



June 14, 1994

Regional Administrator, Region II  
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
101 Marietta Street, N.W. Suite 2900  
Atlanta, GA 30325-0199

Dear Sir:

This is in reply to your Notice of Violation of 16 May 1994, NRC Inspection Report No. 47-23035-01 (Docket No. 030-20199). The violation concerns a laboratory containing radioactive material that was left unsecured.

1. Reason for the violation.

At WVU researchers and their students typically collaborate with colleagues in nearby laboratories and move back and forth in the course of the day. As noted in our reply in 1992, security at WVU may not be as significant an issue for faculty and students as it is in more urban institutions. Nevertheless, we have made significant progress since the 1992 violation. Unfortunately, these improvements have not yet resulted in 100% compliance. The lab that was found unsecured had never before been found unsecured in the weekly checks by the Radiation Safety Office.

2. Corrective steps that have been taken and the results achieved.

A memo has been sent to all investigators and their chairs with copies to their deans and vice president explaining the importance of laboratory security and imputing departmental liability for a fine, should one be assessed. This memo solicits their increased and continued cooperation and outlines the steps that will be taken (item 3).

3. Corrective steps that will be taken to avoid further violations.

- a. We already have someone going around weekly to leave reminders to people whose laboratories are left unattended. This reminder is to be changed to a citation and the principal investigator for the laboratory is required to reply as to why the laboratory was left unattended and what actions will be taken to improve the situation.

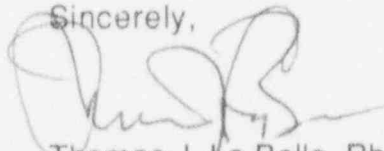
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- b. For laboratories where there is no current use of radioactive materials, but they are being stored, investigators are advised to lock, padlock or otherwise secure the storage area, refrigerator, etc.
  - c. Installation of door closures and changing the locks so that they are never unlocked will be required for frequent or flagrant violators.
4. Date when full compliance will be achieved.

Because alteration of human behavior is required, we anticipate that at least 3 months and perhaps 6 months will be required to achieve full compliance; hence 13 December 1994.

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

Sincerely,



Thomas J. La Belle, Ph.D.  
Provost and Vice President for  
Academic Affairs and Research



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

dmp

c: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
ATTENTION: Document Control Desk  
Washington, DC 20555