

OCT 15 1990

Veterans Administration-Lakeside
Medical Center
ATTN: Irwin Singer, M.D.
Chief of Staff
333 E. Huron Street
Chicago, IL 60611

License No. 12-02642-08
Docket No. 030-00159

Gentlemen:

This refers to the routine safety inspection conducted by J. L. Cameron and G. M. McCann of this office on August 28, 1990 of activities authorized by NRC Byproduct Material License No. 12-02642-08 and to the discussion of our findings with you at the conclusion of the inspection.

The inspection was an examination of activities conducted under your license as they relate to radiation safety and to compliance with the Commission's rules and regulations and with the conditions of your license. The inspection consisted of a selective examination of procedures and representative records, observations, and interviews with personnel.

During this inspection, certain of your activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements, as specified in the enclosed Notice. A written response is required.

In addition to the above areas, the inspectors examined actions regarding apparent violations found during our August 1986 inspection. We have no further questions regarding these matters.

During the inspection, the inspectors expressed concerns regarding the teletherapy room radiation monitor reliability and the apparently inadequate response of hospital management to regulatory concerns expressed by the Radiation Safety Officer. Specifically:

- a. Licensee records indicated that the radiation monitor in the teletherapy room was inoperative from January to March 1990, and, after repair by the manufacturer, continued to be unreliable until June 1990. If the unit cannot be repaired in such a manner as to ensure its reliability, consideration should be given to its replacement.
- b. Interviews conducted during the inspection with both licensee management and the RSO indicated that the apparent violation cited in Item 1 above was brought to management's attention by the RSO, and was dismissed without being properly addressed.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the Commission's regulations, a copy of this letter, the enclosure, and your response to this letter will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

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2

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The responses directed by this letter and the accompanying Notice are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, PL 96-511.

We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning this inspection.

Sincerely,

William H. Schultz, Chief
Nuclear Materials Safety
Section 1

Enclosure: Notice of Violation

cc w/enclosure:
James W. Fletcher, V.A.
DCD/DCB (RIDS)

RIII yes
S/C
Cameron/lh/mj
10/4/90

yes
RIII
WHS
Schultz
10-1A-90