

BCD

November 21, 1997

Ron Best
Body Shop Manager
Adesa Auctions Indianapolis
2950 E. Main Street
Plainfield, IN 46168

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Best:

This refers to your letter dated October 22, 1997, notifying NRC Region III office of the loss of a polonium-210 source used in a static elimination device. The device, Model P-2051 was manufactured by NRD, Inc., and contained a nominal 15 millicuries (555 MBq) of polonium-210 as of July 1994. On or about September 1997, the source was discovered missing. Interviews with employees and search efforts to recover the missing source proved unsuccessful. Your investigation concluded that the device was inadvertently disposed of as ordinary waste or stolen from the company by a former employee.

After reviewing this incident, a violation of NRC requirements was identified. The violation involves the unauthorized transfer of approximately 15 millicuries of polonium-210, and is described in the enclosed Notice of Violation. A written response is required.

Although the amount of polonium-210 discarded/stolen was small, the violation demonstrates the importance of maintaining adequate control of all radioactive material to ensure that improper handling or disposal does not occur. We caution you that any similar violation in the future will carry increased significance and may result in additional enforcement action, including imposition of monetary penalties.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, the enclosure, and your response to this letter will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR). To the extent possible, your response should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be placed in the PDR without redaction.

We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning this matter.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by

Cynthia D. Pederson, Director
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

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General License (10 CFR 31.5)

Enclosure: Notice of Violation

bcc w/enc: B. Clayton, EICIS
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Regatta

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