

DCS

JUN 13 1991

Docket Nos. 030-01801
030-06932

License Nos. 20-00045-08
20-00045-10

Tufts University School of Medicine
ATTN: Elizabeth M. Farnum
Associate Dean for Administration
136 Harrison Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02111

Gentlemen:

Subject: Routine Inspection No. 91-001

On May 15-16, 1991, Betsy Ullrich and Keith Brown of this office conducted a routine safety inspection at Boston, Massachusetts and North Grafton, Massachusetts of activities authorized by the above listed NRC licenses. The inspection was an examination of your licensed activities as they relate to radiation safety and to compliance with the Commission's regulations and the license conditions. The inspection consisted of observations by the inspector, interviews with personnel, and a selective examination of representative records. The findings of the inspection were discussed with yourself at the conclusion of the inspection. This also refers to the telephone conversation on May 21, 1991 between Tom McMahon and Frank Masse' and Betsy Ullrich.

Within the scope of this inspection, no violations were identified.

During the inspection, the procedure used for performing thyroid bioassay on individuals was reviewed. While the procedure appears adequate for identification of individuals who have a significant uptake of iodine-125, the uncertainty of the measurement system was not known at the time of the inspection and you had not assigned an investigation level equivalent to a 40 MPC hour exposure. The uncertainty is needed whenever the measured uptake approaches a value which requires evaluation and records in accordance with 10 CFR 20.103(b)(2). You should be prepared, at the time of your next renewal, to describe the calibration of equipment, the minimum detectable activity, the statistical certainties of measurements made with the system used for thyroid bioassay and an investigation level.

In accordance with Section 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice", Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter will be placed in the Public Document Room. No reply to this letter is required.

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Your cooperation with us is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:
John D. Kinneman

John D. Kinneman, Chief
Nuclear Materials Safety Section B
Division of Radiation Safety
and Safeguards

cc:
Public Document Room (PDR)
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)
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F. X. Masse', Radiation Safety Officer

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