



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I
475 ALLENDALE ROAD
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19406-1415

January 31, 2012

Docket No. 04000791

License No. SMB-151

Daniel M. Russell
Director, Facilities and Services
United Technologies Corporation
Pratt and Whitney
MS: 102-14
400 Main Street
East Hartford, CT 06108

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 04000791/2012001, UNITED
TECHNOLOGIES CORPORATION, PRATT AND WHITNEY, EAST
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

Dear Mr. Russell:

On October 20, 2010, and January 17, 2012, Farrah Gaskins and Steven Courtemanche of this office conducted a safety inspection at the above address of activities authorized by the above listed NRC license. The inspection was an examination of your licensed activities as they relate to radiation safety and to compliance with the Commission's regulations and the license conditions. The inspection consisted of observations by the inspectors, interviews with personnel, and a selective examination of representative records. Additional information provided in the telephone conversation on January 24, 2012, between David Alberghini of your organization and this office was also examined as part of the inspection. The findings of the inspection were discussed with Mr. Alberghini of your organization at the conclusion of the inspection. The enclosed report presents the results of this inspection.

During the inspection, Ms. Gaskins and Mr. Courtemanche discussed with you and members of your staff an incident involving a radiation alarm that occurred at the Metal Management Aerospace facility in West Hartford, CT when a trailer containing scrap metal from your facility in East Hartford, CT passed by the radiation detector. We understand and agree with your conclusion that the piece of metal which caused the alarm was not contaminated with radioactive material authorized by the above listed NRC license, and it was likely that there was no removable contamination. The basis for your conclusion was that it appeared the contaminant was part of the metal itself. However, you did not identify the type of contaminant by radioisotope or activity, and did not perform a removable contamination survey to support your conclusion. Once the object had been returned to your facility from Metal Management Aerospace, it was intended to be disposed of as radioactive waste, however, actions taken by your employees resulted in the second release of the contaminated object to the public domain. During the inspection, information was provided to the inspector by the licensee and the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection which indicated that the contaminated object represents a minimal radiation safety hazard to the public, i.e., no removable contamination and a near surface dose rate of 25 to 30 microRem per hour with a background dose rate of 8 microRem per hour.

Within the scope of this inspection, no violations were identified.

Current NRC regulations and guidance are included on the NRC's website at www.nrc.gov; select **Nuclear Materials; Med, Ind, & Academic Uses**; then **Regulations, Guidance and Communications**. The current Enforcement Policy is included on the NRC's website at www.nrc.gov; select **About NRC, Organizations & Functions; Office of Enforcement; Enforcement documents**; then **Enforcement Policy (Under 'Related Information')**. You may also obtain these documents by contacting the Government Printing Office (GPO) toll-free at 1-866-512-1800. The GPO is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EST, Monday through Friday (except Federal holidays).

No reply to this letter is required. Please contact Steven Courtemanche at 610-337-5075 if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Original signed by Judith A. Joustra

Judith A. Joustra, Chief
Commercial and R&D Branch
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

cc:
Sandy Soucy, Radiation Safety Officer
State of Connecticut

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Judith A. Joustra, Chief
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Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

cc:

Sandy Soucy, Radiation Safety Officer
State of Connecticut

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