



Massachusetts Materials Research, Inc.

P.O. BOX 810 • 241 WEST BOYLSTON STREET • WEST BOYLSTON, MA 01583 • TEL. 617-835-6262

January 15, 1988

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region 1
631 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Attention: John E. Glenn, Ph.D, Chief
Nuclear Materials Safety Section B

Reference: Docket No. 030-17013, Routine Inspection No. 87-01

Gentlemen:

Responding to your notice of violation, we have "hard-wired" our gamma alarm directly to our power service so that it cannot be turned on and off by any wall switch. We believe the gamma alarm is now in correct operation.

Since the corrective steps have already been taken, we believe no further corrective steps are necessary and also believe no further date is needed for full compliance.

We do not believe we should be cited with a violation, and certainly not fined, for this situation. First, we did have, and still do have, a gamma alarm; and our intent was to have it operating correctly.

Second, the gamma alarm came to us furnished with a flexible cord and plug that was intended to be inserted in a standard 115 volt electrical outlet. We have checked with the manufacturer, Tech Ops, very recently; and have been told that this is the standard way this gamma alarm is furnished.

We simply gave the gamma alarm and the installation instructions, of which we furnish a copy, to our electrician and asked him to install it. As you can see from the instructions, it is not clear as to how the alarm is to be installed. He telephoned Tech Ops and received instructions, the exact nature we do not know.

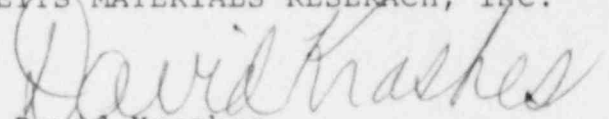
As far as we ever knew, the gamma alarm was installed properly and according to instructions.

We suggest, respectfully, that the NRC ask the manufacturer of the gamma alarm to include in the installation instructions some appropriate wording to indicate to an user that the alarm must not be simply plugged in.

We thank you for pointing out this deficiency to us, because it is our intention to have an operation that is as safe as it can be.

Very truly yours,

MASSACHUSETTS MATERIALS RESEARCH, INC.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "David Krashes".

David Krashes
President

DK:lmd
enc.