

(916) 445-0931

June 5, 1980



Committee to Bridge the Gap  
1637 Butler Avenue, No. 203  
Los Angeles, CA 90025

Attention: Neal Gantz

Dear Mr. Gantz:

This letter pertains to your question of May 2, 1980 under Section C.  
Radioactive Material in Vicinity.

The U. S. Veterans Administration facility in West Los Angeles is under exclusive Federal jurisdiction and so their possession and use of radioactive material are by license from the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, (NRC) and I believe under #04-00181.

The State of California is preempted from administering this governmental activity. Therefore we have not been advised of any radioactive waste burial site. However, the federal regulations, 10 CFR part 20, and likewise the Associated California Regulations, 17 CAC 30288, may permit licensees to bury their own waste on their own site under specified conditions. I suggest you contact the NRC Regional office in Walnut Creek, CA, phone (415) 943-3700 about this matter, (address given below). On the other hand if you know of or have information about radioactive material entering a public drinking water system, we and the Department's Sanitary Engineering Section should be advised of the specifics. At this time it would appear that the City of Santa Monica would have already sampled water around this facility and if found to be contaminated would report the results to the public and the State.

Sincerely,

Kenneth B. Fess  
Senior Health Physicist  
Environmental Control Unit

KBF:sm

cc: USNRC Reg. V  
1990 N. California Blvd.  
#202  
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Excepted from I-125 log mounted by radiotherapy Se

Received 11- -80

I-125 seeds from 3 m. Co

Shipping container surface activity  $< .1 \text{ mR/hr}$

1 Lead pig container surface activity  $< .1 \text{ mR/hr}$

30 seeds at  $.40 \text{ mCi}$  seed for a total of 12 mCi comp

as of 11-24-80

3 m Lot # JS-125, 127 Rm One Lot # 103

11-25-80

30 seeds loaded in 4 cartridges 8-8-8-6

and placed in Cedar solution

11-26-80

30 seeds in 4 cartridges taken to operating room. Rm

11-26-80

all 30 seeds were implanted in patient

No seeds returned to storage

Patient: Riveria

Dose rate at 1 meter  $< .1 \text{ mR/hr}$  Rm

11-28-80

Room surveyed - One seed located in trash material. This clean and using collection D. Greer. Seed returned to storage. Trash and linen removal OK. Rm

(111)



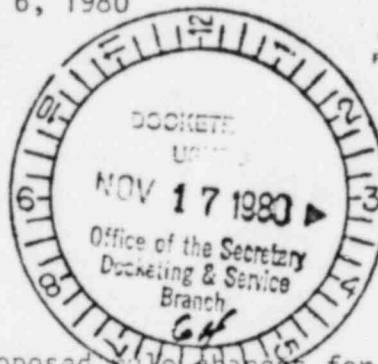
VETERANS ADMINISTRATION  
WADSWORTH HOSPITAL CENTER  
WILSHIRE AND SAWTELLE BOULEVARDS  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90073

November 6, 1980

PROPOSED RULE PR 20  
45 FR 67018

IN REPLY  
REFER TO: 691/111C

Secretary of the Commission  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20555



Dear Sir:

I am writing in response to the proposed rule changes for disposal of liquid scintillation vials and animal carcasses containing low levels of  $^3\text{H}$  and  $^{14}\text{C}$ . I strongly support such changes. I am engaged in research in gastrointestinal physiology at the Wadsworth VA Hospital, Los Angeles, California. My work involves the use of  $^{14}\text{C}$  containing substances in animals. Because of the recent problems with disposal of low level radiation waste, research at our institution has been markedly hampered. I have a very strong commitment to protection of the environment from unnecessary contamination by any dangerous substance. Since it is clear that there is no danger to the environment from the proposed routes of disposal of low level radiation generated by medical research and since medical research depends in great part on the use of  $^3\text{H}$  and  $^{14}\text{C}$ -containing substances, it seems most reasonable to facilitate the disposal of low level radiation waste as produced. I hope this rule change is accomplished.

Sincerely,

*Paul H. Guth, M.D.*

Paul H. Guth, M.D.  
Professor of Medicine, UCLA  
Key Investigator, Center for  
Ulcer Research and Education, VAWMC  
Assistant Chief of Gastroenterology,  
VA Wadsworth Hospital Center

Acknowledged by card... 11/17/80

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PAR