

The Applied Radiant Energy Corporation

Manufacturers of **Gammapar**® Acrylic/Wood Flooring

Venture Drive • Forest Commercial Center
P.O. Box 289 • Forest, Virginia 24551

Toll Free 1-800-283-5667 • 804-525-5252 • Fax 804-525-7437

September 20, 1996

*Received EFW
9/24/96*

*Lic # 45-11496-01
030-07099*

Mr. Earl G. Wright
Senior License Reviewer
Nuclear Materials Licensing Section
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region II
101 Marietta Street, NW
Atlanta, GA 30323

Dear Mr. Wright:

This letter is to document the following information that until now has been conveyed to NRC Region II's office only by phone.

At 1202 on Wednesday, September 11, 1996, the second and last shipment of Cesium-137 WESF capsules left ARECO for transfer to DOE's Hanford facility in the state of Washington. It arrived there without incident at 2200 (Hanford time), Friday, September 13, 1996.

During this period, the facility was put back to its pre-WESF capsule transfer condition by DOE subcontractors. Then, ARECO personnel worked to restore our underwater irradiator to operating condition employing Cobalt-60 that was in the Company's possession before the WESF capsules were used for our irradiations. Irradiation capability was restored on Tuesday, September 17, 1996.

At this time I would like to request that certain conditions imposed by a Confirmation of Action Letter from your office of June 13, 1988 (copy enclosed) be rescinded. These actions are:

2. (Collection and analysis of water samples)
3. (Monitoring of product containers, equipment and personnel prior to leaving the irradiator pool room)

These actions were taken as a result of the contamination incident in Decatur, Georgia, and since ARECO no longer possesses WESF capsules, they are no longer necessary.

ARECO will continue to implement actions:

1. (Continuous monitoring of cation demineralizer bed)
and
4. (Emergency procedures upon detection of contamination)

as they have relevancy via 10 CFR Part 36 to our amended operations using Cobalt-60.

Mr. Earl G. Wright
September 20, 1996
Page 2

If you have any questions about the above information and request, please call me at (804) 385-5300.

Yours truly,

THE APPLIED RADIANT ENERGY CORPORATION

James J. Myron Ph.D.

James J. Myron, Ph.D.
Vice President of Safety & Regulatory Affairs

JJM/dek (F444)

Enclosure

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION II
101 MARIETTA STREET, N.W.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30323

JUN 13 1988

*Received by hand
from Carol Connell (NRC)
6/14/88
~ 15:30*

Applied Radiant Energy Corporation
ATTN: James Myron, Ph. D.
2432 Lakeside Drive
Lynchburg, VA 24501

Gentlemen:

SUBJECT: CONFIRMATION OF ACTION LETTER
(REFERENCE: LICENSE NO. 45-11496-01; 030-07099)

This refers to your conversation with John Potter of my staff on June 10, 1988, regarding a recent cesium-137 contamination incident at Radiation Sterilizers, Inc., (RSI) Decatur, Georgia, facility. In view of the fact that your facility utilizes similar cesium-137 WESF Capsules, we discussed specific monitoring and emergency procedures for detecting similar problems at your facility. Based upon our conversation, we understand that you will:

1. Continuously monitor the irradiator pool demineralizer for cesium-137 build-up. On a daily basis ensure that your monitoring device will alarm when normal radiation levels are exceeded and that the alarm sounds at the operations console or point from which irradiator operations are being controlled. (Note: This is an existing requirement of your license.) The monitoring device should be set to alarm at pre-set levels not exceeding twice ambient background.
2. Collect pool water samples at least weekly and have them analyzed for radioactive contamination and water quality. Have results returned to you within 48 hours of sample collection.
3. Perform daily wipe tests of sample containers, materials or equipment removed from the pool and analyze the samples for radioactive contamination. Perform survey meter monitoring of hands, shoes and work clothing of personnel prior to their leaving the work area; and
4. Institute the following emergency procedures immediately upon detection of any contamination exceeding twice background and as a result of monitoring performed in compliance with items 1 - 3 above:
 - a. Discontinue the release of products until they are monitored and determined to be free of contamination and until NRC has authorized release.
 - b. Discontinue irradiation operations and close off any systems through which radioactive effluents may be released from the facility.
 - c. Establish contamination control points and ensure that personnel leaving controlled areas are free of radioactive contamination.

8806280236 ZPP.

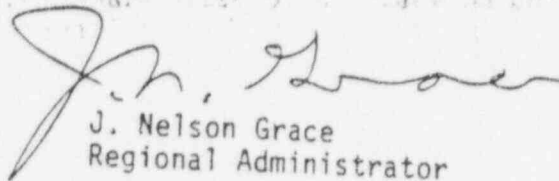
JUN 13 1988

- d. Notify NRC Operations Center (Telephone No. 202/951-0550) and Region II (Telephone No. 404/331-5089).

These actions will continue until you receive further written notice from the Regional Administrator of Region II or his designee.

Issuance of this Confirmatory Action Letter does not preclude the issuance of an order requiring implementation of the above commitments. If your understanding differs from that set forth above, please call me immediately.

Sincerely,


J. Nelson Grace
Regional Administrator

CAL NO: 45-11496-01/88-01