

DCS

NOV 13 1990

Docket No. 030-01902

License No. 20-08551-01

Veterans Administration Medical Center  
Brockton, West Roxbury  
ATTN: George Poulin  
Associate Director  
1400 VFW Parkway  
West Roxbury, Massachusetts 02132

Gentlemen:

Subject: Routine Inspection No. 030-01902/90-001

On September 10 and 11, 1990, C. T. Oberg and C. J. Eckert of this office conducted a routine safety inspection at the above address and at Brockton, Massachusetts of activities authorized by the above listed NRC license. The inspection was an examination of your licensed activities as they relate to radiation safety and to compliance with the Commission's regulations and the license conditions. The inspection consisted of observations by the inspector, interviews with personnel, and a selective examination of representative records. In addition, our inspection examined the activities covered in your correspondence dated November 1, 1989. The findings of the inspection were discussed with you; Dr. Tow; Dr. C. Ahn; J. Gordon, Ph.D.; and C. Yu, Ph.D. at the conclusion of the inspection. This also refers to your letter dated October 4, 1990.

Based on the results of this inspection, it appears that your activities were not conducted in full compliance with NRC requirements. A Notice of Violation is enclosed as Appendix A and categorizes each violation by severity level in accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions," 10 CFR Part 2, Appendix C (Enforcement Policy). You are required to respond to this letter and in preparing your response, you should follow the instructions in Appendix A.

In addition to our concerns for corrective action with respect to the specific violations identified in Appendix A, as discussed during the meeting at the conclusion of the inspection we are concerned with regard to the following items:

1. The distance of the Nuclear Medicine Hot Laboratory from the Nuclear Medicine Department and scan rooms is significantly far that it makes radiological control difficult. A potential exists for possible spills of radioactive materials in unrestricted areas during the transfer of material between the two locations.

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2. An empty styrofoam coffee cup was found in the normal trash of a restricted laboratory area. This is indicative that personnel may be consuming food and drink in restricted areas, a safety hazard.
3. Individuals may be working with radioactive material in restricted laboratory areas without protective clothing (laboratory coats). You should consider a review of your policy regarding the use of protective clothing in restricted areas.
4. Based on observations during the inspections, individuals may be entering restricted areas while not wearing assigned personal dosimetry. You should consider a review of your policies for wearing personnel monitoring devices.

In your response to this letter, please describe your actions taken or planned to improve, correct, revise, or eliminate these items of concern.

Your October 4, 1990, letter described adequate corrective actions for items B., D., E., and F. in the enclosed Notice of Violation. You do not need to respond further to these items.

In accordance with Section 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter and your reply will be placed in the Public Document Room.

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.

Your cooperation with us is appreciated.

Sincerely,

**Original Signed By:**  
**John D. Kinneman**


John D. Kinneman, Chief  
Nuclear Materials Safety Section B  
Division of Radiation Safety  
and Safeguards

Enclosure:  
Appendix A, Notice of Violation

cc:  
Public Document Room (PDR)  
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Dr. C. Ahn, Radiation Safety Officer  
J. Gordon, Ph.D.

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Brockton/West Roxbury

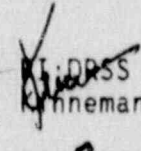
bcc:  
Region I Docket Room (w/concurrences)  
Management Assistant, DRMA  
C. T. Oberg, RI  
C. J. Eckert, RI

 RI:DRSS  
Oberg/bj

11/2/90

RI:DRSS  
Eckert

11/8/90

 RI:DRSS  
Kinneman

11/8/90

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