

January 27, 1997

Janet G. Pichette
Vice President for Business
and Administration
The Ohio State University
108 Bricker Hall
190 North Oval Mall
Columbus, OH 43212-1168

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORTS NO. 030-02640/96003(DNMS)
AND NO. 030-31605/96001(DNMS)

Dear Ms. Pichette:

This refers to the inspection conducted on June 24-28 and July 10-12, 1996, and the follow-up inspection to review corrective actions on December 3-5, 1996, at the Ohio State University Columbus, Ohio campus. The followup inspection included a review of actions taken in response to a Confirmatory Action Letter (CAL) issued on August 22, 1996 and a review of the status of CAL commitments addressed in your letter dated October 4, 1996. The purpose of the inspections was to determine whether activities authorized by the subject licenses were conducted safely and in accordance with NRC requirements. At the conclusion of the inspections, the findings were discussed with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report.

Areas examined during the inspections are identified in the report, and included a review of a reported incident involving the loss of four sealed sources and a reported skin contamination event. Within these areas, the inspections consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, independent measurements, and observation of activities in progress.

Based on the results of these inspections, thirteen apparent violations were identified. The findings include five apparent violations, including a repetitive violation, related to radioactive material inventory/accountability and waste storage. Apparent violations were also identified for failure to properly secure radioactive material, adhere to radiation safety procedures and Department of Transportation requirements and failure to evaluate discharges to the sanitary sewer system to prevent release of insoluble radioactive material.

Regarding your actions in response to the issues addressed in the CAL, we have determined that all commitments have been met with two exceptions. The exceptions pertain to waste disposal and staff training. Specifically, the university did not meet its commitment to: (1) characterize, package and dispose of stored radwaste by December 1996; and (2) provide training to all staff transporting moisture/density gauges by October 30, 1996. Although additional actions were taken by your staff subsequent to

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the December 1996 inspection to address these two exceptions, these issues remain outstanding to date. Consequently, the CAL will remain open until action on these items is complete. We request that you notify this office in writing when all outstanding waste issues have been completed and training has been provided to applicable staff.

We are continuing our review of the apparent violations. Accordingly, a Notice of Violation is not presently being issued for these inspection findings. In addition, please be advised that the number and characterization of apparent violations described in the enclosed inspection report may change as a result of further NRC review. You will be advised by separate correspondence of the results of our deliberations on this matter. No response to the apparent violations is required at this time.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR).

Sincerely,

Original Signed by R. J. Caniano for

Cynthia D. Pederson, Director
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

License No. 34-00293-02
License No. 34-00293-14
Docket No. 030-02640
Docket No. 030-31605

Enclosure: Inspection Reports No. 030-02640/96003(DNMS);
and No. 030-31605/96001(DNMS)

cc w/encl: Cecil Smith, Dr. P.H.
Robert Peterson

bcc w/encl: Public IE07
B. Clayton
R. Paul

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