



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
West Side Medical Center
PO Box 8195
Chicago IL 60680

May 15, 1996

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

In Reply Refer To: 537/115
License No. 12-01403-01
Docket No. 030-01400
Reply to a Notice of Violation

Dear Sir/Madam:

The following is sent in response to the Notice of Violation issued by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission on April 15, 1996, following the inspection conducted at the Department of Veterans Affairs West Side Medical Center on March 27, 1996.

The reason for the violation in Room 5A158 was that the Authorized User in Room 5A158 did not perform his required monthly surveys.

The reason for the violation in Room 5A110 was due to the departure of the laboratory worker whom the Authorized User had assigned to perform the surveys, and, failure on the part of the Authorized User to complete the surveys in the absence of that individual.

These missing surveys were noted during a radiation safety staff audit and brought to the attention of the Authorized Users. The Authorized Users have since been in compliance with this license condition.

The Radiation Safety Committee (RSC) has been addressing the issue of this violation and has been taking corrective steps since the past inspection of January 27, 1993. At the most recent RSC Meeting on March 18, 1996, the Committee once again addressed this issue and unanimously approved the following actions to be taken by the Radiation Safety Staff for non-compliance with the required monthly surveys:

- 1st violation: A verbal warning will be issued to the Authorized User responsible for the lab.
- 2nd violation: A Notice of Violation (NOV) will be issued to the Authorized User, emphasizing the importance of compliance with this and all NRC license conditions. It will be stated in the NOV that the next action to be taken by the RSC will be to possibly suspend or revoke radioisotope use privileges.
- Subsequent violations: The RSC will decide which actions will be taken at the time of the third violation. The actions may include, but are not limited to, suspension or revocation of radioisotope use privileges. Four or more instances of non-compliance also will be addressed by the RSC.

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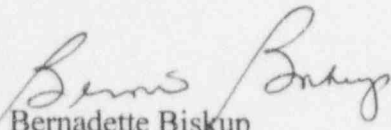
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Since the implementation of these actions, one verbal warning was issued to an Authorized User for completing his survey late. All other Authorized Users, including the Authorized Users of Rooms 5A158 and 5A110, presently are in full compliance with this license condition.

Please refer questions regarding this information to Bangaruswamy Chandramouli, M.D., Radiation Safety Officer (Phone Number: (312) 666-6500, Ext. 2602) or, Mr. Daniel J. Miron, Health Physicist (Phone Number: (312) 666-6500, Ext. 2596).

Sincerely yours,


Bernadette Biskup
Acting Medical Center Director

cc: Regional Administrator, Region III