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

October 23, 1990

Dr. Donna Bush
Chief, Drug Testing Section
Division of Applied Research
National Institute on Drug Abuse
5600 Fishers Lane (Room 9-A-54-)
Rockville, Maryland 20857

Dear Dr. Bush:

Forwarded for your action in accordance with Section 2.8(e) of Appendix A to 10 CFR Part 26, are 4 reports of investigations from Portland General Electric Company.

1. Letter, dtd 2/28/90, reports a false negative on a blind performance test reported by American BioTest Laboratories, Santa Clara, California. The error was caused by the failure of a laboratory technician to properly calibrate the immunoassay equipment. The root cause was determined to be failure by the laboratory to establish an adequate procedure.

2. Letter, dtd 5/25/90, reports a false negative on a blind performance test reported by Laboratory Pathology, Seattle, Washington. Sample degradation was ruled out, and the report concludes that the probable cause was that certain physiological parameters unique to that specimen caused interference with immunoassay screening instruments, but did not affect the GC/MS technology.

3. Letter, dtd 6/21/90, reports a false negative on a blind performance test reported by Laboratory Pathology. The cause of the error was reported to be incomplete hydrolysis during preparation of the specimen for GC/MS.

4. Portland General Electric Company letter, dtd 9/17/90, concerning a false negative report of a blind performance test specimen by Laboratory Pathology. The investigation disclosed that the technician transposed the last 2 digits of the sample number and another aliquot was selected for confirmation testing. Also, the laboratory failed to determine why the GC/MS response was zero after the initial presumptive positive screen.

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Should you have any questions, please call me at 492-0944.

Sincerely,

Loren L. Bush, Chief
Program Development and Review Section
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation

Enclosures:
As stated

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RSGB r/f
DRIS r/f
PMcKee
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P1-37

Distribution w/enclosure:
L. Bush
Laboratory Error file
(LA file room)

OFC	:RSGB:NRR	:RSGB:NRR	:	:	:	:
NAME	:LBush:cb BJP	:PMcKee	:	:	:	:
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