

May 13, 1988

THE CAMERA SHOP
22 Seventh Avenue South
P.O. Box 927
St. Cloud, MN 56302-0927

Mike LaMastra
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
11555 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852

CALL
ON
Monday
morning
5/18/88

Dear Mr. LaMastra:

I spoke with you recently by phone concerning our use of 3M Nuclear Static Eliminators. The NRC has issued orders that we must return our static eliminators by May 18, 1988.

I would like to ask for a one-month extension to return the static eliminators. We have 4 Model 205 static eliminators in our lab. These are NOT used in an air nozzle, but rather in a Masterwipe Film Cleaner which wipes photographic films with a fabric, and removes static from the film by proximity to the Polonium 210 device. The four devices we are using all have 10 MCi of charge. I have had all four units tested by Dr. John Carpenter, the Radiation Safety Officer at St. Cloud State University. He did a tap test, and could find no trace of stray alpha particles. His opinion is that the four devices he tested are completely safe to use as we are in our operation. He can be reached at 612-255-2052 or 612-255-3031.

Six weeks ago, we ordered similar static eliminators from NRD, the only other company that manufactures a similar device. At the time we placed the order, they said we should receive them in six weeks. When I contacted them last week, they informed me it could take another 4 weeks to ship them, since they have had such a backlog of orders due to 3M's loss of license to manufacture nuclear static eliminators.

Since our devices have been tested to be safe, we respectfully request permission to use them until our new devices arrive from NRD. Without static elimination at our photofinishing printers, we cannot produce quality photofinishing products, and our business and our customers will be adversely affected.

Thank you for your consideration of our request. I can be reached at 612-251-2422.

Sincerely,

Frank Ringsmuth
Frank Ringsmuth
Plant Manager

Return
called
5/20/88
request approved
by OLC
Action
5/23/88

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