



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555-0001

March 31, 1994

The Honorable Bob Franks
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Franks:

I am responding to your letter dated March 10, 1994, regarding the letter you received from Mr. William Hymer, a constituent in Westfield, New Jersey. He was concerned about the health effects of radiation from diagnostic x-rays. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission does not regulate the manufacture, or the use of x-ray devices, nor does it have information specific to the health risks and long-term effects of diagnostic x-rays.

We recommend that Mr. Hymer be provided with the addresses or phone numbers of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the State of New Jersey, the American College of Radiology (ACR), the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements (NCRP), and the American Cancer Society (ACS). These organizations should be able to provide him with the information he requested.

The FDA regulates the manufacture of x-ray devices. They may be reached at the following address:

U.S. Food and Drug Administration
Center for Devices and Radiological Health
Division of Mammography Quality and Radiation Programs
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857
(301) 594-4752

The State of New Jersey regulates the use of diagnostic x-ray equipment in Mr. Hymer's area and can be reached at the following addresses and/or telephone numbers:

Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Environmental Quality
Radiation Protection Programs
CN 415
Trenton, NJ 08625-0415

Dr. Jill Lipoti
Director New Jersey Radiation Control Program
(609) 987-6389, or
Joyce Zeisler, Chief Bureau of Radiological Health
(609) 987-2022

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The ACR has information on the health benefits versus the risks of diagnostic x-ray radiation. Information may be obtained from the Public Affairs Office at (703) 648-8900.

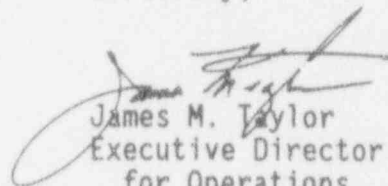
The NCRP and the ACS have information on the long term effects of diagnostic x-ray radiation. The address for the NCRP is:

National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements
7910 Woodmont Avenue
Bethesda, MD 20814
(301) 657-2652

The ACS has information on the treatment of cancer. The National American Cancer Society, 1-800-227-2345, can identify a local contact for Mr. Hymer in Westfield, New Jersey.

I trust that this reply responds to your constituent's concerns.

Sincerely,


James M. Taylor
Executive Director
for Operations