



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

May 2, 1997

Note To: F. Combs
L. Camper
J. Piccone
K. Ramsey

From: M. Burgess *MYB 4/30/97*

RE: Generic implications of Amersham source end stop failures

The following information is provided to the Generic Assessment Panel in response to your request for analysis of the letter dated January 6, 1997, from the Globe X-Ray Services, Inc. to the NRC, regarding Amersham source end stop.

Based on the information currently available, 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. Since the manufacturer is located in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, we recommend that this issue be transferred to Massachusetts for analysis and resolution, including the failure of this particular end stop, the generic implications of the failures, and the issue regarding the wall thicknesses. The attached letter transfers the matter and the background materials to Massachusetts, and requests that Massachusetts forward to the NRC a copy of the analysis and resolution.

This should close out ticket# IMNS5674.

copy to S. Baggett



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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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michele L. Burgess".

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

Enclosures: As stated