



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

June 3, 1996

Mr. William H. Spell, Administrator
Radiation Protection Division
Office of Air Quality and Radiation Protection
Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
P. O. Box 82135
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70884-2135

Dear Mr. Spell:

I am responding to your letter dated May 3, 1996, regarding certain radiography devices, which, according to "flyers" apparently published by Source Production and Equipment Corporation (SPEC), failed a test specified in American National Standard N432-1980, which is required pursuant to 10 CFR Part 34. The Commission agrees with the approach you are taking with respect to use of the devices in question until the NRC completes an evaluation, which may include referral to the State of California and discussions with Amersham Corporation. Such an evaluation will take time to complete. We will keep you informed of the NRC's findings.

With respect to your belief that the 10 CFR 34.20 requirements need to be revisited, the NRC recently received a "petition for proposed rulemaking" (PRM) from a member of the public that seeks certain changes to 10 CFR 34.20. This issue was discussed during the recent NRC/Agreement State technical workshop. The staff will publish the NRC PRM in the Federal Register in the near future and plans to undertake a further evaluation of 10 CFR 34.20 criteria in response to this petition. The staff will work closely with the Organization of Agreement States during this process.

Sincerely,

Shirley Ann Jackson

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