

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Twin Cities Campus

Environmental Health and Safety

*Office of Vice President for
Finance and Operations*

*410 Church Street S.E.
Minneapolis, MN 55455
612-626-6002*

November 1, 1996

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region III Office
801 Warrenville Rd.
Lisle, Illinois 60532-4351
Attn.: Regional Administrator

Dear Regional Administrator:

In response to the October 4, 1996 letter from Cynthia D. Pederson, Director, Division of Nuclear Materials, concerning the recent Region III NRC inspection of the University Rosemount Research Center and the University Hormel Research Institute, I am submitting the following reply to the item of violation noted in the enclosed Notice of Violation.

Reply to Notice of Violation

1. The reason for this violation was the failure on the part of two individuals at the Hormel Research Institute to conduct a GM survey after each use of P-32 in their laboratory. During our follow-up investigation the individuals indicated that they routinely surveyed themselves and their P-32 use area, but had not done the survey after every use.

2. Steps taken to correct this violation included a follow-up investigation with all staff at Hormel Institute who handle P-32 to inform them of the violation and of the NRC license requirements for a GM survey of themselves and the use area following each use of P-32. In addition, a refresher training session on radiation safety procedures to be followed when using P-32 was presented to each user. A signed copy of this training is on file with the Radiation Protection Division.

3. To avoid further violations, the Radiation Protection Division is preparing a Radiation Safety Update for all P-32 users at the University, which will advise users of the NRC Notice of Violation and of the University NRC License requirement for GM survey of themselves and their use area upon completion of each P-32 use. This Update will be reviewed by the All- University Radiation Protection Advisory Committee at the November 1996 Meeting of the committee. The update will be sent to all P-32 users following this meeting.

4. The date by which full compliance was achieved at Hormel Institute was October 23, 1996. The Update to all P-32 users will be sent by the end of November 1996

If you have any question concerning the above response to the enclosed Notice of Violation or if you require additional information, please call me at 612/626-6764.

Sincerely,

Jerome W. Staiger

Jerome W. Staiger
Radiation Protection Officer

cc: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Com., ATTN: Document Control Desk, Washington, D.C. 20555
Paul Tschida, Asst. Vice-President, Campus Health & Safety
Richard Lively, Chairperson, All-University Radiation Protection Advisory Committee
Fred Philips, Hormel Research Institute

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