



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
REGION I  
2100 RENAISSANCE BLVD.  
KING OF PRUSSIA, PA 19406-2713

October 22, 2019

Heinz Knopf, Plant Manager  
Argos USA Corporation  
1826 South Queen Street  
Martinsburg, WV 25401

SUBJECT: ARGOS USA CORPORATION, REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION,  
MAIL CONTROL NO. 612632

Dear Mr. Knopf:

This is in reference to the letters from Andrew Frye, Radiation Safety Officer, dated May 20, August 14, and September 18, 2019, requesting to amend NRC License No. 47-14451-01. In order to continue our review, we need the following additional information:

1. When submitting future license amendments, please have the document signed by a management representative rather than the Radiation Safety Officer. The NRC views a letter signed by a management representative as indication that management has reviewed the application and concurs in the statements and representations contained therein.
2. The September 18 letter does not contain sufficient information to approve the RSO or other staff members to perform "advanced activities" or non-routine maintenance activities (such as gauge installation, initial radiation survey, repair and maintenance of components related to the radiation safety of the gauge, gauge relocation, replacement and disposal of sealed sources, gauge alignment, or removal of gauge from service).
  - a. Item 2 of the September 18 letter stated that the RSO had 40-hours "Advanced Authorized User and RSO Training" and 8 hours of "Authorized User" training specifically for fixed industrial gauges. The syllabus for each training was attached. The 40-hour course appears to be the Nevada Technical Associates Radiation Safety Training. This training is acceptable for the duties of the Radiation Safety Officer but is not acceptable for performing non-routine maintenance of fixed gauges. The 8-hour course syllabus appears to be acceptable only for performing routine maintenance activities with fixed gauges. Currently, there is not enough information to approve the RSO to perform non-routine maintenance.
  - b. Item 2 of the September 18 letter stated that the RSO has minimal experience performing non-routine maintenance activities, and therefore would perform such activities as removal of a gauge from service only when absolutely necessary and in the presence of the AEC, Inc. consultant. This is not acceptable. The RSO does not have adequate training and experience at this time, and, in accordance with Conditions 17, 18 and 19 of your license, and Section 8.10.8 "Maintenance" NUREG-1757, Volume 4, Revision 1 "Program-Specific Guidance

About Fixed Gauge Licenses" (<https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/nuregs/staff/sr1556/v4/>), only the gauge manufacturer, distributor, or other persons licensed by the NRC or an Agreement State will perform non-routine maintenance activities. A copy of a license issued by the NRC or an Agreement State that authorizes AEC, Inc. to perform non-routine maintenance activities of fixed gauges should be provided to Argos before any non-routine work is performed by or under the supervision of AEC, Inc.

Please revise the procedures submitted to remove references to "advanced activities" and other activities that are non-routine maintenance, or submit the information requested below in Item 3.

3. Alternately, Argos could submit for review all the information requested in Appendix J, "Information Needed to Support Applicant's Request to Perform Nonroutine Operations" and, if acceptable, the NRC could approve individuals at Argos to perform such activities. Please note that this information includes, in part: the specific activities to be approved; commitment to received training from the manufacturer of the gauges authorized on the license to ensure that applicants understand the design and safety features of the various gauges; submission of specific procedures for the activities; commitments to follow the manufacturer/distributor instructions and recommendations for procedures, parts, and materials. At this time, the information submitted does not include most of the information requested in Appendix J.

We will continue our review upon receipt of this information, or confirmation that Argos wishes to retract the request to perform non-routine maintenance activities. Please reply to my attention at:

Betsy Ullrich, Senior Health Physicist  
Mail Control No. 612632  
USNRC, Region I  
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety  
2100 Renaissance Boulevard  
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Or

[R1DNMSMail.Resource@nrc.gov](mailto:R1DNMSMail.Resource@nrc.gov)  
Reference – Betsy Ullrich  
Mail Control No. 612632

In order to continue prompt review of your application, we request that you submit your response to this letter within 30 calendar days from the date of this letter.

An electronic version of the NRC's regulations is available on the NRC Web Site at: [www.nrc.gov](http://www.nrc.gov). Additional information regarding use of radioactive materials may be obtained on the NRC Web Site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/materials/miau/mat-toolkits.html>. This site also provides the link to the toolbox for updated information on the revised regulations for naturally-occurring and accelerator-produced radioactive materials (NARM).

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the NRC's document system (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web Site at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. Please be aware that you may request that certain portions of your submittal to NRC be withheld from public disclosure as proprietary information. To do this, you must execute an affidavit as specified in 10 CFR 2.390. You must list all portions that you wish to be held proprietary, along with your reasoning as to why that is appropriate. While it is allowable, please refrain from submitting proprietary information in support of a license unless necessary. Keep in mind that all NRC licenses are considered to be in the public domain, and therefore may be viewed by any member of the public who requests to see them.

If you have any questions regarding this request for additional information, please contact me at (610) 337-5040 or by electronic mail to [Elizabeth.Ullrich@nrc.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Ullrich@nrc.gov).

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,



Betsy Ullrich, Senior Health Physicist  
Commercial, Industrial, R&D  
and Academic Branch  
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety  
Region I

License No. 47-11451-01  
Docket No. 030-06692  
Mail Control No. 612632

cc: Andrew Frye, Radiation Safety Officer

H. Knopf

ARGOS USA CORPORATION, REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, MAIL  
CONTROL NO. 612632 DATED OCTOBER 22, 2019

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**SUNSI Review Complete:** Betsy Ullrich

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