

From: Sami Sherbini, NMSS  
To: CXH CHANEY, NMSS  
Date: 4/3/96 8:05am  
Subject: Loose ends

*documented in fax  
dated 3-5-96*

Cathy:

Here are some of the pending things:

- 1- The sentence to be inserted in the AMS letter is:

*the lockheed*  
The basis of our position for permitting you to discharge Tank 880 on (date) was that your analysis of both the top and bottom filters for the water in tank, ~~provided to us by you on March 6, 1996~~, showed no activity distinguishable from background. - These results indicated the absence of insoluble Co-60 in the water, which may therefore be discharged in compliance with the requirements in 10 CFR 20.2003.

2. I called Region III about TAR IMNS5290, and they said it was OK if it was delayed a week to 10 days. It should go to OGC, and maybe Joe can make any small changes that may be necessary. If there are major changes, then I will do when I get back on April 12.

3. IMNS5295 is due on 4/15, and we will not be able to get it out on time. An extension to 4/30 would be fine. The reason is that we did not have time to get to it (other higher priority items).

4. The Commission has approved issue of the GL supplement, so we should issue it as soon as possible (Parker is still calling every day asking when it will be issued). The correct version is in G:GL9509.SS.

Thanks.

*reversal of MOA*

*Lockheed and  
And the your analyses of the top & bottom water samples  
provided by fax Mexdela to which dated 3-4-96*

*He did*

*HG/24*

Date: April 12, 1996

Call made April 12, 1996 to Tom Lenhart (NEORS) ((216) 881-6600) at 3:30 pm our local time was unsuccessful; Mr Lenhart was not in the office today. I told the secretary that I would call back on Tuesday, April 16, 1996.

Call made April 16, 1996 to Tom Lenhart (NEORS) ((216) 881-6600) at 11:20 am our local time. Mr. Lenhart was not available at the moment, and I was transferred to Mr. Larry English. I informed Mr. English that there has been no change in the petition status since the last call to Mr. Lenhart in February, 1996. Mr. English indicated that he was familiar with the topic and would relay the information to Mr. Lenhart.

Date: April 26, 1996

Charles Thomas called me and requested that I contact NEORS and inform them of the extension of the due date for the first petition (EDO 0008663) to December 1996, so that the petitioner would not get the information first from the Bulletin Board, but from the petition manager periodic update. I indicated that I did not remember if I told the petitioner of the extension in the contact made on April 16, 1996; in any case it was not documented that I did inform the petitioner.

At 11: 20 am our local time, I called Mr. Tom Lenhart and left a message on his voice mail that I was the petition manager, and that I was calling to inform him that the due date for the Director's Decision had been extended to December 26, 1996, that our counsel was still working on it as a Commission Option paper, and that I was informing him of that so they would have the information now and not find the information first on the NRC Petition Bulletin Board.

HA/25

December 16, 1994

City of Cleveland  
Department of Public Health  
ATTN: Ms. Judith J. Zimomra  
Director  
1925 St. Clair Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

Dear Ms. Zimomra:

This responds to the November 22, 1994 letter from your department concerning the findings documented in our inspection report issued November 7, 1994, regarding Advanced Medical Systems, Inc. (AMS). Specifically, you questioned whether the violations discussed in our report represent any public health threat to the citizens of the City of Cleveland now or in the past.

The violations identified in that report concern the process for sanitary sewer discharges of liquid effluents containing radioactive material by AMS and its predecessor, Picker Corporation (Picker). The AMS license required that the waste water be filtered during transfer from the holdup tanks to the sampling and release tank prior to sampling and discharge. The NRC inspection determined, however, that AMS employees did not routinely filter the waste water between November 1979 and April 1986.

In addition, AMS and Picker were both required to assess effluents and assure that discharges to the sanitary sewers were below concentration and cumulative discharge limits. On one or more occasions, Picker during the 1960s and 1970s, and AMS during the 1980s, did not assess the levels of licensed material in discharges to the sanitary sewers resulting from facility floods and certain decontamination activities. Although the precise volume and concentration of radioactive material in those unmonitored releases is not known, it is unlikely that the cumulative quantity of cobalt-60 released to the sewer system during the unmonitored discharges exceeded a few hundred millicuries.

As explained in Section 4.D(2) of the November 7, 1994 inspection report, the basis for that conclusion included consideration of the relatively low levels of contamination that could have been released through flood and decontamination activities and the limited measurements that were made during one flooding event. Based on this assessment, those past releases would then likely be below the applicable NRC release limit.

These violations do not represent any past or present public health threat to the citizens of Cleveland. The violations at the time they occurred could have involved the discharge of radioactive cobalt-60 in waste water to the sanitary sewers beyond what was recorded in the licensees discharge records. However, it is not likely those discharges exceeded NRC release limits.

*KH26*  
*MM*

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City of Cleveland

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As you are aware, the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District has raised a number of issues relating to discharges of cobalt-60 from AMS's Cleveland facility. The NRC staff is continuing to evaluate those issues and will keep you informed of our results.

We appreciate your concern and interest in the activities we regulate. If I or my staff can be of any further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me or John Grobe at (708) 829-9806.

Sincerely,

Original signed by  
John A. Grobe

W. L. Axelson, Director  
Division of Radiation Safety  
and Safeguards

cc: R. Staib, Commissioner  
D. Downing, Executive Assistant  
W. M. Ondrey Gruber, Law  
M. Konicek, Director  
J. Ciaccia, Commissioner  
L. Mehringer, Law  
T. Lenhart, NEORSD  
D. Cesar, AMS

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