

OCT 23 1996

John Williams, M.D., Ed.D.
Medical Director
George Washington University
2300 Eye Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037

SUBJECT: INSPECTION NOS. 030-09049/96-001, 030-19445/96-001, AND
070-01795/96-001

Dear Dr. Williams:

On August 13-16, 1996, James P. Dwyer of this office conducted a safety inspection, at the above address, of activities authorized by the NRC licenses listed below. The inspection was an examination of your licensed activities as they relate to radiation safety and to compliance with the Commission's regulations and the license conditions. The inspection consisted of observations by the inspector, interviews with personnel, and a selective examination of representative records. The findings of the inspection were discussed with Ms. Astra Bain-Dowell and other members of your staff, at the conclusion of the inspection on August 16, 1996.

Within the scope of this inspection, no violations were identified. However, the inspector did discuss two issues with your staff at the August 16 exit meeting.

The first issue involves the storage of radioactive waste in the University's parking garage located beneath Ross Hall. Although the radioactive waste is stored within an area enclosed by an 8 foot high fence and is on University property, the waste is highly visible and the parking garage is accessible to the general public through use of the Ross Hall elevators. The inspector discussed with your staff several options for improving the security of these licensed radioactive materials and your staff suggested the extension of the fence to the ceiling of the parking garage. Ms. Bain-Dowell stated that she would get a contract to complete this work on an expedited schedule. It is our understanding from a telephone discussion, on September 26, 1996, between Mr. Terry Johnson of your staff and Mr. Dwyer, that work to extend the fence, surrounding the radioactive waste storage area, will be completed by October 31, 1996.

The inspector's second issue involves the reduction in workforce which occurred recently in your Nuclear Medicine and Radiation Oncology Departments. The inspector recognized that while no violations or problems were identified during the inspection in either of these two Departments, the reduction had been in place for only a short time, a time when activities in these Departments are traditionally slow. The inspector informed the Department Managers that NRC would continue to monitor the performance of all radiological safety functions within your facility to assess if this reduction in personnel has any impact on future program performance and compliance with all applicable NRC requirements.

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In accordance with Section 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter will be placed in the Public Document Room. No reply to this letter is required.

Your cooperation with us is appreciated.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Mohamed M. Shanbaky, Ph.D., Chief
Nuclear Materials Safety Branch 1
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

Docket Nos: 030-09049
030-19445
070-01795
License Nos: 08-00216-22
08-00216-23
SNM-1499

cc:
Astra Bain-Dowell, Acting Director, Office of Research
Terry Johnson, Radiation Safety Officer
District of Columbia

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J. Williams, M.D., Ed.D.
George Washington University

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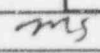
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