

BVH Blanchard Valley Hospital

August 3, 1982

EA 82-89
Rec'd 8/23/82
#1,000

Director
Office of Inspection and Enforcement
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D. C. 20555

Re: License No. 34-06295-03
EA 82-89

30-419

Gentlemen:

This letter is in reply to correspondence from A. Bert Davis writing for James J. Keppler, Regional Administrator of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and in reference to proposed civil penalties against Blanchard Valley Hospital for non compliance with certain Commission regulations.

By notary statement affixed at the end of this letter I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that the matters contained herein are true.

You have asked that Blanchard Valley Hospital reply, including for each alleged violation, and provide the following information:

1. admission or denial of the alleged violation;
2. the reasons for the violation, if admitted;
3. the corrective steps that have been taken and the results achieved;
4. the corrective steps that will be taken to avoid further violations; and
5. the date when full compliance will be achieved.

We will consider each of the above requirements separately in the material below.

ADMISSION OF THE ALLEGED VIOLATION

Blanchard Valley Hospital admits that while manually closing the shutter of a cobalt-60 teletherapy unit after the shutter had failed to close automatically that one of its employees (individual "A") was exposed to 9.71 rems of radiation.

Blanchard Valley Hospital admits that it did not notify the Nuclear Regulatory Commission within 24 hours as required in existing regu-

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lations.

REASONS FOR THE VIOLATION

The reasons for the violation are set forth in material Blanchard Valley Hospital has previously made available to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. This information is set forth in a letter dated April 6, 1982 to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Specifically, on the night of June 22, 1981 because of operational sticking of the cobalt-60 teletherapy source, individual "A" was testing the source travel from the control area. In the process the source did stick in the "on" position. Individual "A" put on a lead apron and gloves, took the emergency wood source stick, and quickly entered the cobalt room and pushed the source immediately back into the "off" position. Subsequently it was ascertained that individual "A" was exposed to 9.71 rems of radiation.

Because Blanchard Valley Hospital was not aware of the reporting requirements of the NRC, this incident was not reported until a period approximately nine and one half months later.

CORRECTIVE STEPS THAT HAVE BEEN TAKEN AND THE RESULTS ACHIEVED

Policies have been adopted at Blanchard Valley Hospital that requires immediate closing of the room whenever the teletherapy equipment malfunctions. Policies have also been adopted to immediately notify the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Further, individual "A" at the time of exposure was advised not to subject himself to significant radiation exposure for at least six months from June 22, 1981.

CORRECTIVE STEPS THAT WILL BE TAKEN TO AVOID FURTHER VIOLATIONS

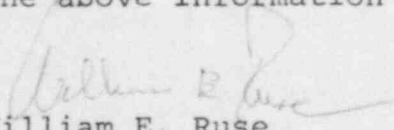
As indicated in the paragraphs above, policies have been adopted by Blanchard Valley Hospital to require immediate closure of the room in case of equipment malfunction and to notify the Nuclear Regulatory Commission within 24 hours as provided in regulations published by the Commission.

DATE WHEN FULL COMPLIANCE WILL BE ACHIEVED

Full compliance with the requirements of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has already been achieved.

Enclosed with this letter is a check payable to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission in the amount of \$1,000, which includes two \$500 civil penalties imposed by the Commission.

The above information is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.


William E. Ruse
President

xc: James G. Keppler
Regional Administrator
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region 3799 Roosevelt Road
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137
Attention: A. Bert Davis

Department of Health
State of Ohio
246 N. High St.;
P. O. Box 118
Columbus, Ohio 43216
Attention: Robert M. Quillen, Radiological Health Program

Austin J. Tidaback, M.D.
Blanchard Valley Hospital

File

State of Ohio, County of Hancock

On the 6th day of August, 1982 personally appeared before
me William E. Rose who affirmed that the
information contained is true to the best of his knowledge
and belief.

Robert W. Hart
Notary Public

Robert W. Hart
Notary Public, State of Ohio
My Commission Expires June 29, 1985

My commission expires on _____

Seal

DCS

Form 1114
1967
Manual
-106

BILL FOR COLLECTION

Bill No. _____

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Date 8/23/82

(Department or Establishment and Bureau or Office)

Washington, DC 20555

(Address)

PAYER:

Blanchard Valley Hospital
145 West Wallace
Findlay, Ohio 45840

*This bill should be returned by the payer with his remittance.
SEE INSTRUCTIONS BELOW.*

Date	DESCRIPTION	Quantity	Unit Price		Amount
			Cost	Per	
8/23/82	Received from License No. 34-06295-03 in full payment for CP dated 07/26/82.				\$1,000.00
<i>AMOUNT DUE THIS BILL.</i>					\$1,000.00

This is not a receipt

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INSTRUCTIONS

Tender of payment of the above bill may be made in cash, United States postal money order, express money order, bank draft, or check, to the office indicated. Such tender, when in any other form than cash, should be drawn to the order of the Department or Establishment and Bureau or Office indicated above.

Receipts will be issued in all cases where "cash" is received, and only upon request when remittance is in any other form. If tender of payment of this bill is other than cash or United States postal money order, the receipt shall not become an acquittance until such tender has been cleared and the amount received by the Department or Establishment and Bureau or Office indicated above.

Failure to receive a receipt for a cash payment should be promptly reported by the payer to the chief administrative officer of the bureau or agency mentioned above.

THE BLANCHARD VALLEY HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

CHECK NO	DATE	INVOICE NO	AMOUNT OF INVOICE	DISCOUNT	BALANCE DUE
28074	8/6/82		Penalty as imposed by Commission.		\$ 1,000.00

PLEASE DETACH THIS STATEMENT BEFORE DEPOSITING CHECK AND RETAIN FOR YOUR FILE.



THE BLANCHARD VALLEY HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

FINDLAY, OHIO 45840

56-193
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OHIO BANK & SAVINGS
FINDLAY OHIO

CK. NO. 28074

DATE

8/6/82

AMOUNT

\$*1,000.00**

VOID AFTER 90 DAYS

PAY TO THE ORDER OF
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Luith S. Smith
Treas. Ass't
William E. Rose
Pres. Vice Pres. Adm.

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