

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Amersham Corporation
Burlington, Massachusetts

Docket Nos. 030-29300
040-08917
License Nos. 20-12836-01
SUB-1485

During an NRC inspection conducted on January 14 and 15, 1997, a violation of NRC requirements was identified. In accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions," (Enforcement Policy), NUREG 1600, the violation is listed below:

10 CFR 30.41(a) and (b)(5) require, in part, that no licensee transfer byproduct material except to a person authorized to receive such byproduct material under the terms of a specific or general license issued by the Commission or an Agreement State.

10 CFR 40.51(a) and (b)(5) require, in part, that no licensee transfer source or byproduct material except to a person authorized to receive such source or byproduct material under the terms of a specific or general license issued by the Commission or an Agreement State.

Contrary to the above, as of January 15, 1996, the licensee had transferred source and byproduct material on two occasions to persons not authorized to receive such source or byproduct material under the terms of a specific or general license issued by the Commission or an Agreement State. Specifically, on September 30, 1996, the licensee transferred a source containing 221.5 curies of iridium-192 to MMC, an unlicensed entity; and in May 1996, the licensee transferred ten empty 660 radiography devices containing depleted uranium to a shrink wrapping firm, an unlicensed entity.

This is a Severity Level IV violation (Supplement VI).

Pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 2.201, Amersham Corporation is hereby required to submit a written statement or explanation to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Document Control Desk, Washington, D.C. 20555, with a copy to the Regional Administrator, Region I, within 30 days of the date of the letter transmitting this Notice of Violation (Notice). This reply should be clearly marked as a "Reply to a Notice of Violation" and should include for each violation: (1) the reason for the violation, or, if contested, the basis for disputing the violation, (2) the corrective steps that have been taken and the results achieved, (3) the corrective steps that will be taken to avoid further violations, and (4) the date when full compliance will be achieved. Your response may reference or include previous docketed correspondence, if the correspondence adequately addresses the required response. If an adequate reply is not received within the time specified in this Notice, an order or a Demand for Information may be issued as to why the license should not be modified, suspended, or revoked, or why such other action as may be proper should not be taken. Where good cause is shown, consideration will be given to

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extending the response time.

Because your response will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR), to the extent possible, it should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be placed in the PDR without redaction. However, if you find it necessary to include such information, you should clearly indicate the specific information that you desire not to be placed in the PDR, and provide the legal basis to support your request for withholding the information from the public.