



UNIVERSITY OF MAINE

Vice President for Administration

Alumni Hall
Orono, Maine 04469-0102
207/581-1437

January 7, 1991

Docket Nos. 030-11003
070-00341

License Nos. 18-01475-15
SNM-339

Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region I
ATTN: John D. Kinneman, Chief
Nuclear Materials Safety Section B
Division of Radiation Safety and Safeguards
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Gentlemen:

Subject: Routine Inspection No. 90-01

This is in response to your Notice of Violation dated December 10, 1990. Corrective actions are detailed in the attachment.

Thank you for your assistance in our efforts to be in full compliance with NRC Regulations.

Sincerely,

Thomas D. Aceto
Vice President for
Administration

cc: Dr. J. Richard Cook
Dr. King
Dr. Dale W. Lick, President
Dr. Daniel R. Lux
Radiation Safety Committee Members

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18-01475-15 PDR



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

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Docket Nos. 030-11003
070-00341

License Nos. 18-01475-15
SNM-339

University of Maine
ATTN: Thomas Aceto, Ph.D.
Vice President Administration
Alumni Hall
Orono, Maine 04469-0102

Gentlemen:

Subject: Routine Inspection No. 90-01

On November 13-14, 1990, Thomas K. Thompson of this office conducted a routine safety inspection at the above address of activities authorized by the above listed NRC licenses. The inspection was an examination of your licensed activities as they relate to radiation safety and to compliance with the Commission's regulations and the license conditions. The inspection consisted of observations by the inspector, interviews with personnel, and a selective examination of representative records. The findings of the inspection were discussed with yourself and James R. Cook, Ph.D. at the conclusion of the inspection.

During our inspection the inspector noted an area of the floor in Room 352 of Hitchner Hall that was slightly contaminated. Our concern is that the individual working in this area indicated that he was in a hurry and therefore had not performed a survey at the end of his work. Although no specific violation was identified, in your reply to this letter, please address this issue.

Based on the results of this inspection, it appears that your activities were not conducted in full compliance with NRC requirements. A Notice of Violation is enclosed as Appendix A and categorizes each violation by severity level in accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions," 10 CFR Part 2, Appendix C (Enforcement Policy). You are required to respond to this letter and in preparing your response, you should follow the instructions in Appendix A.

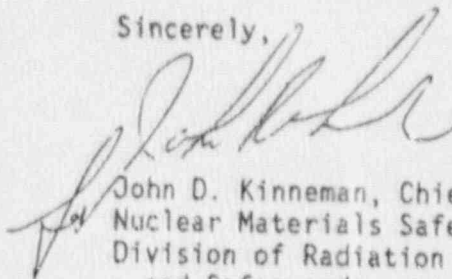
In accordance with Section 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter and your reply will be placed in the Public Document Room.

The responses 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.

90-11003

Your cooperation with us is appreciated.

Sincerely,



John D. Kinneman, Chief
Nuclear Materials Safety Section B
Division of Radiation Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosure:
Appendix A, Notice of Violation

cc:
Public Document Room (PDR)
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)
State of Maine
James. R. Cook, Ph.D., Radiation Safety Officer

APPENDIX A

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

University of Maine
Orono, Maine 04469-0102

Docket No. 030-11003
License No. 18-01475-15

As a result of the inspection conducted on November 13-14, 1990, and in accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions," 10 CFR Part 2, Appendix C (Enforcement Policy) (1990), the following violations were identified:

- A. 10 CFR 20.201(b) requires that each licensee make such surveys as may be necessary to comply with all sections of Part 20. As defined in 10 CFR 20.201(a), "survey" means an evaluation of the radiation hazards incident to the production, use, release, disposal, or presence of radioactive materials or other sources of radiation under a specific set of conditions.

Contrary to the above, as of November 13, 1990, surveys were not made to assure compliance with that part of 10 CFR 20.303 that limits the discharges of licensed material to the sanitary sewer. Specifically, a sink in the Machine Tool Laboratory is being used to dispose of licensed byproduct material of undetermined quantities into the sanitary sewer.

This is a Severity Level IV violation. (Supplement IV)

- B. 10 CFR 20.105(b) requires that radiation levels in unrestricted areas be limited so that an individual who was continuously present in the area could not receive a dose in excess of 2 millirems in any hour or 100 millirems in any seven consecutive days.

Contrary to the above, on November 13, 1990, radiation levels of 2 millirems per hour existed near a sink located in the Machine Tool Laboratory an unrestricted area.

This is a Severity Level IV violation. (Supplement IV)

- C. Condition 12 of License No. 18-01475-15 requires that chromatograph detectors containing nickel-63 be tested for leakage and/or contamination at intervals not to exceed six months.

Contrary to the above, as of November 14, 1990 a chromatograph detector containing 15 millicuries of nickel-63 was not tested for contamination or leakage for 2 years and is presently being used.

This is a Severity Level IV violation. (Supplement VI)

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Pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 2.201, University of Maine is hereby required to submit to this office within thirty days of the date of the letter which transmitted this Notice, a written statement or explanation in reply, including: (1) the corrective steps which have been taken and the results achieved; (2) corrective steps which will be taken to avoid further violations; and (3) the date when full compliance will be achieved. Where good cause is shown, consideration will be given to extending this response time.

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