

21 JUL 1981

Docket No. 30-5998

Automation Industries, Inc.
ATTN: Dr. Parker Moreland
Vice President
Kimberton Road
Phoenixville, Pennsylvania 19460



Gentlemen:

Subject: Investigation No. 30-5998/81-04

This refers to the investigation conducted by Messrs. P. Jerman and R. Matakas and Ms. J. McGinness of this office on April 3, 6, 7 and 8, 1981 of the circumstances surrounding the receipt of a source changer with external surface radiation levels in excess of 200 millirem/hour. This also refers to the discussions of our findings held by Ms. McGinness and Mr. Matakas with Mr. Earl Mayes and other members of your staff on April 3 and 8, 1981, respectively, at the conclusion of the investigation.

Within the scope of this investigation, no items of noncompliance were observed.

While no items of noncompliance were identified, we are concerned that, as described in the enclosed report, an individual failed to survey all surfaces of a returned source changer prior to opening it. In addition, we are concerned that the improper package configuration (source partly withdrawn) was recreated for measurement of dose rates prior to management review. We will review your actions to improve your survey of incoming packages during the next inspection of your licensed program.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the Commission's regulations, a copy of this letter and the enclosed investigation report will be placed in the NRC's Public Document Room. If this report contains any information that you (or your contractors) believe to be exempt from disclosure under 10 CFR 9.5(a)(4), it is necessary that you (a) notify this office by telephone within ten (10) days from the date of this letter of your intention to file a request for withholding; and (b) submit within 25 days of this letter a written application to this office to withhold such information. Consistent with section 2.790(b)(1), any such application must be accompanied by an affidavit executed by the owner of the information which identifies the document or part sought to be withheld, and which contains a full statement of the reasons on the basis which it is claimed that the information should be withheld from public disclosure. This section

TIB FMC
McGinness/skl
7/16/81

TIB FMC
Kinneman
7/17/81

TIB
Joyner
7/20/81

EL
Carlson
7/20/81

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further requires the statement to address with specificity the considerations listed in 10 CFR 2.790(b)(4). The information sought to be withheld shall be incorporated as far as possible into a separate part of the affidavit. If we do not hear from you in this regard within the specified periods noted above, the report will be placed in the Public Document Room. The telephone notification of your intent to request withholding, or any request for an extension of the 10 day period which you believe necessary, should be made to the Supervisor, Files, Mail and Records, USNRC Region I, at (215) 337-5223.

No reply to this letter is required; however, should you have any questions concerning this investigation, we will be pleased to discuss them with you.

Sincerely,

for Francis M. Costello
John D. Kinneman, Chief
Materials Radiological
Protection Section, Technical
Inspection Branch

Enclosure:
Inspection and Enforcement Investigation Report
Number 30-5998/81-04

bcc w/encl:
Document Management Branch, TIDC (For Distribution)
REG:I Reading Room
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Chief, Operational Support Section (w/o encl)