

April 2, 1997

Mark W. Cox
Finance Director
University of Minnesota
309 Transportation and Safety Building
511 Washington Avenue S.E.
Minneapolis, MN 55455

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Dear Mr. Cox:

This refers to the inspection conducted on March 11 and 12, 1997 at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities Campus. This also refers to the review of Quarterly Radiation Protection Division Reports received on March 18, 1997. 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 you and other members of your staff.

The inspection was an examination of activities conducted under your license as they relate to radiation safety and to compliance with the Commission's rules and regulations and with the conditions of your license. Within these areas, the inspection 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 this inspection, the NRC has determined that a violation of NRC requirements occurred. The violation is cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice). A written response is required.

In addition to the violation, the inspector expressed concern regarding the fact that some researchers routinely did not include surveys of floors and shoes at the completion of work with licensed material. It is our conclusion that these surveys may significantly reduce the potential for the inadvertent release of licensed material from your facility. Please review your survey practices to determine if actions should be implemented to ensure all individuals working with licensed material routinely include floor and shoe surveys in their current survey procedures prior to leaving the laboratory.

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M. Cox

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In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, the enclosure, and your response to this letter will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR). To the extent possible, your response should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be placed in the PDR without redaction.

Sincerely,

Original signed by
Gary L. Shear for

Roy J. Caniano, Acting Director
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

License No. 22-00187-46
Docket No. 030-00842

Enclosure: Notice of Violation

cc w/encl: Jerome Staiger, RSO

bcc w/encl: PUBLIC
H. Clayton, EICS

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