

JUL 09 1982

Docket No. 70-398

License No. SNM-362

U. S. Department of Commerce  
National Bureau of Standards  
ATTN: Mr. L. E. Pevey  
Chief, Occupational Health and  
Safety Division  
Building 301, Room B-126  
Washington, D. C. 20234

Gentlemen:

Subject: Inspection No. 82-01

This refers to the special safety inspection conducted by Mr. R. H. Ladun of this office on June 4, 1982, at the National Bureau of Standards Facility in Gaithersburg, Maryland, of activities authorized by NRC License No. SNM-362 and to the discussions of our findings held by Mr. Ladun with Mr. T. Hobbs and Mr. L. Slaback of your staff at the conclusion of the inspection.

This inspection was limited to a review of those activities conducted under your license relating to plutonium/beryllium (PuBe) 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 two 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 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:

*for* *Myra Campbell*  
Thomas T. Martin, Director  
Division of Engineering and  
Technical Programs

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cc:

T. G. Hobbs, Chief, Health Physics  
L. A. Slaback Jr., Supervisor, Health Physicist  
J. M. Arras, Supervisor, Health Physicist  
Public Document Room (PDR)  
Local Public Document Room (LPDR)  
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)  
State of Maryland (2)

bcc w/encl:

Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)  
Chief, Operational Support Section (w/o encls)

  
RI:DETP  
Ladun/jpf  
7/7/82

  
RI:DETP  
Kinneman

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