



Calumet Testing Services, Inc.

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June 28, 1985

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
 Region III
 799 Roosevelt Road
 Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

Attention: Gary L. Shear

We had a radiation exposure to the left hand of an employee on the night of June 14th, 1985.

The location was Northern Indiana Public Service Company, Bailly Station in Burns Harbor, Indiana. CTS was radiographing boiler tubes in a fossil boiler. Two crews were working at the same time in the same vicinity and the radiation areas overlapped. , Assistant Radiographer, cranked in a sixty-one curie Iridium-192 source which stopped approximately three inches short of the camera. As he crawled in to disconnect the cable, he noticed a low mr reading on the survey meter, as the camera shielded most of the radiation. Thinking this was from the other crew, he left the survey meter short as the area was very congested, and crawled in to make the cable disconnection. When he pulled the connection off, he saw the source pill, dropped the cable and quickly retreated. After cranking in the source, they notified John Korienek, our Radiation Safety Officer, and both crews left the site and returned to the shop.

The two crews consisted of a Radiographer and three Assistant Radiographers. The Radiographer was working in the other crew. Realizing the exposure to his hand was over 18.75 R, I contacted Health Physics Associates on Saturday morning, June 15th about 8:30. Bill Rivkin returned my call and I described the incident. He contacted Dr. Frank Hendrickson, Radiotherapist at Presbyterian St. Lukes Hospital. Dr. Hendrickson felt he would not have any symptoms, but would advise having a complete CDC. He also said that if the hand was burned, treat it as an ordinary thermal burn. We also set-up an appointment for Health Physics to come in Monday, June 17th to establish dosimetry.

We called at home, finally reached him at 11:07 A.M. Saturday, and instructed him to go to an Emergency Room at a hospital to get a complete CDC and photograph of his hand. We checked with him for symptoms as nausea, itching or reddening of the hand. He had none. We had already sent the film badge in for immediate processing.

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later informed us that Silver Cross Hospital told him his blood count was normal and he was OK. They did not take pictures. Landauer later informed us that the film badge registered 1660 mr. A copy of this report is included in this report.

At 10:40 A.M. Saturday, I reported the incident to the NRC in Washington.

Jerry Wicks of Health Physics came in Monday to establish dosimetry. A copy of his report is included. The report is based on estimation of time and does not take the cable shielding in account. Jerry later advised me that the exposure would be 80 R/second unshielded and 62 R/second, shielded.

On June 20, under advisement of Health Physics, we sent a sample of blood and a control sample to Dr. Neil Wald for a Chromosomal Abberation Test. I later notified Dr. Wald to send a copy of the report directly to you.

During our meeting of June 21st, I was advised to send to a doctor knowledgeable in radiation. A representative of the Indiana State Board of Health said he would notify me of such a doctor in Northern Indiana. On June 25th, A.M., I called Indianapolis to get this information. That afternoon, I got a call back but the information was not helpful. I called our company doctor, Dr. Nicosia and found out that he was off sick. I called Dr. Michael Allegretti of the Hammond Clinic for direction. He advised me that my best choice would be Dr. H. M. Mishoulam, an Internist specializing in tumors. The doctor was unavailable, so I called again the following morning. He advised me to send to Emergency and they would conduct some testing. We sent with a copy of "Clinical Course of Dosimetry of Acute Hand Injuries to Industrial Radiographers from Multicurie Sealed Gamma Sources". It seems this trip was a waste of time.

After speaking to you by phone on June 26th, I called St. Joseph Hospital in Joliet and arranged to have see Dr. Robert Morrow, Radiologist, at 9:00 A.M. the 27th. Dr. Morrow said there was no significant problem and no clinical symptoms as diarrhea, vomiting, reddening, blistering, etc. After the blood testing was completed, he advised me that all the blood work was normal; red count, white count, platelets, etc. I will send a copy of his written report when received.

I felt that estimation of three seconds to pull the quick disconnect was very liberal so we set the source at the approximate height it was during the incident and had him crawl to it and disconnect as closely as possible to that night. Over five times, his hand was over the area of the pill location for not more than a second. I estimated the exposure to his hand as 50 to 65 R.

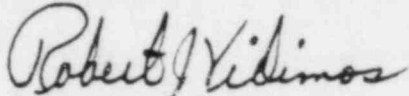
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To date, still does not experience any reddening or blistering of the hand.
I am enclosing photos of his hand taken today to supplement the ones taken
last Friday, which are in your possession.

I will continue to keep you informed.

CALUMET TESTING SERVICES, INC.



Robert J. Vidimos
President

RJV/rp

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