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OPERATIONS GROUP
Washington, DC 20260

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September 26, 1979

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Directorate of Licensing - Materials Branch
Washington, DC 20545

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAIL SECTION

Dear Sir:

This is in regard to an application for Sealed Source Device User's License.

The U.S. Postal Service (USPS) has undertaken the usage of portable nuclear roof moisture meters to measure moisture in buildings under lease or owned by the Postal Service.

For license convenience the Postal Service has used Radium sourced devices up to the present; however, it is apparent that to obtain the advantages of newer technology it is going to be necessary to include use of Americium sourced devices.

Accordingly, the Postal Service is herewith submitting application for a "Master License" to cover Postal Service activities throughout the United States. The USPS will administer the license from the Norman, Oklahoma Maintenance Technical Support Center with the Central Radiation Safety Officer resident there. Sub-administration will be through Assistant Radiation Safety Officers in our five regional offices.

NRC Form (AEC) 313 is attached.

The following paragraphs will correspond to the paragraphs in the AEC-313 Form:

- 1-3 Self-explanatory on the form.
- 4 Individual users are field maintenance personnel trained in the use of the devices by our Regional Safety Officers using a training format established by the Postal Service for use of the Radium devices. The training courses are essentially patterned after those of the manufacturers of portable nuclear devices including courses of the Campbell Pacific Nuclear Corporation, Seaman Nuclear Corporation and Troxler Laboratories. Records of each individual will

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be maintained at the Central Office level with copies at the Regional level, with certification of completion of training and assignment of film badges. Individuals will be added or deleted as required by the Postal Service and records maintained for inspection by authorized inspectors.

5-7 Self-explanatory.

8-9 The Radiation Safety Officer has had extensive training at the various manufacturers' formal training schools, including both classroom and field use. He has also had extensive training in field operation of the devices while using the prior Radium source devices not under Federal license for a period of two years.

10-11 The Postal Service will maintain a Survey Meter at the Central office for general training and routine area monitoring. The Service is not measuring radiation in a manner to require extreme accuracy beyond the normal check source accuracy as provided by the Survey Meter manufacturer.

12 The Postal Service presently requires film badge service of R. S. Landauer, Jr. and Company.

Each operator is provided with a badge. Records will be available at the Central office for inspection as well as each Regional office.

13 Equipment will be stored at various field sites under lock and key with key access limited to the assigned operators or the safety officers. Storage will be at least 10 feet from routine working areas. There is no special cleanup or disposal required with these sealed source, portable devices.

14 In addition to statements in this application, the Radiation Safety Program is in accordance with the attached general recommended program from CPN Corporation under their TD-11A. A copy of this program will be maintained in all device cases for reference and will be posted at all storage areas. Note that leak testing will be performed annually on all devices, such testing to be performed within the first working week of each year. Records will be maintained for inspection at the Regional Offices. Purchase records of the devices will also be similarly maintained.

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- 15 There is no source or waste material disposal involved. Unwanted devices will be transferred to licensed recipients.

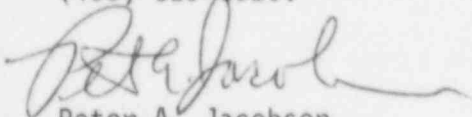
The use of these devices represents a major breakthrough in the cost reduction of maintenance of Postal Service buildings, reducing our costs of operation. The costs of energy consumption are also markedly reduced by use of these devices. New technology is making the older Radium source devices obsolete.

It is essential, due to the seasonal nature of our maintenance programs, that we undertake these measurements. It is, therefore, essential that the Postal Service be able to obtain the more modern, lower cost, and more efficient devices with their added Radiation safety as soon as possible.

Accordingly, the utmost in expediting is requested in the issuance of this license.

Please note that the Postal Service presently owns a number of the older Radium devices. It is unknown at this time the total extent of ownership of the devices in the future. Accordingly, the Postal Service has not placed a definite number upon the quantity of devices to be obtained under provisions of paragraphs 6 and 7 of AEC-313, but has written this in a manner to leave an open ended quantity for most efficient utilization of the Postal Service's resources.

If there are any questions, please contact the present Radiation Safety Officer, Melvin A. Coffey, on FTS 743-8259, or Commercial (405) 329-8920.



Peter A. Jacobson
Director
Office of Maintenance Management

Attachment