

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Snell Environmental Group, Inc.
Lansing, Michigan

License No. 21-18962-01
Docket No. 030-17407

During an NRC inspection conducted on December 17, 1992, violations of NRC requirements were identified. In accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions," 10 CFR Part 2, Appendix C, the violations are listed below:

1. 10 CFR 71.5(a) requires that licensees who transport licensed material outside the confines of their plants or deliver licensed material to a carrier for transport, comply with the applicable requirements of the regulations appropriate to the mode of transport of the Department of Transportation (DOT) in 49 CFR Part 170-189.
 - A. 49 CFR 177.817(e) requires, in part, that the driver of a motor vehicle containing hazardous material ensure that the shipping paper is readily available to and recognizable by authorities in the event of accident or inspection. Specifically, (i) when the driver is at the vehicle's controls, the shipping paper shall be: (A) within his immediate reach while he is restrained by the lap belt; and (B) either readily visible to a person entering the driver's compartment or in a holder which is mounted to the inside of the door on the driver's side of the vehicle; (ii) when the driver is not at the vehicle's controls, the shipping paper shall be: (A) in a holder which is mounted to the side of the door on the driver's side of the vehicle; or (B) on the driver's seat in the vehicle. Pursuant to 49 CFR 172.101, radioactive material is classified as a hazardous material.

Contrary to the above, during September 1992, the licensee transported a Troxler nuclear gauge containing americium-241 and cesium-137 outside the confines of its plant, and the driver of the vehicle did not ensure that the shipping paper was readily available in the driver's compartment, as required. Specifically, the shipping paper was stored with the gauge in the transport case in the rear of the vehicle.

This is a Severity Level IV violation (Supplement V).

- B. 49 CFR 177.817(a) requires that a carrier not transport a hazardous material unless it is accompanied by a shipping paper prepared in accordance with 49 CFR 172.200-203.

Contrary to the above, since January 1, 1990, the licensee transported gauges containing americium-241 and cesium-137, and the shipping paper that the licensee used to accompany the shipment was not prepared in accordance with 49 CFR 172.200-203.

Specifically, the shipping paper did not contain an emergency response telephone number as required by 49 CFR 172.201(d), nor were the letters "RQ" entered either before or after the basic description required for each hazardous substance as required by 49 CFR 172.203(c).

This is a Severity Level IV violation (Supplement V).

- C. 49 CFR 172.600-604 requires, in part, that emergency response information accompany the shipment of a hazardous material.

Contrary to the above, since January 1, 1990, emergency response information did not accompany the shipments of hazardous materials, specifically gauges containing americium-241 and cesium-137.

This is a Severity Level IV violation (Supplement V).

- 2. Condition 19 of License No. 21-18962-01 requires that licensed material be possessed and used in accordance with statements, representations, and procedures contained in an application dated June 18, 1990.

Item 10.G.I of the application requires the licensee to conduct a quarterly physical inventory to account for all sealed sources received and possessed under License No. 21-18962-01. Moreover, the inventory record will be maintained for inspection.

Contrary to the above, since approximately January 13, 1989, no physical inventories of sealed sources received and possessed under this license were conducted.

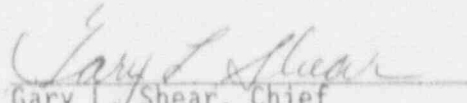
This is a Severity Level IV violation (Supplement VI).

Pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 2.201, Snell Environmental Group, Inc. is hereby required to submit a written statement or explanation to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region III, 799 Roosevelt Road, Glen Ellyn, Illinois, 60137, within 30 days of the date of the letter transmitting this Notice of Violation (Notice). This reply should be clearly marked as a "Reply

to a Notice of Violation" and should include for each violation: (1) the reason for the violation, or, if contested, the basis for disputing the violation, (2) the corrective steps that have been taken and the results achieved, (3) the corrective steps that will be taken to avoid further violations, and (4) the date when full compliance will be achieved. If an adequate reply is not received within the time specified in this Notice, an order or a demand for information may be issued to show cause why the license should not be modified, suspended, or revoked, or why such other action as may be proper should not be taken. Where good cause is shown, consideration will be given to extending the response time.

DEC 29 1992

Dated _____



Gary L. Shear, Chief
Nuclear Materials Safety
Section 2