

AUG 19 1982

Docket No. 70-00625

License No. SNM-563

Howard University
ATTN: George Ferguson, Ph. D.
Radiation Safety Officer
Washington, D. C. 20001

Gentlemen:

Subject: Inspection No. 70-00625/82-01

This refers to the special safety inspection conducted by Mrs. Teresa Hall Darden of this office on July 29, 1982, of activities authorized by NRC License No. SNM-563 and to the discussions of our findings held by Mrs. Darden with yourself and Mr. G. Tally of your staff at the conclusion of the inspection.

The area examined during this inspection was limited to a review of those activities conducted under your license relating to plutonium/beryllium (Pu/Be) sealed sources. The Department of Energy has identified PuBe sources with end caps not welded in place and has recommended appropriate nondestructive examination of the outer end cap welds of all PuBe sources. The inspector visually examined the welds of your four PuBe sources. No apparent defects were identified; however, the inspector also discussed the advantages of conducting additional nondestructive tests by qualified personnel and appropriate radiation safety precautions during such tests. A wipe sample was taken from each end cap weld area and was analyzed in our Regional Office Laboratory. This analysis identified no significant, removable radioactive contamination which is in agreement with your leak test results. Within this area, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, measurements made by the inspector, and observations by the inspector.

Within the scope of this inspection, no violations were observed.

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 will be placed in the Public Document Room.

No reply to this letter is required. Your cooperation with us in this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:
John D. Kinneman

for

Thomas T. Martin, Director
Division of Engineering and
Technical Programs

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Howard University

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cc:
Public Document Room (PDR)
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)
District of Columbia

bcc:
Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)
Chief, Operational Support Section

for Kinneman
RI:DETP
Darden/dmg
8/17/82

Kinneman
RI:DETP
Kinneman
8/17/82

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