

JAN 29 1997

F. William Billingsley, Director
Office of Environmental
Management & Safety
Smithsonian Institution
490 L'Enfant Plaza, Suite 4202
Washington, D.C. 20560

SUBJECT: INSPECTION NO. 030-30945/97-001

Dear Mr. Billingsley:

On December 9 and 10, 1996, and January 13 and 14, 1997, Richard Gibson, Jr. of this office conducted a safety inspection at the Conservation Analytical Laboratory, the Laboratory of Molecular Systematics, and the Smithsonian Storage Facility, Building #15, Suitland, Maryland; at the National Air and Space Museum, the National Museum of American History, and the Molecular Genetics Laboratory, National Zoological Park, Washington, D.C.; at the Center for Research and Conservation, Front Royal, Virginia and the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, Edgewater, Maryland of activities authorized by the NRC license listed below. The inspection was an examination of your licensed activities as they relate to radiation safety and to compliance with the Commission's regulations and the license conditions. The inspection consisted of observations by the inspector, interviews with personnel, and a selective examination of representative records. In addition, the inspection examined the activities covered in your correspondence dated April 9 and December 13, 1996. The findings of the inspection were discussed with members of your staff at the conclusion of the inspection. This also refers to a telephone conversation on January 16, 1996 between Ms. Rachel L. Gregory and Mr. Gibson.

Within the scope of this inspection, no violations were identified.

In accordance with Section 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," Part 2, Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, a copy of this letter will be placed in the Public Document Room. No reply to this letter is required.

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F. W. Billingsley
Smithsonian Institution

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Your cooperation with us is appreciated.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

John D. Kinneman, Chief
Nuclear Material Safety Branch 2
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

Docket No.: 030-30945
License No.: 08-05938-13

cc:
David M. Peters, Radiation Safety Officer
District of Columbia
State of Maryland
Commonwealth of Virginia

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