

DEC 02 1992

CAL No. 1-92-016
Docket No. 030-31765

License No. 37-28540-01

Oncology Services Corporation
Indiana Regional Cancer Center
ATTN: Dr. James E. Bauer
877 Hospital Road
Indiana, Pennsylvania 15701

Dear Dr. Bauer:

On December 1, 1992, Region I was notified of an incident involving the loss of an iridium-192 source from your facility on or about November 18, 1992. The source was discovered missing on December 1, 1992, when a waste hauler notified your staff of a high radiation dose rate emanating from a waste truck that picked up solid waste from a nursing home near your facility in Indiana, Pennsylvania. On December 1, 1992, your initial investigation indicated that the iridium-192 source (3.7 curies) in your High Dose Rate remote afterloader (HDR) machine was missing. The last time the machine was used was on November 18, 1992 when a cancer patient was treated at your facility and transported the same day to the nursing home. The iridium-192 source was retrieved by Brown Ferries Industries (BFI) personnel from the waste truck on December 1, 1992 and stored in a secured area away from any area occupied by personnel at the waste hauling facility.

Pursuant to a telephone conversation between you and Dr. Mohamed Shanbaky, of this office, on December 1, 1992, it is our understanding that you have taken or will take the following actions, which will be completed by the dates specified:

1. The iridium-192 source was recovered on December 1, 1992, and was returned to your facility in Indiana, Pennsylvania. You will retain the source for NRC evaluation until further written notice from this office.
2. The HDR will not be used for any patient treatment until specifically authorized in writing by the Director, Division of Radiation Safety and Safeguards, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region I.
3. You have initiated an immediate investigation to determine how the source was removed from your facility to the nursing home, root cause(s) of the incident, potential exposures to the public and any involved personnel. You will inform this office of the status of this investigation within seven days. Moreover, you will maintain for NRC inspection any evidence you gather concerning the circumstances surrounding this incident including all

9212150001 521202
PDR ADOCK 03031765
C PDR

"OFFICIAL RECORD COPY"

1/0

equipment and materials related to this incident. You will not release such evidence until written permission is received from the Director, Division of Radiation Safety and Safeguards, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region I.

4. Upon identification you will immediately notify each and every person that may have been exposed to radiation because of this incident.

Pursuant to Section 182 of the Atomic Energy Act, 42 U.S.C. 2232, and 10 CFR 2.204, you are required to:

- 1) Notify this office immediately if your understanding differs from that set forth above;
- 2) Notify this office if for any reason you cannot complete your investigation within the specified schedule in this Confirmatory Action Letter, dated December 2, 1992, and advise me in writing of your modified schedule in advance of the change; and
- 3) Notify this office in writing when you have completed the actions addressed in this Confirmatory Action Letter.

Issuance of this Confirmatory Action Letter does not preclude the issuance of an Order formalizing the above commitments or requiring other actions on the part of Oncology Services Corporation's Indiana Regional Cancer Center, nor does it preclude the NRC from taking enforcement action for violations of NRC requirements that may have prompted the issuance of this letter.

The responses directed by this letter are not subject to the clearance procedures of the Office of Management and Budget, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, Pub. L. 96-511. In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790(a), a copy of this letter will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Your cooperation with us is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Colleen Sigel By

Susan F. Shankman

for Richard W. Cooper, II, Director
Division of Radiation Safety
and Safeguards

"OFFICIAL RECORD COPY"

cc:

Public Document Room (PDR)
Nuclear Safety Information Center (NSIC)
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Oncology Services Corporation
ATTN: David Cunningham
775 South Arlington Avenue
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17109

bcc:

Region I Docket Room (w/concurrences)
W. Kane, RI
K. Smith, RI
R. Cooper, RI
S. Shankman, RI
R. Bellamy, RI
M. Shanbaky, RI
D. Holody, RI
J. Bondick, RI
J. Lieberman, OE
R. Cunningham, NMSS
J. Goldberg, OGC
J. Glenn, NMSS

RI:DRSS
Shanbaky

12/4/92

RI:EO
Holody

12/2/92

RI:DRSS
Bellamy

12/7/92

RI:RC
Smith

12/2/92

RI:DRSS
Shankman

12/6/92

RI:DRA
Kane

12/1/92

RI:DRSS
Cooper

12/7/92

HQ:NMSS
Glenn

12/2/92

"OFFICIAL RECORDED COPY"