



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Medical Center
1 Veterans Drive
Minneapolis MN 55417

Joseph Mitchell

April 11, 1994

In Reply Refer To:

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region III
801 Warrenville Road
Lisle, Illinois 60532-4351

Gentlemen:

This is in response to the Notice of Violation and letter dated March 28, 1994. With regards to the two concerns raised by the inspector, the following is offered:

1. The electronic calibration on the thyroid bioassay system is comparable to the method used by the vendor to calibrate the equipment. The vendor also provides the efficiency of the probe for Cs-137. The efficiency of the probe will be checked annually against a Cs-137 standard source used to calibrate the survey meters.
2. A computerized inventory of hazardous materials, including radioisotopes, is currently being developed. This will provide a cross check method to the inventory process currently being used for radioisotopes.

The following is the Reply to a Notice of Violation.

1. A. The date referenced in the violation is incorrect. The correct date is November 17, 1992. The Radiation Safety Officer will be meeting with the Chief of Security to insure that yearly training is done for all Security personnel. This will be accomplished by April 29, 1994.
- B. Security will no longer be involved in deliveries during off-duty hours. The courier service will deliver any package directly to the Nuclear Medicine Service during off-duty hours. This change will be implemented by April 29, 1994.
- C. Some of the principal investigators within the Research Service have chosen to purchase their own survey instruments. When such purchases have been made, the Radiation Safety Officer has not been so informed. As of March 31, 1994, all survey instruments owned by principal investigators have been identified and will be calibrated on an annual basis. In addition, the purchasing personnel within the Research Service will be notified in writing that the Radiation Safety Officer needs to be informed of such purchases.
- D. When conducting radiopharmaceutical therapy, the Radiation Safety Officer has always restricted the amount of time that attending

9406290175 940616
PDR ADOCK 03002205
C PDR

APR 18 1993

nursing personnel can be with the patient. For any radiopharmaceutical therapy conducted after the date of this letter, a film badge will also be issued to any attending nursing personnel.

2. As of March 23, 1994, our NRC license was amended which increased the maximum possession limit for H-3 to 250 millicuries.
3. As of April 1, 1994, the physical inventories of the sealed sources in storage will contain the date of the inventory and the signature of the Radiation Safety Officer.

Sincerely,



Steven Kleinglass
Acting Director