

JUN 12 1986

Docket No. 70-008

Battelle Columbus Laboratories
ATTN: Dr. E. W. Ungar, Director
505 King Avenue
Columbus, OH 43201

Gentlemen:

This refers to the routine safety inspection conducted by Mr. G. M. France, III of this office on May 12-16, 1986, of activities at Battelle Columbus Laboratories authorized by NRC Materials License No. SNM-7 and to the discussion of our findings with Mr. H. Toy and other members of your staff at the conclusion of the inspection.

The enclosed copy of our inspection report identifies areas examined during the inspection. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of a selective examination of procedures and representative records, observations, and interviews with personnel. The inspection included a review of findings from an investigation conducted December 11, 1985, by representatives of the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control of a shipment of radioactive waste from Battelle Columbus Laboratories upon arrival of the shipment at the Barnwell, South Carolina burial site. The results of the State's investigation were conveyed to your company in a letter dated December 13, 1985, from the State of South Carolina.

During this inspection, certain of your activities appeared to be in violation of NRC requirements, as described in the enclosed Notice. The violation for which you have been cited has already been the subject of enforcement action by the State of South Carolina. In view of the circumstances surrounding this matter, we have exercised our discretion under 10 CFR Part 2, Appendix C (1985), and have chosen to issue at this time the enclosed Notice of Violation. The inspection showed that action had been taken to correct the identified violation and to prevent recurrence. Our understanding of your corrective action is described in Section 7 of the enclosed inspection report. Consequently, no reply to the violation is required and we have no further questions regarding this matter at this time.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the Commission's regulations, a copy of this letter and the enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

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JUN 12 1986

We will gladly discuss any questions you may have concerning this inspection.

Sincerely,

"Original signed by W.D. Shafer"

for Jack A. Hind, Director
Division of Reactor Safety
and Safeguards

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Violation
2. Inspection Report
No. 70-008/86001(DRSS)

cc w/enclosures:

DCS/RSB (RIDS)

Robert H. Quillin, Ohio

Department of Health

J. A. Axelrad, IE

RII *for*
France/kst

RII *for*
Greger

RIII *for*
Shafer
6-12

yes
RIII *for*
Tambling
6/14/86

RII *for*
Hind