



October 5, 1990

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Region 3  
799 Roosevelt Road  
Glen Ellen, IL 60137

ATTN: George M. McCann, Chief Nuclear Materials Safety

Dear Mr. McCann:

The enclosed letter refers to your recent letter dated September 13, 1990. That letter listed violations, which were found by Mr. W. P. Reichhold during a recent inspection.

- 1a. August 28 and 30, 1990, two doses which were above the prescribed dose as listed in our protocol were administered. The technician responsible, and all technicians, were reminded that the license and protocol manual specifies the amount of isotope to be used for each examination. A variation of 10% is acceptable but variations above this cannot be tolerated. In order to assure that this does not happen again the technicians are now instructed to provide the physician interpreting the examination with the exact amount of isotope given. This will provide for an ongoing control of the dose administered. In addition the doses will be recorded in the daily log unit as usually performed. It is hoped that the instructions to the technicians and the ongoing report of nuclear doses to the examining physician will eliminate this from happening again.
- 1b. During the inspection Mr. Reichhold found a contaminated alcohol swab in a non-designated receptacle in the scanning room. As in 1a, the only information I can provide is that the technicians have again been reminded of the importance of proper disposal of radioactive waste in designated receptacles. I'm sure this was an inadvertent mistake, however, we will try to make sure it does not happen again.
2. Item 9b, the recent license, issued on July 31, 1990, excludes the use of aerosols. This was an oversight on my part as Technecium 99M aerosol has been approved on our previous nuclear licenses. As this is an important test in the diagnosis of lung diseases, the continued use of Technecium 99M aerosol is considered necessary. In order to rectify the problem, an amendment to license #48-19643-01 is being applied for. The necessary forms and fees are submitted with this letter.
3. In order to comply with Section 10 CFR 35.70 (f) a new method of conducting wipe samples is being instituted. Under the direction of Mark Towsley, Ph.D. the gamma camera itself will be used as the G-M meter. On the 12th of October, 1990 he will be calibrating the unshielded camera so that it may be used as our G-M meter. Dr. Towsley assures us that this method will be sufficient to detect counts less than 2,000 dpm's, therefore effective October 12, 1990 all of the violations listed in your recent letter should be totally corrected.

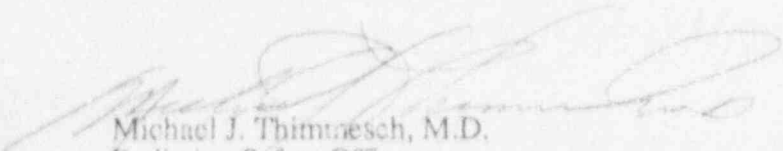
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I have a special favor to ask of you. Could you please send us a new copy of Part 35 of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission Rules and Regulations. The copy we have at our institution is outdated. It was issued May 31, 1984.

Respectfully yours,



Michael J. Thimmesch, M.D.  
Radiation Safety Officer  
Howard Young Medical Center

MJT:kif

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REGION I