

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
LOS ALAMOS SCIENTIFIC LABORATORY  
(CONTRACT W-7405-ENG-36)  
P.O. BOX 1663  
LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO 87545

IN REPLY

REFER TO: H-5R-78-204 (A302)  
MAIL STOP: 986

August 2, 1978

Mr. Ross Kusian  
Safety and Supply Company  
5510 E. Marginal Way South  
Seattle, Washington 98134

Dear Mr. Kusian:

I hope this letter explains the supplied-air hood approval system to you, since the long stream of telephone conversations with your employees apparently did not.

Both the Department of Energy (DOE) and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) recognize only National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) approved respiratory protective devices. The only exception to that is for devices for which a NIOSH test and certification procedure do not exist. In that case both DOE and NRC have set up an acceptance procedure.

The acceptance procedure always starts at the user level, either DOE contractors or NRC licensees. They send a formal request for acceptance through the agency's field and area offices to the agency headquarters. If headquarters decides it is a reasonable request, they direct our laboratory to perform tests. Our test results and recommendations are reviewed by a committee of respirator experts. Our test results and recommendations, and the committee's recommendations are submitted to the agency's headquarters, where the final decision on acceptance is made. Under the current system, DOE and NRC acceptance is never given to a device, but to a specific contractor, to use a specific device, with a specific operating procedure.

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However, the hood developed by L. Musen is not eligible for acceptance since it is NIOSH approvable. It is classified as a Type C, loose-fitting, supplied-air respirator.

I recommend that you pursue NIOSH approval for the hood. I do not believe that either DOE or NRC are prepared to accept any device which could be, but has not been, NIOSH approved. And the NIOSH approval offers a much wider field of use for the hood, since it is not worksite specific.

Sincerely yours,

*Tom Davis*

Thomas O. Davis  
Acting Section Leader  
Respirator Research and  
Development Section  
Industrial Hygiene Group

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CY: Dan Lillian, DOE, Washington, DC  
Jerry Caplin, NRC, Washington, DC ~~-----~~

(1306A)

Letter to: Accession Unit  
Room 050  
Phillips Building

SEP 27 1978

From: JERROLD L. CAPLIN  
OHSB, SD

Please place the attached document in the PDR using the following file and file points:

PDR File  
(Select one and enter number)

Additional Info  
(Enter if appropriate)

Proposed Rule (PR) \_\_\_\_\_  
Reg. Guide \_\_\_\_\_  
Petition (PRM) \_\_\_\_\_  
Effective Rule (RM) \_\_\_\_\_  
ANSI \_\_\_\_\_  
IAEA \_\_\_\_\_

ACRS Minutes No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Relates to Proposed Rule (PR) \_\_\_\_\_  
Relates to Reg. Guide 8.15 \_\_\_\_\_  
Relates to Petition (PRM) \_\_\_\_\_  
Relates to Effective Rule (RM) 8.20.103 \_\_\_\_\_  
Federal Register Notice \_\_\_\_\_  
SD Task No. \_\_\_\_\_  
NUREG Report \_\_\_\_\_  
Contract No. \_\_\_\_\_

Subject:

Acceptable Programs for  
Respiratory Protection

cc:  
Central Files