

CONSULTING ENGINEERS | BUILDING OFFICIALS
CONSTRUCTION PROFESSIONALS | SOIL SCIENTISTS & GEOLOGISTS

DAVID F. JOHNS, P.E.
PRESIDENT

LAWRENCE C. RUDE, Ph.D., P.E.
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

9303 CENTER STREET
MANASSAS, VA 20110-5547

(703) 366-3000
FAX: (703) 366-3400

April 26, 2005

Docket No.-03033635
License No. 45-15200-04

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
Attn: Document Control Desk
Washington, D.C. 20555

RE: INSPECTION 03033635/20055001, SOIL CONSULTANTS, INC., MANASSAS VIRGINIA SITE AND THE FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA SITE, AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION. REPLY TO A NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Kinneman,

On March 2, 2005 Craig Gordon and Kathy Modes, of the Materials Security and Industrial Branch Division of Nuclear Materials Safety conducted safety inspections at 9303 Center Street, Manassas and at our branch office located in Fredericksburg Virginia. Subsequent to those inspections we prepared a list of items that were to be addressed and e-mailed them to Mr. Gordon on March 7, 2005.

The following is the compilation of steps taken and corrections made to the items noted in your letter dated April 1, 2005 and our e-mail dated March 7, 2005.

The following are the responses to the e-mail dated March 7, 2005:

1. In regard to the gauge transportation boxes, all worn stickers have been replaced. To insure compliance, all boxes will now be inspected quarterly.

MANASSAS, VA ♦ FREDERICKSBURG, VA

LIKE PEOPLE, SOILS ARE DIFFERENT

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2. In a letter dated March 8, 2005 we submitted amendments to correct the Fredericksburg address and other necessary licensing changes. The amended license was received on April 25, 2005.
 - a. The RSO was changed to Steven P. Nichols
 - b. The Fredericksburg office address has been changed to reflect the correct location
 - c. All gauge models were submitted to insure that they are covered by our Materials License.
 - d. Our audit frequency has been revised to state that we will be using our Appendix F. NUREG-1556 Volume 1 Rev-1 on an annual basis.
3. A radiation safety booklet has been adopted and is in the process of being distributed company wide and will be inserted into the technicians Training Manual.
4. A Hazmat Training module has been implemented and we have updated the gauge user files.
5. All of the Sealed Source Device Registrations have been updated and are on file.
6. The gauges have been checked to match with the proper boxes. Those that do not match have been marked with the gauge serial number.
7. We have obtained a copy of Northeast Technical's Material License and is now on file.
8. The film badge in the storage facility has been removed due to the false representation of our intent to show compliance with annual dose limits to the public. We are however, taking radiation surveys of our storage facilities to observe and insure that there is no exposure to the public.

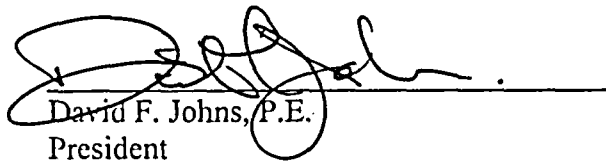
The following are responses to the violations refrained in your letter dated April 1, 2005:

- a. During the inspection it was discovered that the 2003 audit had not been conducted. Upon investigation no reasonable explanation was provided by the previous RSO. However the 2004, and 2005 audit have been completed and are on file. To insure regular audits, they will be conducted annually in compliance with NUREG-1556 Volume 1 Rev- 1.
- b. As reported, the leak tests do have a gap. Upon investigation, the previous RSO indicated that he was too busy and simply did not do the leak tests as scheduled. In January of 2005, all gauges received leak tests and have been documented and filed appropriately. In May 2005 all gauges will be tested again and submitted to insure results are received by the June expiration date.

- c. In response to the absence of required Hazmat training for out-of-date certifications, we have installed a Hazmat training module and currently providing it to employees. Upon investigation as to why a refresher course had not been provided, the previous RSO reported that he had no knowledge of the requirements for refreshers. To date "expired" or "close to expiration" certifications have been updated and kept on file.

In closing, as I stated to Mr. Gordon and Ms. Modes, I was appointed President on February 21, 2005, a mere nine days prior to the inspections and Mr. Nichols had just previously been appointed RSO. In the interim, Mr. Nichols has attended the RSO class at Northeast Technical Services and we are currently interviewing outside consultants to develop an initial training module to address a safety conscious work environment (SCWE) and 10 CFR 30.7 Employee Protection. Our aggressive response to our inspection and violation letter should reflect our commitment to complying with the Commission's regulations regarding our NRC License.

We thank you for the opportunity respond to your comments and should you require any further information, please feel free to contact us at your convenience.



David F. Johns, P.E.
President

CC: Steven P. Nichols, RSO