

December 20, 1996

Mr. Thomas H. Prickett
President
Suburban General Hospital
100 South Jackson Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15202-3499

Dear Mr. Prickett:

On December 10, 1996 Mr. Ihor Czerwinskyj, of this office, conducted an inspection of activities conducted under your NRC License No. 37-15350-01. During the inspection the inspector was informed by your Chief Nuclear Medicine Technologist that you obtain radioactive iodine-131 for thyroid ablation therapy from Keystone Pharmacy in Meadville, PA, and that Keystone Radiopharmacy picks up radioactive waste, consisting of paper covering from the patient's room, paper and plastic eating utensils, and other potentially contaminated waste.

A review of Keystone's license indicated that they are not authorized to receive radioactive waste from their customers. On December 17, 1996 Mr. Czerwinskyj telephoned Ms. Dee Enochs of your staff, and informed her that further examination of the Keystone Radiopharmacy NRC license indicated that the radiopharmacy is not authorized to receive waste from other facilities. Ms. Dee Enochs stated that the hospital will no longer transfer radioactive waste to the Keystone Radiopharmacy. This practice by Keystone Radiopharmacy will be examined by the NRC. Your waste handling and disposal program will also be examined during a future inspection of your licensed activities.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By:

Mohamed M. Shanbaky, Ph.D.

Mohamed M. Shanbaky, Ph.D, Chief
Nuclear Materials Safety Branch I

Docket No. 030-08957
License No. 37-15350-01

cc:
Judith M. Joyce, M.D., RSO
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

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Thomas H. Prickett
Suburban General Hospital

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bcc:

John Kinneman, Chief, Br. 2

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OFFICE	DNMS/RI	N	DNMS/RI		DNMS/RI			
NAME	Czerwinsky, D. C.		Shanbaky		Kinneman			
DATE	12/19/96		12/ /96		12/ /96		12/ /96	

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