

MAY 19 1989

30-09222

V.A. Edward Hines, Jr.  
Medical Center  
ATTN: Mr. John Fears, Director  
Hines, IL 60141

License No. 12-01087-09

Gentlemen:

This refers to the telephone conversations conducted on May 18-19, 1989 between John Hickey of my staff and Dr. Glen Glasgow and yourself regarding our May 17, 1989 inspection of your licensed teletherapy program. This inspection identified concerns related to overdue maintenance needed to assure the safe operation of your Theratron 780 teletherapy unit. These concerns were discussed with Dr. William Best at the exit meeting conducted at the conclusion of the inspection, and in subsequent telephone conversations between our staffs.

Based on the telephone conversations, it is our understanding that the following actions will be implemented by your staff with regard to your teletherapy unit:

1. You will make every effort to complete all needed repairs and maintenance of your unit as soon as possible and no later than May 30, 1989. Upon completion of the repairs or if any delay is encountered in meeting the target date, you will immediately notify this office via telephone and in writing.
2. You will alert all technologists who operate the unit of what type of compensatory measures need to be implemented in the event of failure of any of the components addressed in the Midwest Therapy Services report dated September 27, 1988, with emphasis on failure of the source to retract to the shielded position. This will be performed prior to each of your technologists next use of the unit.
3. You will perform the additional pre-operational daily safety checks of the unit which were discussed between R. Caniano and Drs. Best and Glasgow on May 17. These include visual checks of the "Light Fantastic" ceiling mounting and operational checks of the stretcher operations. If any of these tests indicate a malfunction or safety hazard, the unit will be immediately be taken out of service.

CONFIRMATORY ACTION LETTER

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V. A. Edward Hines, Jr.

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Issuance of this Confirmatory Action Letter does not preclude the issuance of an Order requiring implementation of the above commitments. If your understanding differs from that set forth above, please call Messrs. B. S. Mallett or R. J. Caniano (312/790-5500) of my staff immediately.

Sincerely,

A. Bert Davis  
Regional Administrator

cc: J. W. Fletcher, VA Headquarters  
DCD/DCB (RIDS)

bcc: J. Clifford, EDO  
J. Lieberman, OE  
L. Chandler, OGC  
R. Bernero, NMSS  
J. Glenn, NMSS

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Caniano/um  
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