

DL-012197_01

FAX

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TO: Mr. Earl G. Wright
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FROM: Gregory Wandless
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CC:

REMARKS: Urgent For your review Reply ASAP Please Comment

Earl,

Attached is a FAX of our response to your request for further information regarding License No. 45-15923-01 to enable you to continue the process. The original copy will arrive via postal mail shortly.

If you have any questions please call me.

Cheers,

Greg



United States Department of the Interior

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
Reston, VA 22092



Memorandum

Date: January 21, 1997
To: Earl G. Wright, NRC
From: Gregory Wandless, Radiation Safety Officer *GW*
Subject: January 8, 1997 FAX

This is in response to our phone conversation of January 7, 1997 and your FAX requesting further information regarding my letter of September 10, 1996 requesting changes to License No. 45-15923-01.

Item 1.

Since I anticipate no use of materials covered under this license, upon naming of Dr. Naeser as Radiation Safety Officer I should be removed as an authorized user.

Item 2.

Concerning whether Dr. Landa should remain as an authorized user of Technetium 99. Since the 5 uCi source he has in his possession is an exempt quantity as was purchased as such and since he does not use any other licensed material he may be removed from the license as an authorized user.

Item 3.

The places currently listed on the license should remain. Until the pending license application for the South Carolina facility is approved they will continue to operate under this license.

Item 4.

Zinc 65 should not appear on this license.

Item 5.

(a) The ^{241}Am source is contained in a small, heavy wall, glass vial with a screw top cap. It is in liquid form, probably a chloride salt, with a volume of approximately 10 ml. The bottle cap has been taped to prevent it from opening, the entire bottle has been wrapped in several layers of Kleenwipes and placed in a 500-ml Nalgene poly bottle with a screw top. The poly bottle has been labeled and the top sealed with security tape. This should prevent any accidental release of the material.

(b) No significant detectable removable contamination was found based on wipes of the bottle's outer surface. The radiation levels are 20 mR/hr on contact and 0.5 mR/hr at 1 foot.

(c) The manufacture's label is still intact and clearly indicates that the isotope was purchased from ICN Chemicals and the vial contains 1mCi of ^{241}Am . Since this isotope was most likely purchased in the late 1960's or early 1970's no other information is available.

(d) Since the original amount of ^{241}Am was 1 mCi and some 20 to 30 years has past since its labeling of 1 mCi, sufficient decay has occurred to place the amount of ^{241}Am below the 1 mCi limit for the requirement of a decommissioning funding plan. I believe this confirms the conversation you had with Mr. Terpilak on 1-18-97 and with me today.

(e) Reviewing the ^{241}Am sources in possession I believe that what I had originally thought were "custom sealed sources" are not. These sources were used by the Radiochemistry project to perform energy calibrations of gamma-ray detectors. They were prepared by placing a small drop of the ^{241}Am solution into a small poly-vial and allowing it to dry. The vial was then heat sealed and placed into a 2/5-dram vial and then into 2-dram vial for use. Five such sources were prepared and each contains approximately 10 uCi of ^{241}Am . We therefore, have no sources that would be classified as "custom sealed sources".

I believe this provides you with the necessary information to complete the requested amendment to License No. 45-15923-01. However, should further clarification be needed please feel free to contact me.

cc: Jim Devine, MS 106
Charles Naeser, MS 926A
Curt Larsen, MS 953
Wayne Martin, MS 953