

JOHN B. PIERCE FOUNDATION LABORATORY
290 CONGRESS AVENUE
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT 06519

AFFILIATED WITH
YALE UNIVERSITY

John D. Kenneman,
Chief Nuclear Materials Safety Section A,
Division of Radiation Safety and Safeguards,
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission,
Region 1,
631 Park Ave,
King of Prussia, Pa 19406.

6-27-85

Dear Sir,

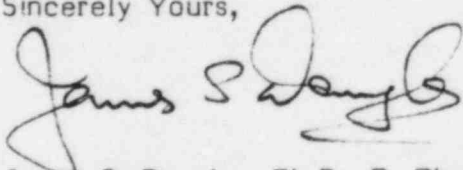
We are in receipt of your NRC Region 1 Inspection Report No. 030-14580/85-01 concerning our activities authorized by NRC License No. 06-02354-02.

We acknowledge that the Victoreen 470 survey meter had not been calibrated since September 28, 1981 and that our letter of August 16, 1983 regarding laboratory practices indicated that this meter would be calibrated every 6 months. However, since 1981 the types of isotope used in the laboratory have significantly changed. We have not used labelled phosphorus, sulphur or other labelled compounds which can be detected by the Victoreen 470 since 1981. As was noted by Mr. McFadden, we have surveyed the laboratory using appropriate techniques for the isotopes currently in use i.e. carbon 14, tritium and iodine 125. A calibrated Victoreen 470 cannot detect these isotopes and its use would be inappropriate in the monitoring of spills.

Nevertheless, we have made arrangements to have the meter recalibrated by the health physics division at Yale University but we will await your confirmation that further recalibrations will not be necessary unless we use isotopes which can be detected by the meter and which are specified in our license.

We would like to stress that this violation has in no manner compromised the safety within the laboratory. We will continue to monitor the uses and disposal of the isotopes within the laboratory using the most appropriate and sensitive techniques available to us.

Sincerely Yours,



James S. Douglas, Ph.D., B. Pharm.,
Associate Fellow.

8508150254 850801
REG1 LIC30
06-02354-02 PDR