

May 2, 1997

Mr. Robert Hallisey  
Radiation Control Program  
305 South Street  
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

Dear Mr. Hallisey:

The following information is being provided to you for your action, and is in reference to an incident involving failed Amersham source end stops. Preliminary information regarding this issue was provided to you at the March 6, 1997, meeting between NRC and Massachusetts staff. At the time of the meeting, the NRC was waiting for information regarding an NRC Region IV inspection of the source end stop user, Globe X-Ray Services, Inc.

We have received the copy of the NRC Region IV inspection report. Based on the information currently available, in the inspection report and in the file, it is not possible to determine the cause of failure for the source end stops, or to determine whether the manufacturing and quality control processes ensure that the source end stops meet minimum wall thickness specifications as registered. As per our telephone discussion on April 1, 1997, since the manufacturer is located in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, we are transferring this matter to you for analysis and resolution of the issues involved, including the failure of this particular end stop, the generic implications of the failures, and the issue regarding the wall thicknesses. Attached is the file containing all currently available information regarding this issue. We request that you forward a copy of the analysis and resolution to the NRC upon completion of the investigation.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 415-5868, or Steven Baggett at (301) 415-7273

Sincerely,

Original Signed by

Michele L. Burgess, Mechanical Engineer  
Sealed Source Safety Section  
Medical, Academic, and Commercial  
Use Safety Branch  
Division of Industrial and  
Medical Nuclear Safety  
Office of Nuclear Material Safety  
and Safeguards

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