U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I

Report No. 89-001

Docket Nos. 030-22096
030-30193

License Nos. 06-20804-01 Priority III Category E
06-23696-01E

Licensee: SRB Technologies, Inc.
87 Sand Pit Road
Danbury, Connecticut 06810

Inspection At: the above address

Inspection Conducted: March 29, 1989

Inspectors: Richard B. Provencher, Health Physicist — 4 May 1989 date

Elizabeth Ullrich, Health Physicist — 5/4/89 date

Approved by: John D. Kinneman, Chief
Nuclear Materials Safety Section B — 5/18/89 date

Inspection Summary: Closeout Inspection on March 29, 1989 (Inspection No. 89-001)

Areas Inspected: Announced, closeout inspection limited to a survey of areas of the 87 Sand Pit Road, Danbury, Connecticut facility for residual contamination prior to release for unrestricted use. Seventy wipes were taken and assayed for removable beta and gamma activity.

Results: No violations were identified. No significant removable radioactive contamination was found. All contaminated material generated during the decommissioning has been removed from the facility. The licensee's survey enclosed with their letter dated January 11, 1989, accurately describes the condition of the facility.

DETAILS

1. Persons Contacted

*Edward J. Kulig, Radiation Safety Officer
**Martha Cavanaugh, Regional Manager

*denotes those present at exit interview
**denotes those present during telephone exit interview

2. Background

This facility consisted of the basement floor of a commercialized office building located in Danbury, Connecticut. The main processing area where tritium exit signs had previously been labelled consisted of a single room of approximately 900 square feet.

At the time of the close-out survey, it was observed that most of the equipment and furniture had been removed, however, various shelves, workbenches, and carpeting remained in the main processing area.

In addition to the above licenses, the licensee was authorized to distribute tritium light sources to persons generally licensed by License No. 06-20804-02G. This license was terminated on January 31, 1989 in accordance with the licensee's letter dated January 11, 1989. Also, the NRC investigated an incident in March 1986 which involved a damaged tritium exit sign. The damaged sign was packaged and transferred to the licensee's Danbury, Connecticut facility. At the Danbury facility a survey showing no detectable contamination was performed, and the package was subsequently transferred to the Brandhurst Company Ltd., located in Buckinghampshire, England.

3. Survey For Removable Contamination

Sixty-one dry and nine wet wipes were taken, primarily in the main processing area, however, the evaluation extended into adjacent rooms. Wipes were counted at the NRC Region I laboratory using a Packard Tricarb Model 2250CA liquid scintillation analyzer. The minimum detectable activity for the Packard for a ten minute count time was approximately 26 disintegrations per minute (dpm). The maximum tritium contamination level detected on any wipe was 680 ± 20 dpm; the average was 100-200 dpm.

No violations were identified.

4. Receipt and Transfer of Licensed Material

The licensee representative indicated that all records of receipt and transfer of licensed material as well as the remainder of tritium signs in storage at the Danbury facility were transferred to the Winston-Salem, North Carolina facility in November 1988.

The inspectors observed that three tritium exit signs and two tritium markers were present at the facility during the inspection and requested that the licensee representative promptly remove the items from the Danbury location. The licensee has confirmed by telephone that these signs have been removed from the facility.

No violations were identified.

5. Exit Interview

The results of the survey were discussed with the individuals indicated in Section I of this report. The inspector indicated that work on the licensee's amendment request to release the facility for unrestricted use and terminate the licenses would begin following receipt of the wipe results from the NRC Region I laboratory.