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DANIELLE SHEEN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

August 24, 2021

Director, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
ATTN: GLTS
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555–0001

RE: **Report required by 10 CFR 31.5 (c)(5) | Leaking Source**

Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards:

In accordance with 10 CFR 31.5(c)(5), the University of Michigan (U-M) is submitting a 30-day report of a generally licensed sealed source found to be leaking on August 2, 2021. The source was immediately removed from service and is now in secure storage pending proper disposal through a licensed radioactive waste facility or by return to the manufacturer.

A gas chromatograph (GC) with an electron capture device (ECD) installed was slated for disposal. The ECD contained an Agilent NER-004P sealed source with an original activity of 15 mCi of Nickel-63 on Oct 14, 2009. The serial number is U16038.

On August 2, 2021, a U-M Radiation Safety Service (RSS) health physicist removed the ECD from the GC and conducted a leak test. When analyzed, the leak test result indicated removable contamination exceeding 0.005 microcuries (14,403 dpm or 0.006 microcuries). RSS immediately surveyed the GC, room, corridors, personnel, and surrounding areas to identify any potential spread of contamination. RSS determined no unrestricted areas or personnel were contaminated. The only elevated result was inside the GC (196 dpm). On August 3, 2021, RSS cleaned the GC and resurveyed it to verify it free of contamination.

An authorized radioactive waste licensee will properly dispose of the leaking ECD sealed source. Since follow up surveys indicate there is no longer any contamination of equipment or surrounding areas, the area was released for unrestricted use.

Please contact me [(734) 764-0555 / kfisch@umich.edu] if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Karl W. Fischer

Karl W. Fischer, CHP
Director / Radiation Safety Officer
Radiation Safety Service / EHS

cc: Danielle Sheen, CIH, Executive Director, Environment, Health & Safety
Ruthann Nichols, Ph.D., Chair, Radiation Policy Committee
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