

PDR

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May 21, 1999

**NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

Atlanta Federal Center  
61 Forsyth Street, S.W. Suite 23T85  
Atlanta, GA 30303-3415

47-17742-01

Attn: Mr. Mark Lesser

RE: Response Letter  
Recent Vehicle and Nuclear Gauge Theft

Dear Mr. Lesser,

This letter is in response to the requirements set forth in Part 20, Section 20.2201 Reports of Theft or Loss of Licensed Material, (b) Written Reports.

On April 29, 1999 at approximately 4:00 p.m. EST, a technician vehicle along with a Troxler Model 3411-B low level radiation, moisture-density gauge was stolen in Springfield, Virginia. The gauge (serial number 8929) contained CS-137 and AM-241:BE and the activity stored in the device was 7.3 and 40 MCI. The device was marked:

RQ, Radioactive Material  
Special Form, N.O.S.  
UN 2974  
US DOT 7A Type A Package  
Class 7, Radioactive Yellow II

The theft occurred when a Triad Engineering technician was parked in front of a job site trailer. As the technician went inside to discuss construction activities with project personnel, a person entered and stole his vehicle. The technician had left his keys in the ignition switch of the vehicle. The project foreman saw the truck being taken and he tried to follow the thief but he was unsuccessful. At that time, the radiation device in question was secured to the truck bed with a lock and chain. The case was locked and the source rod locked in the safe position. Exposure of radiation to the thief was likely minimal to none. On Saturday May 1, 1999, two (2) days after the vehicle and gauge were stolen, they were both recovered by Fairfax County Police on an off ramp of I-95 in Dale City, Virginia. The radiation device was still locked in the bed of the pickup truck and did not appear to have been opened. Triad re-gained possession of the truck and gauge on Monday May 3, 1999 from the Fairfax County Police.

Due to the recent theft, Triad Engineering has issued a company wide key policy. A copy of the new policy is enclosed for your review. Also, our in-house training procedure has included the awareness of maintaining visual contact with our vehicles while we are carrying radioactive material.

Triad Engineering, Inc.

Morgantown • St. Albans • Logan  
9906030162 990521  
PDR ADOCK 03013255  
C PDR

Greensburg  
Pennsylvania

Winchester • Harrisonburg  
Virginia

TE07

**NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

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Should you have any questions regarding this information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

**TRIAD ENGINEERING, INC.**

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lloyd C. Winters", written over a horizontal line.

Lloyd C. Winters, C.E.T.

Radiation Safety Officer

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dennis C. Chambers", written over a horizontal line.

Dennis C. Chambers, P.E., Sr.V.P.

Corporation Radiation Safety Officer



**MEMORANDUM**

To: TEI - Offices

From: Lloyd C. Winters *LCW*  
Dennis C. Chambers

Date: May 14, 1999

Subject: **NUCLEAR GAUGE KEYS**

Due to the recent vehicle theft which contained a nuclear gauge, Triad is **REQUIRING** that when a nuclear gauge is stored within either a company vehicle or an employee-owned vehicle that:

- 1) The vehicle and gauge keys shall not be left within the vehicle and shall be with the employee at all times during gauge possession.

Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to contact us.