

HOFFMANN-LA ROCHE INC.

NUTLEY • NEW JERSEY • 07110

Theodore J. Berger
Assistant Vice President &
Director
Corporate Environmental &
Safety Affairs

April 7, 1988

Mr. John D. Kinneman, Chief
Nuclear Materials Safety Section A
Division of Radiation Safety and Safeguards
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission,
Region I
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

Dear Mr. Kinneman: Re: Inspection 87-01
License Nos.: 29-00018-02
29-00018-06G
29-00018-05E

This letter is in response to your March 14, 1988 letter and Notice of Violation resulting from the routine safety inspection conducted at Hoffmann-La Roche Inc. on December 2 and 3, 1987. The Notice of Violation cites two violations, each of which has been specifically addressed to bring the Radiation Safety Program into full compliance with the requirements of the NRC. Provided below are the corrective steps which have been taken with respect to these violations, and the dates upon which full compliance was achieved:

1. Concerning the surveys required to determine the external radiation levels on radioactive material packages offered for transport; an existing Radiation Safety Office procedure for outgoing radioactive material shipments was revised on June 26, 1987 to include the required survey. The revised procedure became immediately effective. Additionally, on the same date, the Radiation Safety Officer provided the Radiation Safety staff with training to review the requirements of the Department of Transportation regulations relative to radioactive material shipments.
2. Concerning the proper description of the hazardous material on the shipping papers for radioactive waste shipments; a procedure was developed on December 3, 1987 whereby the Radiation Safety Officer audits the shipping papers for radioactive waste shipments originating from both the Nutley and Belleville, New Jersey facilities. This

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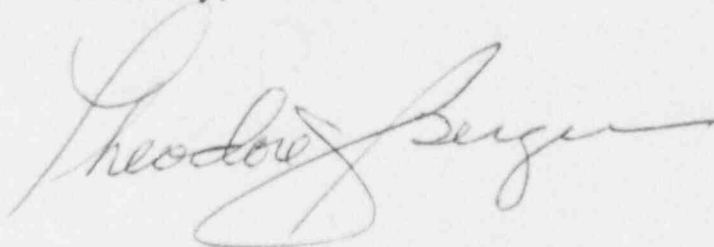
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procedure was initiated on February 5, 1988 for a waste shipment from the Belleville facility and on March 28, 1988 for a waste shipment from the Nutley facility. As this procedure also includes a meeting of the Radiation Safety Officer with the personnel preparing the shipping papers, retraining is also provided to the personnel. Initially, the audit will be performed for all waste shipments. It is anticipated that the audits will be reduced in frequency upon the Radiation Safety Officer's determination that the level of performance of the involved personnel has attained a satisfactory level.

If you have any questions regarding the above information, please feel free to contact Mr. M. Drzyzga, Radiation Safety officer, at (201) 235-3418.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Theodore Berger". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

TJB:pf