

Veterans
Administration

June 24, 1982

Mr. Thomas T. Martin, Director
Division of Engineering and Technical Inspection
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region I
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406



SUBJ: Inspection 30-08433/81-01
NRC License #20-11750-02

This is the reply to your notification dated December 3, 1981, received June 11, 1982, regarding the results of the safety inspection conducted by Ms. J. Johansen of your office on August 26, 1981.

A. An automatic door closure was installed soon after the inspection to ensure closure of the Hot Laboratory at all times.

B. Since the time of the inspection, all technologists have been wearing ring badges on the palm side at the base of the index finger of their dominant hand. In the future, whenever monitoring devices malfunction or are lost, the individuals will be interviewed and the workload will be reviewed to determine if radiation exposure was similar to recent months. An estimated dose will be supplied to the film processor which reflects our best estimate of the actual dose received.

C.1. Glove use and hand decontamination requirements were reviewed with technicians after the inspection, and again upon receipt of this notice to ensure these requirements are met whenever radioactive materials are handled.

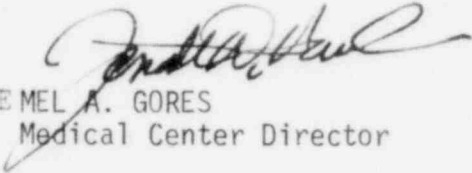
2. Our Radiation Safety Officer (RSO) visited Dr. Romero's lab after the inspection and reviewed our Radiation Safety Program Rules and Regulations and Instructions to Laboratory Personnel. Lounging, luncheon, and smoking will not be done in the same room where radioactive materials are stored. Note that violation occurred in Building 46, not 44, as stated. Since the inspection, a move to new space in Building 44 has provided separate rooms for desks and radioactive work and storage areas, minimizing risk of violations.

D. Wipe tests of sealed sources will be done at least every six months, and whenever new sources are received. Since the inspection, wipe tests of all sealed sources were performed on 9-7-81, 3-1-82, and 5-17-82.

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E. Requirements to deface radioactive labels on uncontaminated containers prior to disposal to an unrestricted area were discussed with technicians of all laboratories following the inspection to ensure strict adherence to the regulations.



FOR AND IN THE MEL A. GORES
ABSENCE OF Medical Center Director

cc: James J. Smith, M.D.