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May 1, 1998

Fred Kolb
President
Mercy Hospital Anderson
7500 State Road
Cincinnati, OH 45255

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Kolb:

This refers to the inspection conducted on April 22, 1998, at the Mercy Hospital Anderson located in Cincinnati, Ohio. The purpose of the inspection was to determine whether activities authorized by the license were conducted safely and in accordance with NRC requirements. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with you and members of your staff.

During the inspection, your conduct of licensed activities was generally characterized by safety-conscious nuclear medicine and brachytherapy operations, sound health physics practices, and careful radioactive material controls. We are concerned, however, about three violations of NRC requirements that were identified. In the first instance, the NRC inspector identified a means of unauthorized access to the brachytherapy storage area using a ladder left standing against the storage facility entrance wall. In the second instance, the inspector noted deficiencies in your quality management program which your own review failed to identify. The third example demonstrates a failure to perform a proper survey which resulted in a radiation field exceeding 2.0 millirem in any one hour outside the storage area.

These violations are cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice). Please note that you are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. The NRC will use your response, in part, to determine whether further enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

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F. Kolb

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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.

Sincerely,



John R. Madera, Chief
Materials Inspection Branch 1

Docket No. 030-08482
License No. 34-15046-01

Enclosure: Notice of Violation

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