

DCS/DCB

DEC 7 1990

Indiana State University
ATTN: Judy Hample, Dean, College
of Arts and Sciences
Stalker Hall 212
Terre Haute, IN 47809

License No. 13-09639-05
Docket No. 030-00706
SNM-742

Gentlemen:

This refers to the routine safety inspection conducted by James Mullauer, M.H.S. of this office on November 7 and 8, 1990, of activities authorized by NRC Byproduct Material License No. 13-09639-05 and to the discussion of our findings with Mr. J. Weixlmann 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 with the conditions of your license. The inspection consisted of a selective examination of procedures and representative records, observations, independent measurements, and interviews with personnel.

In addition to the above areas, the inspector examined the corrective action taken regarding an apparent violation found during our January 4, 1988, inspection. We have no further questions regarding this matter.

During this inspection, certain of your activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements, as specified in the enclosed Notice. A written response is required.

Our inspector also expressed concern over two issues as discussed with your staff members on November 8, 1990. The first area of concern deals with the ordering and receipt of radioactive material. Our inspector learned that it is common practice for users of radioactive material to phone in orders for radioactive material prior to completing ordering forms and prior to notifying the Radiation Safety Officer for proper authorization of the order. This practice indicates a lack of control over licensed material in that your radiation safety staff cannot assure that the radioactive material and quantities ordered is authorized by the university license. Furthermore, upon receipt of radioactive material packages, not all packages have been inventoried by the radiation safety office. This again indicates a lack of control over licensed material in that the radiation safety staff cannot assure that the material was ordered by and distributed to authorized individuals. In your response to this letter and the enclosed Notice of Violation, please address these issues by describing what actions have been taken or planned to be taken to improve control over licensed material.

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The second area of concern deals with the quantity of radioactive waste being stored on campus. The radioactive waste storage areas in the basement and the third floor of the Life Sciences Building are full and it appears that radioactive waste is not properly prepared for storage. Specifically, the bulk of radioactive waste is being stored in cardboard boxes rather than in approved 55 gallon steel drums. Furthermore, the ventilation in the basement storage area does not appear to be adequate to avoid build up of volatile fumes caused by scintillation fluids being stored. This was evident when the Radiation Safety Officer opened the door to the storage area which allowed the fumes to escape. In your response to the enclosed Notice of Violation, please address these issues by describing what actions have been taken or planned to be taken to improve control over the storage of radioactive waste at your facility.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the Commission's regulations, a copy of this letter, the enclosure, and your response to this letter will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

The response 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.

We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning this inspection.

Sincerely,

John A. Grobe, Chief
Nuclear Materials Safety
Branch

Enclosure: Notice of Violation

cc w/enclosure:
DCD/DCB (RIDS)

(Handwritten initials and date)
Mullauer/lh
12/4/90

R111
Waltz
Schultz
12-6-90

R111
Waltz/Grobe
12-6-90