



ROCHESTER GAS AND ELECTRIC CORPORATION • 89 EAST AVENUE, ROCHESTER, N.Y. 14604

TELEPHONE  
AREA CODE 716 546-2700

August 19, 1970

Mr. Lawrence D. Low  
Director, Division of Compliance  
U.S. Atomic Energy Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20545

Dear Mr. Low:

Notice is hereby given, as required by 10 CFR 20.405, of the exposure of a Chemist Technician to a radiation dose in excess of 3 Rem in one quarter. The individual has been notified as required by 10 CFR 20.405b.

The Chemist Technician received a whole body dose of 2.28 Rem in April 1970, and 1.92 Rem in May 1970, totaling 4.20 Rem. His beta dose was 10.36 Rem in April and 6.91 Rem in May. The April badge results were received on 26 June 1970, and those for May on 22 July 1970.

1036  
6.91  
1737  
Immediately upon receipt of the results of his April film badge on 26 June 1970, the individual was restricted from his normal duties within the controlled area (Nuclear Sampling Room, Radiochemistry Laboratory and the Auxiliary Building). Prior to this time no indication of high exposure was available since his dosimeter readings indicated 377 mRem for the month of April and 664 mRem for May. Other technicians with the same duties have similar dosimeter readings, varying from 124 mRem to 758 mRem over the same period, per month. Their individual badge results varied from 160 mRem to 870 mRem, per month.

The May badge results for this Chemical Technician were received on 22 July and again showed a relatively high reading of 1920 mRem. His June badge, processed after almost a complete month of exposure at his normal occupation, showed a value of 880 mRem. His dosimeter reading for the same month totaled at 312 mRem. His film badge results for June were only slightly higher than the other technicians whose June badge results ranged from 290 mRem to 630 mRem. The values of the film badges were rechecked by telephone and found correct.

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His operations have been studied and no explanation is apparent as to why his dose is higher than the other technicians. He is slower and more methodical in his movements and, therefore, he may have spent more time than the other technicians in the Nuclear Sampling Room.

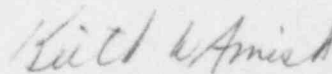
Personnel wear a Stephens pencil dosimeter whenever they are in the radiation controlled areas. Each day, the dosimeter reading is recorded on a log, and on a monthly card for each person which shows the cumulative month-to-date exposure. These dose summaries are checked daily by the Radiation Protection Technicians and also by each of the craft foremen for their individual personnel.

All technicians in this area have been given additional instructions in the handling of the radioactive samples. The following procedures have been adopted to reduce the exposure of the Chemical Technicians:

1. Collection of smaller samples.
2. Less time spent in Sample Room.
3. Increased air flow in Sample Room Hood.
4. Use of a shielded sample bottle carrier.
5. Storage of samples behind a lead shield.
6. Analysis of smaller sample quantities.

In addition, we are expediting the processing of the badges of this group to verify exposure more quickly, and we are analyzing and monitoring exposure to determine the relative effect of each of the above procedures.

Very truly yours,



Keith W. Amish  
Vice President, Electric and Steam

Attachment

Copy to: Mr. Robert W. Kirkman, Director  
U.S. Atomic Energy Commission  
Division of Compliance, Region I  
970 Broad Street  
Newark, New Jersey 07102