

FEB 7 1983

Docket Nos.: 30-00123
30-01314
70-02199

License Nos.: 08-00942-04
08-00942-05
SNM-1605

Veterans Administration Medical Center
ATTN: Mr. A. A. Gauazzi
Director
50 Irving St. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20422

Gentlemen:

Subject: Inspection No. 83-01

This refers to the routine safety inspection conducted by Messrs. J. Nicolosi and S. Jones of this office on January 5, 1983 of activities authorized by NRC License Nos. 08-00942-04, 08-00942-05 and SNM-1605 and to the discussions of our findings held by Mr. Nicolosi with Ms. Shepherd and other members of your staff at the conclusion of the inspection.

The inspection was an examination of activities conducted under your license as they relate to radiation safety and to compliance with the Commission's rules and regulations and the conditions of your licenses. The inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, measurements made by the inspector, and observations by the inspector.

With regard to NRC License No. 08-00942-05 our inspector also verified the steps you have taken to correct the violations brought to your attention in the enclosure to our letter dated March 28, 1980. We have no further questions regarding the steps you took to correct items 1 and 2. With regard to item 3 this item was not fully corrected.

Based on the results of this inspection, it appears that certain of your activities was not conducted in full compliance with NRC requirements, as set forth in the Notice of Violation, enclosed herewith as Appendix A. This violation has been categorized by severity level in accordance with the NRC Enforcement policy (10 CFR 2, Appendix C) published in the Federal Register Notice (47 FR 9987) dated March 9, 1982. You are required to respond to this letter and in preparing your response, you should follow the instructions in Appendix A.

Item C in the Notice of Violation enclosed with this letter was identified during a previous inspection of your licensed activities on March 11, 1980, and was documented in the enclosure to our letter dated March 28, 1980. Your letter to this office dated April 11, 1980 stated that the use of syringe shields had been mandated by the Radiation Safety Officer and the Chief of the Nuclear Medicine Service. From our January 5, 1983 inspection it appears

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FEB 7 1983

that the stated corrective action were not effective since this item has not been fully corrected. As Mr. Nicolosi stated during the discussions at the conclusion of the inspection, recurrent and uncorrected violations are given additional weight in the consideration and selection of appropriate enforcement action. In addition, he expressed our concern about the apparent lack of management control, especially during the time you were without an official radiation safety officer, which permitted the violations described in the attached Notice to occur. Therefore, in your response to this letter, you should give particular attention to those actions taken or planned to ensure that identified violations will be completely corrected and will not recur and that effective management control will be exercised over your program at all times.


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.

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.

Your cooperation with us in this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

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

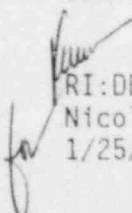
 Thomas T. Martin, Director
Division of Engineering and
Technical Programs


Enclosure: Appendix A, Notice of Violation

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

James J. Smith, M.D.
Director, Nuclear Medicine Service (115)
VA Central Office
Washington, D.C. 20420

bcc w/o encl:
Region I Docket Room (with concurrences)
Senior Operations Officer (w/o encl.)

 RI:DETP
Nicolosi/nm
1/25/83

 RI:DETP
Kinneman
2/4/83

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