

December 21, 1999

Duane C. Hall
Corporate Radiation Safety Officer
3M Health Physics Services
3M Center, Building 220-3W-06
Post Office Box 33283
St. Paul, MN 55133-3283

SUBJECT: REPORT OF LOST STATIC METER CONTAINING HYDROGEN-3

Dear Mr. Hall:

Thank you for your November 2, 1999 letter notifying NRC Region III of the loss of a 3M static meter device (Model 703, Serial No. 7031793). The static meter device contained approximately 90 millicurie (3.3 gigabecquerel) of hydrogen-3 at the time of reporting.

The device had an original activity of 200 millicurie (7.4 gigabecquerel) as of January 1, 1986. The device is a Safety Light Corporation Model LAB 508-3 source contained in a 3M Model 703 static meter. You indicated that the static meter device was last seen July 15, 1999, in a cabinet at your 3M Center in St. Paul, Minnesota. It had been stored at that location since the last routine physical inventory. We understand that your attempt to locate the missing device was unsuccessful and you concluded that the device may have been scrapped, either as trash or for recycling of the aluminum housing. We have reviewed your corrective actions to prevent a recurrence and have no questions at this time.

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

We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning this matter.

Sincerely,

/s/ G. C. Wright

Geoffrey C. Wright, Chief
Materials Inspection Branch

Docket No. 9999003
General Licensee 10 CFR 31

bcc: PUBLIC IE-07

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