

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION I

ENFORCEMENT CONFERENCE SUMMARY

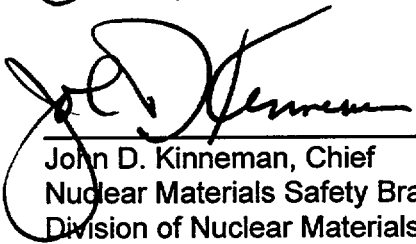
Report No. 999-90001/99-008
Docket No. 999-90001
License No. General License in 10 CFR 31.5
Licensee: Southeastern Plastics Corporation
15 Home News Row
New Brunswick, N.J. 08901
Facility Name: Southeastern Plastics Corporation
Conference Date and Time: December 15, 1999 at 1:00 p.m.
Conference Location: NRC Region I, King of Prussia, Pennsylvania

Inspector:


Sattar Lodhi, Ph.D.
Health Physicist

12.28.99
date

Approved By:


John D. Kinneman, Chief
Nuclear Materials Safety Branch 2
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

12.28.99
date

CONFERENCE SUMMARY

Southeastern Plastics Corporation
NRC Enforcement Conference Report No. 999-90001/99-008

The Deputy Director of the Division of Nuclear Materials Safety, Mr. Francis Costello opened and explained the format for the conference. He stated that the meeting was not a legal hearing and the purpose of the meeting was to provide the licensee with an opportunity to explain the events that lead to the apparent violations.

Mr. John Kinneman emphasized NRC's concern for any loss of licensed material because of the hazards associated with such material. He stated that the NRC was particularly interested in knowing the actions taken by the licensee to recover the missing gauge and discussed why it is in the interest of the licensee to make every effort to locate the missing gauge.

The inspector, Sattar Lodhi, briefly reviewed his findings as described in the inspection report, including the four apparent violations, and requested that the licensee provide any corrections or point out any finding that the licensee disagreed with.

Mr. Buckland did not dispute the findings described or the contents of the report. He provided details of the steps he has taken to recover the missing gauge. He stated that he is new at the plant and did not know the history of acquisition and installation of these gauges. He was unable to explain how or when the Ohmart gauge was transferred to the warehouse in Washington, New Jersey. He stated that one of the NDC gauges was removed and stored in the plant by an employee a few years ago. A second gauge (the still missing NDC gauge) was removed from installed location by a contractor a few months ago, and he himself removed the third gauge after being informed of the presence of the gauges by the NRC. He stated that the Ohmart gauge and the two NDC gauges have been returned to their respective manufacturers for disposal and provided copies of the documentation of the return of these gauges.

He stated that notices in English and Spanish are posted at several locations in the plant informing workers of the missing gauge and instructing them to contact the plant manager if they find it. The notices include a picture of the gauge and a warning that improper handling of the gauge may cause personal injury to workers. He has also requested that the scrap metal yard the have used look for the missing gauge. He stated that the plant is large area and that equipment is stored all over the plant. He agreed to continue the search in his plant and also agreed to search the warehouse in Washington Township for the missing gauge.

The Enforcement Specialist, Joseph Nick, explained the NRC's enforcement policy.

Mr. Costello thanked Mr. Buckland for attending the meeting and for providing useful information.

The meeting was adjourned.

LIST OF PERSONS ATTENDING

Licensee

Carl Buckland, Plant Manager
Southeastern Plastics Corporation

NRC

Francis Costello, Deputy Director
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety
John D. Kinneman, Chief
Nuclear Materials Safety Branch 2
Sattar Lodhi, Health Physicist
Daniel Holody, ORA, Region I
J. Bradley Fewell, Regional Counsel, Region I
Joseph Nick, Enforcement Specialist
Michael La Franzo, OE/NRC Headquarters (via phone)
Brian Smith, NMSS/NRC Headquarters (via phone)