

DEC 14 1982

Veterans Administration Medical Center
ATTN: Mr. Daniel E. Cooney
Medical Center Director
54th Street and 48th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55417

38-2285
38-8297
License No. 22-01859-01
License No. 22-01859-03

Gentlemen:

This refers to the routine safety inspection conducted by Mr. J. L. Lynch of this office on November 22 and 23, 1982, of activities authorized by NRC Byproduct Material Licenses No. 22-01859-01 and No. 22-01859-03 and to the discussion of our findings with R. Petzel, M.D. 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.

This inspection also included a measurement of the output of your teletherapy equipment. Our measurement was made using a Victoreen Model 570 Condenser R-Meter with Model 621 chamber, calibrated by the National Bureau of Standards Laboratory. The source-to-chamber distance was 80 centimeters and the field size used was ten by ten centimeters. After applying standard correction factors for temperature, pressure, attenuation, inverse square, timer error, and roentgen-to-rad conversion, our measurement of the output of your teletherapy equipment was 29.8 rads per minute at the point of maximum buildup in a muscle miniphantom. The most recent spot check of your teletherapy equipment, conducted on November 3, 1982, reported a measured output for the same exposure parameters of 30.5 rads per minute. Applying a correction factor to account for 19 days decay, our measurement becomes 30.0 rads per minute.

Based on the close agreement in measured output values, we feel the actual output of your teletherapy equipment to be within established guidelines of ± 5 percent.

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In addition to the above areas, the inspector examined actions described in your letter dated June 4, 1981, regarding apparent items of noncompliance found during our May 14, 1981 inspection. We have no further questions regarding these matters.

During this inspection, certain of your activities appeared to be in non-compliance with NRC requirements, as specified in the enclosed Appendix. A written response is required.

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.

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


Sincerely,

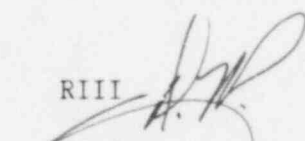


D. G. Wiedeman, Chief
Materials Radiation Protection
Section 1

Enclosure: Appendix,
Notice of Violation

cc w/encl:
Gaylord Twite, Radiation
Safety Officer
DMB/Document Control Desk (RIDS)

RIII

Lynch/jp
12/11/82

RIII

Wiedeman
12/14/82