



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

October 12, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR:

James H. Joyner, Chief
Nuclear Materials and Safeguards Branch, RI

Kenneth P. Barr, Chief
Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards Branch, RII

William L. Axelson, Chief
Materials and Safeguards Branch, RIII

Ramon E. Hall, Chief
Vendor Programs Branch, RIV

Frank A. Wenslawski, Chief
Radiological Safety Branch, RV

Vandy L. Miller, Chief
Materials Licensing Branch, NMSS

Donald A. Nussbaumer, Assistant Director
for State Programs

FROM:

Leonard I. Cobb, Chief
Safeguards and Materials Programs Branch, IE

SUBJECT:

PROPOSED TEMPORARY INSTRUCTION (TI) 2800/5
RECONCENTRATION OF RADIONUCLIDES IN SANITARY SEWERAGE
SYSTEMS

Enclosed for your review and comment is the subject instruction. The TI was written for performing a certain number of special inspections because of the importance of the reconcentration issue and because of the media interest in the incidents that occurred in New York, where americium-241 was found at two sewerage treatment plants. The news media has inquired about what NRC is doing to determine if similar problems exist with NRC licensees. While the news media interest is not a reason for making inspections, it does show the sensitivity of the matter and reinforces our decision to take special action.

Your comments should be sent to us no later than October 24, 1984.

L. I. Cobb

Leonard I. Cobb, Chief
Safeguards and Materials Programs Branch, IE

Enclosure:
As stated

SPF.
8910230249 XA

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DQASIP

TEMPORARY INSTRUCTION 2800/5

RECONCENTRATION OF RADIONUCLIDES IN SANITARY SEWERAGE SYSTEMS

2800/5-01 PURPOSE

This temporary instruction (TI) specifies requirements for inspecting a specific set of licensees to determine if there is a problem with reconcentration of radionuclides at sewerage treatment plants. The list of licensees below was provided by NMSS as having a potential for radionuclide reconcentration in sanitary sewerage systems.

2800/5-02 OBJECTIVE

To expedite inspections of certain licensees with a potential for reconcentration of radionuclides in sewerage systems. The regions should also be sensitive to this issue during routine inspections of other licensees if they have reason to believe that a potential for reconcentration may exist.

2800/5-03 LICENSEES TO INSPECT

Following is a list of licensees that NMSS believes have a real potential for releasing radionuclides into sanitary sewerage systems that later reconcentrate at sewerage treatment plants. The list may not be all inclusive and, except for one, does not involve americium-241.

Large Manufacturers

New England Nuclear
Gamma Diagnostics
Monsanto Chemical
Mallinckrodt Corporation
3 M Company
Abbott Laboratories
Advanced Medical Systems

Large Institutions with Broad Licenses

Harvard University
Dept. of the Army - Fort Detrick
National Institutes of Health

Other

Amersham in Illinois - AM-241
(does not make foils but sometimes cuts them out)

2800/5-04 PROGRAM

Prior to March 31, 1985, the region should inspect each named licensee to determine whether a reconcentration problem exists. The special inspection should include the taking of actual samples at sewerage treatment plants for analysis. If a problem is found, the Safeguards and Materials Programs Branch (SMPB), IE, should be notified promptly. A short written report

Issue Date:

showing the results of analyses, even if negative, should be sent to SMPB. The report should include a summary page showing the name and license number of the licensee and locations where samples were obtained. The report can be the report of the inspection if it contains the results of sample analysis.

2800/5-05 EXPIRATION

This TI will remain in effect through March 31, 1985. (see 2800/5-08 below)

2800/5-06 IE CONTACT

Questions regarding this TI should be addressed to J. R. Metzger, SMPB. Telephone (301) 492-4947.

2800/5-07

The inspections requested in this TI have a high priority and should be done as soon as practicable with consideration given to other high priority inspection work. The list of licensees in 2800/5-03 are mostly all high priority licensees and a complete inspection may be done while implementing the provisions of this TI.

END

final version

DQASIP

TEMPORARY INSTRUCTION 2800/5

RECONCENTRATION OF RADIONUCLIDES IN SANITARY SEWERAGE SYSTEMS

2800/5-01 PURPOSE

This temporary instruction (TI) specifies requirements for inspecting a specific set of licensees to determine if there is a problem with reconcentration of radionuclides at sewerage treatment plants. The list of licensees below was provided by NMSS as having a potential for radionuclide reconcentration in sanitary sewerage systems.

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Gamma Diagnostics
Monsanto Chemical
Mallinckrodt Corporation
3 M Company
Abbott Laboratories
Advanced Medical Systems
Minneapolis Honeywell

Large Institutions with Broad Licenses

Harvard University
Dept. of the Army - Fort Detrick
National Institutes of Health

Other

Amersham in Illinois - AM-241
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2800/5-04 PROGRAM

Prior to July 31, 1985, the regions should inspect each named licensee to determine whether a reconcentration problem exists. The special inspection should include the taking of actual samples of sludge at the licensees' holdup tanks for analysis and, if practicable, a survey should be made of

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licensees' sewer lines where the material is actually dumped. If contamination is found in the sludge or sewer lines at the licensee's facilities, reasonable efforts should be made to conduct a survey and take samples for analysis at the nearest sewerage treatment plant. If a problem is found, the Safeguards and Materials Programs Branch (SMPB), IE, should be notified promptly. A short written report showing the results of analyses, even if negative, should be sent to SMPB. The report should include a summary page showing the name and license number of the licensee and locations where samples were obtained. The report can be the report of the inspection if it contains the results of sample analysis.

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2800/5-07 PRIORITY

The inspections requested in this TI have a high priority and should be done as soon as practicable with consideration given to other high priority inspection work. The list of licensees in 2800/5-03 are mostly all high priority licensees and a complete inspection may be done while implementing the provisions of this TI.

END

Mr. J.M. Felton, Director
Division of Rules and Records
Office of Administration
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
ACT REQUEST

FOIA-84-781

Rec'd 10-4-84

Dear Mr. Felton:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, please make available at the NRC's Public Document Room at 1717 H Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., copies of documents in the following categories:

ANY AND ALL CORRESPONDENCE CONCERNING
EAD METALLURGICAL, INC. FROM JANUARY 1, 1984
THRU THE PRESENT DATE.

THANK YOU,
Derwin Weldon
DERWIN WELDON

85/02200572