

AUG - 9 1991

In Reply Refer To:
License: 30-01747-02
Docket: 30-02583/91-01

Veterans Administration Medical Center (VAMC)
Nuclear Medicine Section (115)
ATTN: Charles A. Kelsey, Ph.D., F.A.C.R.
Radiation Safety Officer
2100 Ridgecrest Drive, S.E.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87108

Gentlemen:

This refers to your letter dated May 20, 1991, in response to our request for further information dated May 10, 1991, regarding a violation described in NRC Notice of Violation dated April 3, 1991. This issue was also discussed during a conversation between Ms. Linda Kasner of this office and Dr. Kelsey on May 31, 1991.

Based on this conversation, it is our understanding that Dr. Kelsey intended to amend the VAMC's response with regard to the requirement described in 10 CFR 35.51(a)(3). This issue involves determination of the exposure rate from a dedicated check source at the time that survey instruments are calibrated, rather than at a later date when the instruments are returned to the VAMC from the vendor providing calibration services. As noted during the aforementioned conversation, NRC considers the requirement to determine the exposure rate from a dedicated check source during instrument calibration important and expects that licensees will use this measurement as a means to confirm the satisfactory operation of the instrument when it is returned from calibration.

As of August 8, 1991, we have not received further correspondence from the VAMC regarding survey instrument calibration procedures and the information provided to date does not meet the requirement of the specific regulation noted above. Therefore, we request that the VAMC provide a written response to Violation B of the Notice of Violation dated April 3, 1991. Your reply to this letter should include a description of the corrective actions taken, the measures implemented to prevent recurrence of the violation, and the date that full compliance was achieved.

RIV:NMSIS
LLKasner
8/8/91

C:NMSIS
CLCain
8/8/91

D:DRS
ABBeach
8/8/91

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Veterans Administration Medical Center -2-

Your reply to this letter should be provided to the NRC Region IV office within 10 days of your receipt of this letter. Should you have any questions concerning this letter please contact Linda Kasner at (817) 860-8100.

Since ³⁴~~Original~~ Signed By:

A. B. BEACH

A. Bill Beach, Director
Division of Radiation Safety
and Safeguards

cc:
New Mexico Radiation Control Program Director

Milton D. Gross, M.D.
Director, Nuclear Medicine Service (115)
Veterans Administration
810 Vermont Ave. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20420

bcc:
DMB - Original (IE-07)
RDMartin
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LAYandell
MRodriguez, OC/LFDCB (4503)
WLFisher
CLCain
LLKasner
NMSIS
MIS System
RIV Files (2)
RSTS Operator
REHall, URFO