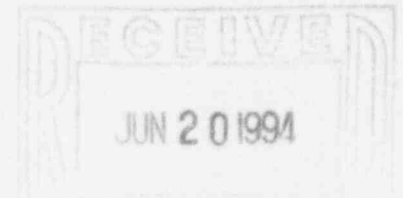


DMB



THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS
414 EAST CLARK STREET
VERMILLION, SOUTH DAKOTA 57069-2390
(605) 677-5233 • FAX (605) 677-5109



*"... providing medical education, service
and research for South Dakotans"*

June 6, 1994

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

RE: License 40-02331-19
Docket 030-15186

Subject: Reply to a Notice of Violation

This letter is the University of South Dakota's response to NRC Inspection Report 030-15186/94-01 with notice of violations cited by Mr. Gilbert L. Guerra, Jr. after a routine unannounced inspection on May 2 and 6, 1994.

Violation A: Failure to monitor, via wipe testing upon receipt, the external surfaces of packaged byproduct materials labeled with a Radioactive White I, Yellow II, and Yellow III label.

All packages received were monitored by the RSO or his agent for acceptable levels of radiation (<0.1mR/Hr at surface) with a Biodex Model 14C Survey Meter. However, the authorized users in receipt of the byproduct packages were not aware that surface monitoring via a wipe test also was required. The revised Radiation Safety Manual compiled by the RSO and forwarded to each authorized user in November 1993 indicated a commitment to follow Appendix K of RG10.8/Rev.2 for procurement, receipt and opening procedures but failed to indicate that this would require determining of surface contamination via a wipe test. This has been amended to the University Radiation Safety Manual (May 20, 1994) to include that "all packages arriving with the Transport Group I, II, and III labeling must be monitored and wipe tested. A record of the monitoring results must be kept on the inventory sheet for that isotope."

All users are now in compliance with this procedure.

Violation B: Lack of adherence to a license condition 21 - that in a letter to NRC dated March 29, 1985, the licensee will have survey instruments calibrated semiannually.

In a letter to NRC dated January 28, 1989 in response to a similar violation, the previous RSO, Dr. Paul F. Smith wrote, in

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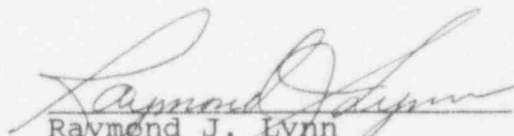
part. "We are instituting better management control by staggering dates for recalibration using 4 or 5 instruments. Thus, every 8 months two instruments will be calibrated, ensuring sufficient operational meters being available at all times." In a routine, announced radiation safety inspection conducted by R. Brown on January 7, 1992, we were in compliance with this procedure. During that inspection it was noted that annual recalibration would be in compliance with current NRC regulations and this was misinterpreted to mean that the procedure could be changed without filing and getting approval of the appropriate amendment. At the time of the inspection on May 2, 1994, 3 of the 7 survey meters had been calibrated within the past year; none within the past 6 months.

In response to this violation, four survey meters have been sent out for calibration and one additional Ludlum Model 3 Survey Meter has been ordered. An addition three survey meters last calibrated July 1993, June 1993 and May 1993 will be sent out for recalibration when the above instruments are returned. A file containing the copies of the calibration and service certificate on every survey instrument will be maintained in the office of the RSO to better ensure adherence to the procedure instituted whereby each department with authorized users will have available a survey meter calibrated within a six months period.

I trust that our responses to these violations are acceptable. If desired we will provide documentation of these items as it is generated.

Sincerely,


Betty Turner Asher
President


Raymond J. Lynn
Radiation Safety Officer

cc. Regional Administrator, Region IV