

December 19, 1997

Johns Hopkins University
Applied Physics Laboratory
ATTN: Mr. Richard Seuss, Assistant Director
Laboratory Operations
Johns Hopkins Road
Laurel, MD 20707

SUBJECT: NRC SPECIAL INSPECTION REPORT NO. 150-00019/97-01 AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Seuss:

This refers to the inspection conducted on November 19, 1997, at your Laurel, Maryland, facility. The inspection included a review of activities during which you used byproduct materials in areas under NRC jurisdiction, i.e., in Norfolk, Virginia, onboard the USS Scranton. The enclosed report documents the results of this inspection.

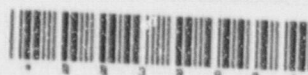
Areas examined during the inspection are identified in the report. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records and interviews with personnel. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with Mr. David Ermer and Ms. Kathy Stoll of your staff.

Based on the results of this inspection, certain of your activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements, as specified in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice). The violation is described in Section 01 of the enclosed Inspection Report, and is associated with the failure to file for reciprocity with the NRC to conduct work in NRC jurisdiction under your State of Maryland Radioactive Materials license.

In addition, another issue was identified concerning the transfer of radioactive materials from your license to the U.S. Navy without verifying that the transferer was specifically authorized to receive the material. This issue is described in Section 01 of the enclosed Inspection Report, and has been forwarded to the State of Maryland Department of the Environment, Radioactive Materials Licensing, Compliance and Safeguards Division.

You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. In your response, you should document the specific actions taken and any additional actions you plan to prevent recurrence. After reviewing your response to this Notice, including your proposed corrective actions and the results of future inspections, the NRC will determine whether further NRC enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with NRC regulatory requirements.

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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosures, and any reply will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Should you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact us.

Sincerely,

TS

Thomas R. Decker, Chief
Materials Licensing/Inspection Branch 1
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

Docket No. 150-00019
License Nos. General License (10 CFR 150.20)
Maryland License No. MD-27-014-02

Enclosures: 1. Notice of Violation
2. NRC Inspection Report No. 150-00019/97-01

cc w/encs:
State of Maryland

David K. Ermer, Radiation Safety Officer
Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory
Johns Hopkins Road
Laurel, Maryland 20723

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