



Office of the Provost

West Virginia University

Academic Affairs and Research • Extension and Public Service • Student Affairs

28 January 1991

Nuclear Regulatory Commission
ATTN: Document Control Desk
Washington, D. C. 20555

Gentlemen,

This is in reply to the notice of violation for license no. 47-23035-01, docket no. 030-20199, concerning NRC inspection report no. 47-23035-01/90-01.

A. We admit that individual exposures to airborne concentrations as a result of iodination procedures conducted in Room G-013 of the Agricultural Sciences Building were not assessed between 1988 and July 18, 1990. It was our intention to ensure safety by monitoring air velocity at the face of the hood on an annual basis. This was done by Radiation Safety Office personnel for several years, and then the responsibility was shifted to the Environmental Health and Safety Office. As their personnel turned over, responsibility for this became obscured and eventually lost. The industrial hygienist who should have inherited this task was not aware of it until the time of the inspection. He has begun to check all hoods in labs using radionuclides; 50% of the hoods have been checked. We will then set up a program of annual inspection and either correct any deficiencies or stop the use of volatile radioactive materials in unsafe hoods. We expect to be in full compliance by 28 February 1991.

B. We admit that the 1986 revision of the Radiation Safety Manual was not submitted for a license amendment, but deny that this is a violation of the condition that "licensed material be used in accordance with statements, representations and procedures contained in" our application and other correspondence. A page by page comparison of the two versions of the Radiation Safety Manual indicates that the only differences are that pages 9.09-9.13 are out of order in the newer edition and pages 11.01-11.05 on radioactive waste disposal were changed to reflect changes in the regulations and disposal site requirements. We feel that these changes are merely an expansion of pages 14.0 and 14.1 of our application of 22 May 1984 and to have failed to make them would have left internal contradic-

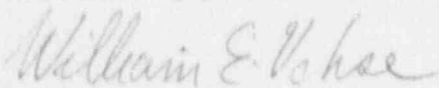
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tions in our program. Regulations change with painful regularity, and we try to modify our program to keep it in conformity with them. It, therefore, is redundant for such changes be submitted as a license amendment before they can be adopted. It would be more accurate to charge that we have not made enough modifications in the Radiation Safety Manual to keep it up to date. Hence, we feel that we are not in violation on this item.

We have been diligent in trying to maintain management oversight over the radiation safety program. The Radiological Safety Committee has met bimonthly rather than quarterly. The Associate Provost and the Radiation Safety Officer have met between each of these meetings. Several years ago we hired a consultant to review the radiation safety program. Since this did provide valuable information, we will arrange for an internal audit of the program by the director of the Environmental Health and Safety Office, which has a similar mission, but is administratively separate from the Radiation Safety Office. If this is successful in providing useful information, we will repeat this periodically in the future.

Should you need further information, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,



William E. Vehse, Ph. D.
Assoc. Provost for Academic
Affairs



Stephen T. Slack, Ph. D.
Radiation Safety Officer

copy: Administrator, Region II, U. S. N. R. C.