity of dose calibrator down to 10 uCi), 35.51 (noting check source reading on survey meter), and 35.59 (signature of RSO on leak tests) of 10 CFR Part 35.

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Mercer County Joint Township
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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the Commission's regulations, a copy of this letter and the enclosed NRC Form-591 will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning this inspection.

Sincerely,

Donald J. Sreniawski, Chief
Nuclear Materials Safety Section 1

Enclosure: NRC Form-591

cc w/enclosure:
DCD/DCB (RIDS)

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RIII
Mallett/jl
01/17/90

yes
RIII
Sreniawski
1/20/90