

DCS

March 13, 1986
EN 86-11A

OFFICE OF INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT
NOTIFICATION OF SIGNIFICANT ENFORCEMENT ACTION

30-7022

Licensee: Radiation Technology, Inc., Rockaway, New Jersey
License No. 29-13613-02

Subject: CONDITIONAL RESCISSION OF ORDER SUSPENDING LICENSE

By EN 86-11, dated March 3, 1986, the Commission was notified of the intent of IE to issue an Order Suspending License (Effective Immediately) to Radiation Technology, Inc. This action was based on the fact that licensee personnel had repeatedly bypassed required safety interlocks on the service irradiator. Operation of a service irradiator with a safety interlock bypassed has the potential for serious adverse effects on individuals at the facility. For example, in 1977, at this facility, when the personnel access door interlock system was rendered inoperable, a licensee employee entered the irradiator cell while the radioactive sources were exposed and received a radiation dose to the whole body of 150-300 rem, an amount well in excess of the regulatory limit.

The licensee responded to the Order Suspending License in letters dated March 4 and 10, 1986. After careful consideration of the licensee's responses, the Director, Office of Inspection and Enforcement, has determined that, subject to certain conditions, an adequate basis has been provided for conditionally lifting the suspension Order. This action is based on the licensee's plans and corrective actions which include assuring strict procedural compliance, improving staff competence, improving electrical and mechanical system reliability, clarifying license conditions, and hiring independent radiological safety consultants to supervise the daily safety operations at the facility and to provide oversight of those operations. These consultants have been given sufficient independent authority to make necessary safety decisions, including shutdown of the facility, when necessary and appropriate.

A news release has been prepared and will be issued about the time the licensee receives the Order. The States of New Jersey, North Carolina, and Arkansas will be notified.

Contact: E. Flack, IE 29823 J. Axelrad, IE 24909

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