## NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Department of Veterans Affairs Northern California System of Clinics Benicia, California

Docket No. 030-01223 License No. 04-02956-02

During an NRC inspection conducted on April 19-20, 1994, a violation of NRC requirements was identified. In accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions," 10 CFR Part 2, Appendix C, the violation is listed below:

A. 10 CFR 35.25(a)(2) requires, in part, that a licensee that permits the use of byproduct material by an individual under the supervision of an authorized user shall require the supervised individual to follow the written radiation safety procedures established by the licensee.

The licensee's package receipt form for Nuclear Medicine contains an action limit for package wipes for removable contamination on the external surfaces of packages: "Package Wipes (external): 100 cpm + background." The form also provides the written procedure that individuals are to follow when an action limit is exceeded: "When action lavel is exceeded - notify RSO and record notification."

Contrary to the above, on April 8, 1994, a nuclear medicine technologist, an individual under the supervision of the licensee's authorized user, did not follow the written procedure documented on the package receipt form. Specifically, the technologist did not notify the radiation safety officer (RSO) after measuring 36,116 disintegrations per minute (dpm) of removable contamination on an external wipe of a package received in Nuclear Medicine. This level of removable contamination exceeded the background measure of 117 counts per minute (cpm) by more than 100 cpm, and thus exceeded the licensee's documented action limit.

This is a Severity Level IV violation (Supplement VI).

Pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 2.201, V.A. Northern California System of Clinics is hereby required to submit a written statement or explanation to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Document Control Desk, Washington, D.C. 20555, with a copy to the Regional Administrator, Region IV, and a copy to the Walnut Creek Field Office Director, 1450 Maria Lane, Walnut Creek, California, 94596, within 30 days of the date of the letter transmitting this Notice of Violation (Notice). This reply should be clearly marked as a "Reply to a Notice of Violation" and should include for each violation: (1) the reason for the violation, or, if contested, the basis for disputing the violation, (2) the corrective steps that have been taken and the results achieved, (3) the corrective steps that will be taken to avoid further violations, and (4) the date when full compliance will be achieved. If an adequate reply is not received within the time specified in this Notice, the Commission may issue an order or demand for information as to why the license should not be modified, suspended, or revoked, or why such other action as may be proper should not be taken. Where good cause is shown, consideration will be given to extending the response time. Under the authority of Section 182 of the Act, 42 U.S.C. 2232, this response shall be submitted under oath or affirmation.

Dated at Arlington, Texas this Aday of May 1994 bcc w/Enclosure and IFS Form:
Docket File
Inspection File
Y. Elko, RIV Arlington (original IFS)

bcc w/Enclosure:

J. Callan, RIV Arlington
S. Collins, RIV Arlington
G. Sanborn, RIV Arlington
K. Perkins, WCFO
R. Huev, WCFO

R. Huey, WCFO G. Cook, WCFO

State of California

Department of Veterans Affairs ATTN: Francis K. Herbig, Director Health Physics Programs (115HP) 915 North Grand Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63106

Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Services & Research Administration
Western Region
ATTN: Edwin M. Liedholdt, Jr., Ph.D
Radiation Safety Program Manager
301 Howard Street, Suite 700
San Francisco, CA 94105-2241

bcc w/o Enclosure:

M. Smith, WCFO

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