

November 15, 1996

Docket No. 030-01295  
EA No. 96-454

License No. 06-13022-02

Mr. Paul F. Davern  
Associate Vice President  
University of Connecticut Health Center  
Route 4  
Farmington, Connecticut 06030

SUBJECT: INSPECTION NO. 030-01295/96-001

Dear Mr. Davern:

This refers to the inspection conducted on October 21 to October 25, 1996 at Farmington and Norwich, Connecticut. The purpose of the inspection was to determine whether activities authorized by the license were conducted safely and in accordance with NRC requirements. At the conclusion of the inspection, the findings were discussed with those members of your staff identified in the enclosed report.

Areas examined during the inspection are identified in the report. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observation of activities in progress.

Based on the results of this inspection, one apparent violation with two examples was identified and is being considered for escalated enforcement action in accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedure for NRC Enforcement Actions" (Enforcement Policy), NUREG 1600. The apparent violation relates to two instances of failure to secure licensed radioactive material from unauthorized removal. Accordingly, no Notice of Violation is 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.

A predecisional enforcement conference to discuss this apparent violation has been scheduled for 1:00 p.m. on November 25, 1996. The decision to hold a predecisional enforcement conference does not mean that the NRC has determined that a violation has occurred or that enforcement action will be taken. This conference is being held to obtain information to enable the NRC to make an enforcement decision, such as a common understanding of the facts, root causes, missed opportunities to identify the apparent violation sooner, corrective actions, significance of the issues and the need for lasting and effective corrective action. In particular, we expect you to address

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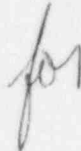
your activities to increase the security of licensed radioactive materials. In addition, this is an opportunity for you to point out any errors in our inspection report and for you to provide any information concerning your perspectives on 1) the severity of the violation, 2) the application of the factors that the NRC considers when it determines the amount of a civil penalty that may be assessed in accordance with Section VI.B.2 of the Enforcement Policy, and 3) any other application of the Enforcement Policy to this case, including the exercise of discretion in accordance with Section VII.

You will be advised by separate correspondence of the results of our deliberations on this matter. No response regarding these 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 enclosures will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by:  
James H. Joyner



Charles W. Hehl, Director  
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

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Enclosures:

1. Inspection Report No. 030-01295/96-001
2. NUREG 1600 (Enforcement Policy)

cc w/enclosures:  
Kenneth Price, Radiation Safety Officer  
State of Connecticut

P. Davern  
University of Connecticut  
Health Center

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