

DEC 21 1990

Docket No. 030-004952  
CAL No. 1-90-021

License No. 37-00358-05

Polyclinic Medical Center  
Department of Radiology  
ATTN: Matthew D. Kopetchny  
Administrator of Clinical Services  
2601 North Third Street  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110

DEC 21 1990

Gentlemen:

Subject: Confirmatory Action Letter No. 1-90-021

On December 21, 1990, Mr. Robert Altoff of your staff reported to NRC Region I an incident involving the malfunction of a teletherapy machine operated at your facility. The malfunction of the machine resulted in the addition of a significant increment of time (20 seconds) to the desired patient exposure time. Pursuant to a telephone conversation between you and Dr. M. Shanbaky of this office on December 21, 1990, it is our understanding that you have taken or will take the following actions with regard to the use of the Theratron T-80 teletherapy machine involved in that incident.

1. Immediately terminate ongoing treatment and suspend future treatment.
2. Determine the cause(s) of the teletherapy machine malfunction and take appropriate corrective action, including all necessary repairs and calibrations to ensure safe conduct of teletherapy operations.
3. Review and revise your written emergency operating procedures of the T-80 to ensure that timely and appropriate action is taken to minimize radiation exposure to patients and personnel.
4. Provide training to all personnel involved in the December 21, 1990 teletherapy incident. Training will include lessons learned, any procedural changes described in item 3 above, and sensitization of the staff to the need to follow procedures. The training will be completed prior to the resumption of teletherapy treatment.
5. Prior to the resumption of patient treatment, notify the NRC Region I directly (215-337-5000) or through the NRC Headquarters Operations Center (301-951-0550) of the cause of the teletherapy machine malfunction, repairs performed and other corrective actions completed.

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Further, we understand that all actions established by this letter will be adhered to and will not be changed unless you receive authorization from the Regional Administrator, NRC Region I.

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, PL 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)  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

bcc:  
Region I Docket Room (w/concurrences)  
Management Assistant, DRMA  
J. Lieberman OE  
J. Goldberg, OGC  
R. Cunningham, NMSS  
T. Martin, RI  
M. Knapp, RI  
D. Holody, RI  
R. Bellamy, RI  
M. Shanbaky, RI  
L. Tripp, RI  
C. Schulingkamp, RI

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