



# Lawrence University

Office of the Dean of the Faculty

*Reichhold*

November 25, 1992

Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Attn: Mr. B. J. Holt, Chief  
Nuclear Materials Inspection  
Section 1  
Region III  
799 Roosevelt Road  
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

## Reply to a Notice of Violation

Ref: License No. 48-11358-01  
Docket No. 030-01164

Dear Mr. Holt:

Thank you for your letter of November 13. Professor Perreault and I have discussed the recent inspection of our facility and the discovery of shortcomings in our security procedures. He assures me that the noted violations have been or will be corrected, and revised operating procedures will be instituted to prevent a recurrence.

1. We agree that microcurie quantities of radioisotopes were improperly secured in three of our biology research laboratories. While the radioisotopes were stored in properly labeled containers (a freezer, refrigerator, chemical hood or laboratory work station) the doors to rooms 236, 256, and 285 in Youngchild Hall were unlocked and wide open. Clearly, we had not given sufficient thought to the possibility that unauthorized persons, out of ignorance or malice, might have sought access to these licensed materials.

2. We have corrected these violations in the following ways:

- a. All storage and use of tritium and sulfur 35 has been moved to our secure Radiation Facility in the basement of Youngchild Hall. This facility has doors that swing shut and lock automatically after use. The only persons who have keys to this facility are Lawrence Faculty and Support Staff and those students specifically authorized by The Radiation Safety Officer.

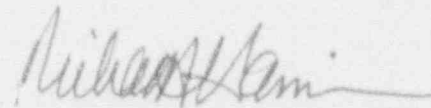
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- b. The entrance doors to this facility now bear large signs warning users that N.R.C. regulations require that the doors be locked at all times unless an authorized person is present and supervising the activities within the facility.
  - c. If future experiments require the use of tritium or sulfur 35 radioisotopes in the three laboratories cited above, or in any other laboratory at Lawrence, the professor in charge will be required to submit a written statement to the Radiation Safety Office, describing an acceptable plan to prevent unauthorized access to these radioisotopes.
  - d. The use of carbon 14 shall continue in laboratories 256 and 257, but access to these rooms will be more rigidly controlled. External doors will be locked at all times when radioisotopes are present in the laboratory and an authorized supervisor is not. Storage of carbon 14 stock solutions shall be in a locked container to which only authorized persons have access.
3. The Radiation Safety Officer will make compliance with these conditions an important part of routine inspections and training.
4. These conditions shall be fully in effect as of December 1, 1992.

Sincerely yours,



Richard A. Harrison  
Dean of the Faculty

RAH/clb

cc: Professor Perreault