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August 3, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: John G. Davis, Director
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

FROM: Richard E. Cunningham, Director
Division of Fuel Cycle and Material Safety

SUBJECT: MEDICAL GENERAL LICENSE

Work is underway on the medical general license with a team headed by Bill Walker. Although the exact form of the general license may change somewhat as the issues are studied, present thinking is that the scheme would consist of:

1. Rules and guides specifying all the health and safety, equipment and training requirements the licensee must meet for various categories of medical uses.
2. A registration form with a check list which confirms that the licensee will meet the various standards and guides. Deviations from the standards and guides will be identified on the registration form and receive specific approval.
3. NRC validation of the registration form prior to licensee operation.
4. Visits to new licensees prior to validation of the registration form in order to assure the program is in place. We average about 60 new medical licensees per year. These visits would be carried out mainly by the NMSS regional licensing sections. Such visits would be considered unnecessary for the bulk of the current medical licensees since the established operations would already have been evaluated in detail under their specific licenses prior to the change over.

Although we do not yet have a detailed schedule, Bill estimates that it will take about eight months to have the proposed rule prepared for Commission approval. Most of the time is needed to write the detailed regulations and guides.

I plan to discuss this project at the August 31, 1981 Medical Advisory Committee Meeting and seek general comments both from the Committee and medical organizations represented at the meeting. It should also be discussed at the next Agreement State meeting which usually takes place in October.

bcc: Mr. Millery
Dr. Walker

Original Signed by
Richard E. Cunningham

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DATE	8/3/81			Material Safety