



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV

611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400  
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-8064

September 3, 1998

Alan G. Harper, Director  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
North Texas Health Care System  
4500 South Lancaster Road  
Dallas, Texas 75216

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 030-03256/98-01

Dear Mr. Harper:

On August 17-20, 1998, the NRC conducted an inspection at your Dallas, Texas, facility. A telephonic exit briefing was subsequently conducted with Dr. Ana M. Mello, M.D., of your staff on August 26, 1998.

Within the scope of this inspection no violations or deviations were identified; therefore, no response to this letter is required. However, one non-cited violation (NCV) was identified. The NCV involved a failure to amend your NRC license to document the organizational changes completed during the first quarter of 1998. In November 1997, the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center-Dallas (VA-Dallas) assumed oversight of the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center-Bonham. During the first quarter of 1998, the existing committee organizational and reporting structures at the two facilities were modified to reflect the merger. In Item 7.1.1 of a letter dated June 30, 1990, the VA-Dallas provided an organizational chart which described the reporting paths for both the radiation safety officer (RSO) and the radiation safety committee (RSC). The RSO was listed as reporting to the Associate Chief of Staff for Operation and Education, and the RSC was to report directly to the Associate Director of the VA-Dallas. The reorganization completed during the first quarter of 1998 resulted in the RSO reporting to the Chief of Quality Management, and the RSC reporting to the Environment of Care Committee (chaired by the Assistant Director of the VA-Dallas). The inspection determined that the reorganization did not affect the abilities of the RSO and RSC to fulfill the responsibilities and duties required to maintain the radiation safety program at the VA-Dallas. The reorganization was identified as a possible area of non-compliance by the RSO and reported to the NRC in July 1998; and, in a letter dated August 20, 1998, the VA-Dallas submitted a license amendment request to correct the description of the organizational structure. The VA-Dallas license was amended on August 25, 1998. This licensee identified and corrected violation is being treated as a non-cited violation, consistent with Section VII.B.1 of the Enforcement Policy.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR).

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Should you have any questions concerning this inspection, please contact Jeffrey Cruz at (817) 860-8164 or Elmo Collins at (817) 860-8291.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ross A. Scarano". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ross" being more prominent.

Ross A. Scarano, Director  
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

Docket No.: 030-03256  
License No.: 42-00220-06

cc:  
Texas Radiation Control Program Director

Dr. Milton Gross  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
Nuclear Medicine Program  
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Edwin M. Leidholdt, Jr., Ph.D.  
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Department of Veterans Affairs  
North Texas Health Care System

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North Texas Health Care System

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