

PCMLD:JD
030-01266
(97444)

St. Joseph Hospital
ATTN: Sister Daniel Marie
Administrator
128 Strawberry Hill Avenue
Stamford, CT 06904

Madam Administrator and Gentlemen:

This is in reference to your letter of October 1, 1979, submitted in support of your request to renew Byproduct Material License No. 06-06922-02. Your letter was in response to our letter of August 21, 1979 (copy enclosed), requesting additional information. Several points in your letter will need to be clarified or modified before we can issue your renewal:

1. Please confirm that you will include a barium-133 standard in the sources that you will use to perform the accuracy test on the dose calibrator. Your response in Item No. 3 is not clear concerning this point. The problem may be typographical in nature.
2. NRC regulations as well as the terms and conditions of your NRC license should be included in the training program for radiation workers that you specify in Item No. 9 of your letter. Please confirm.

As indicated in our previous letter, this training should be administered both initially and annually thereafter. Please confirm.

3. Your letter did not contain a personnel training program for ancillary hospital employees. Instead, you indicated that your radioisotope preparation/storage area is the only "restricted area" and that it is locked during off-duty hours. You have not considered the rooms of radioisotope therapy patients and the hospital personnel who may have occasion to enter these rooms. You have also failed to take into account your package receipt instructions to security personnel, which require that these individuals enter the restricted area during off-duty hours. As stated in our previous letter, ancillary hospital personnel (clerical, nursing, housekeeping, security, etc., who may have occasion to enter areas where radioisotopes are used or stored, whether escorted or not (i.e., during working as well as off-duty hours), need to be informed about radiation hazards and appropriate precautions.

Outline and submit your program to assure that ancillary personnel receive the necessary instruction. Confirm that this instruction will be given both initially and annually thereafter on a refresher basis.

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4. The nursing instructions for radioisotope therapy patients that you submitted in your letter indicate that nurses will wear monitoring badges if the treatment involves more than 50 millicuries. For those cases involving less than 50 millicuries, please submit a complete and detailed description of your method for assuring compliance with 10 CFR 20.202 and 20.401(c)(2)(ii).

5. Your letter states that you are "presently" issuing film dosimeters to nurses caring for brachytherapy patients. If you intend to change your personnel monitoring method in the near future, please describe an equivalent alternative method that you will use. Otherwise, confirm that you will continue to issue film dosimeters to nurses caring for brachytherapy patients.

6. Items 17.a., 17.c., and 17.d. of your letter indicated that additional information would be forthcoming. To date, we have not received this information. Refer to Item 17 of our NRC letter dated August 21, 1979.

When you submit your facility diagram which shows the measured airflow rating of each air exhaust vent and each air supply vent in areas where xenon-133 will be used or stored, it should include the measured airflow rating of the transfer grill between Room 410 and Room 411. Given the circumstances described in your application, it seems highly unlikely to me that the measured airflow rating of this transfer grill can approach 355 CFM. As stated previously, some modification of your present system may be necessary in order to provide for negative pressure containment in Room 411.

If the measured airflow ratings differ from the specifications that you previously submitted, or if you make modifications to your present system; you will need to submit revised calculations for xenon concentrations in restricted and unrestricted areas based upon the new airflow ratings.

We will continue our review of your application upon receipt of this information. Please reply in duplicate and refer to Control No. 97444.

Sincerely,

Joseph DelMedico
Material Licensing Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle and
Material Safety

Enclosures:

1. Copy of NRC ltr dtd
August 21, 1979
2. 10 CFR 20

CRESS
12/14/79
DelMed 2/b

FCMLB *JD*
JDelMedico:en
12/17/79

WJ
FCMLB
WJWalker
12/18/79