



267 Grant Street
P.O. Box 5000
Bridgeport, CT 06610
Telephone: 203 384-3224

Christopher M. Cannon
Assistant Vice President, Operations

October 26, 1990

Malcolm R. Knapp, Director
Division of Radiation Safety
and Safeguards
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region I
476 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, Pa. 19406

Dear Mr. Knapp,

I am in receipt of your communications, Confirmatory Action
Letter No. 1-90-018.

Pursuant to the telephone conversation on October 25, 1990 with
Dr. Shanbaky, I am in agreement with the actions outlined for
the expired patient that received the brachytherapy treatment
at Yale-New Haven Hospital.

All actions will be appropriately taken by the identified
Bridgeport Hospital Radiation Safety Staff and completely
documented.

If I can further advise or assist, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Chris Cannon".

Christopher M. Cannon
Assistant Vice President,
Operations

CMC/sls
cc: J.S. LaBella
M.R. Tatta

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REG1 LIC30
06-01060-01 PDR



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I
475 ALLENDALE ROAD
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406

OCT. 25 1990

Docket No. 030-01247
CAL No. 1-90-018

License No. 06-01060-01

Bridgeport Hospital
ATTN: Christopher M. Cannon
Vice President of Operations
267 Grant Street
Bridgeport, Connecticut 06610

Gentlemen:

Subject: Confirmatory Action Letter No. 1-90-018

On October 23, 1990, Mr. Steven Courtemanche of this office was contacted by Mr. David Wishko of your staff concerning a patient that had received brachytherapy treatment at Yale-New Haven Hospital. The brachytherapy treatment consisted of 93 seeds of iodine-125 with a total nominal activity of 45 millicuries. The patient was released October 12, 1990, from Yale-New Haven Hospital in accordance with the regulatory requirements of 10 CFR 35.75. The patient was admitted at Bridgeport Hospital on October 18, 1990. Mr. Wishko requested information on any procedures necessary to keep the radiation dose to the general public As Low As Reasonably Achievable (ALARA) should the patient die and the body be released. On October 25, 1990, you notified the NRC Region I that the patient died.

Pursuant to a telephone conversation between you and Dr. Mohamed Shanbaky of this office on October 25, 1990, it is our understanding that you have taken or will take the following actions with regard to the above mentioned brachytherapy patient:

1. Upon the patient's death, Bridgeport Hospital shall either immediately retrieve the brachytherapy sources or shall provide any mortician handling the body with detailed instructions to minimize potential radiation exposure while handling the deceased.
2. A radiation safety staff member from Bridgeport Hospital shall provide radiological survey oversight and assistance to ensure that potential exposure to the mortician is minimized, that all licensed material is properly dispositioned and that no radioactive material remains at the mortuary.
3. The NRC shall be immediately notified if the family considers cremation as an option.
4. Whole body and extremity dosimeters shall be provided to the mortician while he is handling the patient's remains so that a radiation dose assessment can be made.

~~9011070260~~

Bridgeport Hospital

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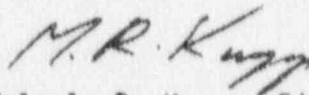
5. Areas where the body was kept and the vehicle used for the transport of the body from the hospital to the mortuary will be surveyed to ensure that no radioactive material remains at these areas or in the transportation vehicle.
6. A report shall be made of the incident and maintained on file for review by the NRC during the next scheduled inspection.

Based on a very low dose rate (less than 2 milliroentgen per hour) at one meter from the body, short viewing time, and radiological instructions given to the family, it is concluded that an open casket viewing will not constitute a health and safety risk to the family and friends of the deceased.

The response directed by this letter is not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, Pub. L. 96-511. In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790(a), a copy of this letter will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Issuance of this Confirmatory Action Letter does not preclude the issuance of an Order formalizing the above commitments. If your understanding differs from that set forth above, please call me immediately.

Sincerely,



Malcolm R. Knapp, Director
Division of Radiation Safety
and Safeguards

cc:
Public Document Room (PDR)
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)
State of Connecticut