

Medical Center

West Los Angeles  
Wilshire and  
Sawtelle Boulevards  
Los Angeles CA 90073



Department of  
Veterans Affairs

In Reply Refer To 691/115

Docket No. 030-1213

License No. 04-00181-04

JAN 20 1994

REPLY TO A NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Regional Administrator  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Region V  
1450 Maria Lane  
Walnut Creek, CA 94596-5368

Dear Sir:

Enclosed are the original and two copies of the reply to the Notice of Violation dated December 20, 1993. This reply is filed in accordance with the provisions of 10 CFR 2.201, "Notice of Violation."

A copy of this reply will be forwarded to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Document Control Desk, Washington, D.C. 20555 as required.

The item of noncompliance has been noted and immediate action taken. Steps will be taken to prevent repeat violations.

I certify that all information contained in this letter, including all supplements attached thereto, are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kenneth J. Clark', written over a printed name and title.

KENNETH J. CLARK  
Director

Enclosure

9406020090 940523  
PDR ADOCK 03001213  
C PDR

West Los Angeles VA Medical Center  
Los Angeles, California 90073

RE: License # 04-00181-04  
Reply to Notice of Violation dated December 20, 1993

Response to Violation A, concerning failure to conform to the applicable requirements of the regulations appropriate to the mode of transport of the Department of Transportation (DOT) in 49 CFR Parts 170 through 189.

The shipping form in question is used to return used Iridium-192 seeds to the supplier, Alpha-Omega Services, Inc. This form is supplied by Alpha-Omega Services and has never been questioned before. Alpha-Omega Services believes that its form may be complete for shipments less than fifty miles. It also believes that, as a private carrier, it is exempt. We relied on the form since it appears to have the required certification statement and a place for a certifying signature. On closer examination, this certification covers the shipment of the seeds to us, but not necessarily the return shipment.

The supplier has been informed of the deficiencies of his form and will at our request supply a "Declaration of Dangerous Goods" form to the VA Medical Center for the return shipment. In the interim, the current form will contain the following additional information:

- a. Shipping name: Radioactive Material, n.o.s.
- b. Hazard class: Radioactive Material
- c. Identification number: UN 2982 (note: the supplier informs us that this is the appropriate shipping name and identification number rather than "Radioactive material, special form, UN 2974").
- d. Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_ millicuries.
- e. Physical and chemical form: solid metal
- f. Radioactive warning label: boxes will be provided to specify yellow II or yellow III warning labels.
- g. Emergency response number: (800) 346-7894

An authorized signature line will be added under the certification statement for our certification of the returned shipment. The quantity of material shipped in terms of weight or volume does not seem applicable. All other required information is on the form. A copy of the modified form is enclosed.

The violation has been corrected.



# Alpha - Omega Services, Inc.

RADIATION THERAPY SOURCES AND ACCESSORIES

## IRIDIUM RETURN FORM

This is to certify that ALPHA-OMEGA SERVICES, Inc., is authorized by California Radioactive Material License Number 3925-70, issued by the State of California, Department of Health, to receive the following materials:

Radioactive Material: <sup>192</sup>Iridium

Type: Seeds

Possession Limit: 300 Curies

SHIPPING NAME: RADIOACTIVE

MATERIALS, N.O.: UN 2922

HAZARD CLASS: RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL

PACKAGE: TYPE A 7A

ALPHA-OMEGA SERVICES, Inc.

*Bruce Hedger*

Bruce Hedger  
Radiation Safety Officer

IT IS IMPORTANT IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH THE CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS (C.F.R.'S) THAT THE FOLLOWING FORM BE COMPLETED!!! (TITLE 49)

### \*\* 172.204 Shipper's certification

#### General

This is to certify that the above named materials are properly classified, described, packaged, marked and labeled, and are in proper condition for transportation according to the applicable regulations of the Department of Transportation.

#### Transportation by air

I hereby certify that the contents of this consignment are fully and accurately described above by proper shipping name and are classified, packed, marked and labeled, and in proper condition for carriage by air according to applicable national governmental regulations.

### \*\*Transport Index: (172.403)

Unit(s) in mr/hr @ 3 feet from point of highest surface reading on exterior of package.

YELLOW II: T.I. <1.0  
Surface <50 mr/hr

YELLOW III: T.I. >1.0  
Surface >50 mr/hr

(Vehicle, placarding required)

(h) There must be no significant removable radioactive surface contamination on the exterior of the package (see 173.443).

### \*\*173.443 Contamination control

(a) Removable (non-fixed) radioactive contamination is considered significant if the level of contamination, when averaged over any area of 300 square centimeters of any part of the package surface, exceeds any of the following:

| Contaminant                                 | Maximum permissible level                  |
|---|--|
|   | µCi Em. ds. m <sup>2</sup> Cm <sup>2</sup> |
| All other beta gamma emitting radionuclides | 10 <sup>-4</sup> 22                        |
| All other alpha emitting radionuclides      | 10 <sup>-4</sup> 22                        |

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBER: (800)-346-7894

\*\*EXCERPTS FROM C.F.R.S. A.O.S. INC provides these suggestions and information as a customer service and assumes no responsibility for accuracy, changes or regulations superceded by local authority.

Please complete the following for your return shipment:

### HEALTH PHYSICS SURVEY

Radioactive Material: <sup>192</sup>Iridium, SOLID METAL  
Type: Sources in Ribbons

Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_ MILLI Curies

No. of Seeds: \_\_\_\_\_

Container Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Hospital: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

d/m/100 cm<sup>2</sup>

Mr/Hr

Wipe Survey \_\_\_\_\_

Surface \_\_\_\_\_

3 Feet \_\_\_\_\_

Trans. Index \_\_\_\_\_

Fill out "Return" portion of label on "Pig".

Authorized Signature / Title

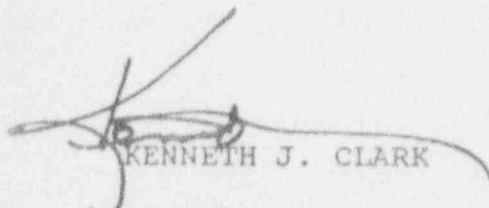
Retain a copy for your records

Department of  
Veterans Affairs

# Memorandum

Date JAN 20 1994  
From Director (691/115), West Los Angeles VA Medical Center  
Subj Response to Notice of Violation dated 12/20/93  
To Program Director, Nuclear Medicine Service, VAMC Ann Arbor (111E)

Please forward to the NRC in Walnut Creek, California, the original and two copies of the above-referenced subject. The remaining copy is for your files. A pre-addressed envelope is provided for your convenience.

  
KENNETH J. CLARK  
Attachments: 4