



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

APR 16 1984

Note to File

CESIUM CHLORIDE

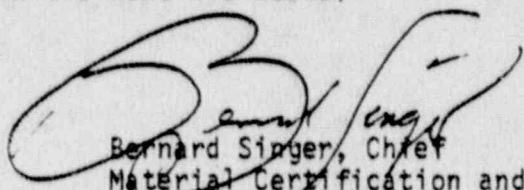
George Dietz received RFP from DOE for a mobile demo irradiator which will be designed to contain 1-4 MCi/CoCl (WESF capsules). The demo unit will not be a production plant. For example, it will be able to irradiate only one box of apples at a time.

George Dietz stated that he was the project officer at the AEC for the mobile irradiator in the early 1960's. It was intended that the unit use CsCl. The AEC was promoting the irradiation of such commodities as fish, grain and fruits. A pilot plant was constructed. This mobile unit weighed more than 60 tons. "First time they put it on the road it sank to its axels in asphalt." The project was allowed to die quietly.

Dietz cautioned that the scale-up from a demo plant to a full size production unit may be quite complex. He states a concern for the wide scale use of CsCl. He believes that the first failure will cast a "big black eye" on the industry. He gives this opinion as 'a gut feeling' only.

He asked me if it made sense for him to bid on the RFP. I told him that I had no opinion to express at this time, that the NRC has not seen the RFP he referred to, and that we had just sent a letter to DOE which essentially agreed to a proof of principle demonstration.

George suggests that Jim Ayer and I visit their Spartanburg, South Carolina plant. It is a 4 MCi/Co-60 unit with all the up-to-date safety devices built in. I thanked George for the offer and advised him that we would plan to make such a visit within the next 4-6 weeks.


Bernard Singer, Chief
Material Certification and
Procedures Branch

cc: J. Ayer ✓
J. Klucsik

30 APRIL DICKERSON, MD. —

✓ 9, 10, 11 MAY SPARTANBURG, S.C.
ISOMETIC, INC.

CATHY SNYDER IS SETTING UP & WILL CALL US.

"Cesium Activity for Irradiators"
5th Floor Conference Room

February 22, 1984

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<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
JOHN LARRIN	IRATER CORP.
TED LITOVITZ	CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY VITREOUS STATE LAB
PETER MACEDO	" "
Tom Clark	USNRC - NMSS - FCH F
Peter LORAN	" " "
Michael TOKAR	" " WMEG
Stefany Bell	" " FCHC
Reverend Jany	" " FCHC

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