



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III  
801 WARRENVILLE ROAD  
LISLE, ILLINOIS 60532-4351

August 31, 1998

Carlos Santia  
County Highway Engineer  
Macomb County Road Commission  
156 Malow Street  
Mt. Clemens, MI 48046-2347

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Santia:

This refers to the inspection conducted on August 13, 1998, at Macomb County Road Commission in Mt. Clemens, Michigan. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with you and members of your staff.

During the inspection period, Macomb County Road Commission's conduct of licensed activities was generally characterized by safety-conscious use of portable gauges and sound health physics practices. We are concerned, however, about four violations of NRC requirements that collectively represent a need for an improved understanding of NRC requirements and attention to detail. In the first instance, although the new radiation safety officer was qualified to provide oversight of the radiation safety program, prior NRC approval was not obtained before designating the new radiation safety officer. In the second instance, leak tests were not completed at the required interval. Leak tests completed following the inspection confirmed that the sources were intact. In the third and fourth instances, Macomb County Road Commission transported packages without determining that they were packaged, marked, and labeled as required. Although it appeared that the packages met the general design requirements, proper packaging, marking, and labeling are necessary to ensure the safe transport of radioactive materials.

The violations are cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice). Please note that you are required to respond to violation Nos. 3A and 3B and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. The NRC had concluded that the reason for violation Nos. 1 and 2 and the corrective actions taken and planned to correct the violations and prevent recurrence were already adequately addressed during the inspection. Specifically, during the inspection, your staff agreed that an amendment would be submitted to change the radiation safety officer, and leak tests would be completed at the required interval in the future. Therefore, you are not required to respond to violation Nos. 1 and 2 unless this description does not accurately reflect your corrective actions or your position. In that case, or if you choose to provide additional information, you should follow the instructions provided in the enclosed Notice. The NRC will use your response, in part, to evaluate whether further enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

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C. Santia

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

Sincerely,

/s/ G. C. Wright

Geoffrey C. Wright, Chief  
Materials Inspection Branch 2

Docket No. 030-09582  
License No. 21-15686-01

Enclosure: Notice of Violation

cc w/encl: Robert Hoepfner, RSO

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