



New England Medical Center

December 2, 1996

Reply to a Notice of Violation

EA 96-398

Inspection No. 030-01868/96-002

License No. 20-03857-06

US Nuclear Regulatory Commission

ATTN: Document Control Desk

Washington D.C. 20555

Gentlemen:

Following is our response to the above referenced notice of violation. The violations involved the failure to measure a 400 mR/hr radiation level on the bottom of a radioactive shipment being transported by taxi between authorized hospitals in Boston plus the resultant failure to comply with shipping regulations due to the excessive dose rate. Although measurements around the sides and top of the container both upon receipt and reshipment were in agreement with the recorded measurements of the original supplier, no bottom measurement was made due to the weight and configuration of the package. Actions taken to prevent recurrence include providing extensive training in procedures for surveying packages to all staff who receive or ship such packages, plus the creation of a revised survey form for packages of radioactive material that specifically requires a radiation measurement entry for all six surfaces of the package. These actions were taken immediately after the incident was discovered and full compliance has been achieved since the September 24 date of the inspection.

Please don't hesitate to contact F.X. Massé at 617-253-9217 if you have any questions.

Yours truly,

F.X. Massé

F.X. Massé, CHP, CMP
RSO and Chairman RSC

Mary Schneider

Mary Schneider
Administrative
Director, Radiology

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c: Regional Administrator, Region I

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Tufts University School of Medicine



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