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June 30, 1983

Steve Baggett U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Materials Certification Branch Mail Stop 396 SS Washington, DC 20555

Dear Mr. Baggett:

In response to our telephone conversation of earlier this week, I would like to submit the following information regarding Norland products:

Our current Model 278A Bone Densitometer is physically identical to the previous Model 278 Bone Densitometer, which was given N.R.C. certification. The only difference between these models is a change in software which implements a change in the results calculation algorithm.

We are anticipating a further model change in July, 1983 as follows: The Model N2780 Bone Densitometer Computer will replace the computer unit portion of the Model 278A, and the Model N2740 Bone Densitometer Scanner will replace the scanner unit portion of the Model 278A. Stated differently, our current Model 278A Bone Densitometer is made up of two components, a computer unit and a scanner unit; after July, these two units will be different and they will have separate model numbers.

The Model N2780 Computer Unit will be different physically, but will contain the same program as the Model 278A. The Model N2740 Scanner Unit will be different in construction detail (e.g., sheet metal fabrication instead of castings), but will utilize the identical source holder, shutter, and shielding as the Model 278A Scanner.

Summarizing, after July Norland's Bone Densitometer will comprise two model numbers, N2780 and N2740. This system, though physically different, will perform and will handle the radioactive source exactly as is currently done by our Model 278A.

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I will appreciate it if you will add the Models 278A, N2780, and N2740 to your certification files. If you have questions regarding all this, please don't hesitate to call me.

Sincerely yours,

Russell H. Nord, Ph.D. Radiation Safety Officer