

March 1, 2000

MEMORANDUM TO: License File No.42-00787-04  
General Dynamics Corporation  
Fort Worth Division  
Fort Worth, Texas

THRU: Bruce L. Jorgensen, Chief, Decommissioning Branch  
/s/ B. L. Jorgensen

FROM: Edward L. Kulzer, Radiation Specialist  
/s/ E. L. Kulzer

SUBJECT: CLOSE OUT OF THE LICENSE FILE

The terminated License File No. 42-00787-04 was forwarded to Region III for followup as part of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory Terminated Sites Review because it lacked information as to the location of the following sealed sources: six cobalt-60 sources with a total activity of 638 curies and nine cesium-137 sources with a total activity of 530 curies. The license was issued to General Dynamics on September 2, 1966, and expired on September 30, 1968. All the sources were used for the checking and calibration of instruments at Camp McCoy, Wisconsin.

General Dynamics in Fort Worth, Texas, has been purchased by Lockheed Martin. Region III contacted Mr. Brian Robbins, Radiation Safety Officer at Lockheed Martin who contacted former General Dynamics employees and checked historic files for information. In a letter to NRC dated October 6, 1999, (Attachment 1) Mr. Robbins states that the sources were the property of the U.S. Army Nuclear Defense Laboratory (NDL) and were under primary control via NDL License No. 19-1826-07 (D-65). NDL was under contract with the U.S. Army Edgewood Arsenal. NDL retained ownership responsibility for the sources.

NDL at Camp McCoy Wisconsin was closed by the Army in approximately 1968. All files and materials from this operation were transferred to the Ballistics Research Laboratory (BRL) at Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland. The name has been changed to Aberdeen Research Laboratory (ARL). The ARL has since broken up into the Aberdeen Test Center (ATC) and Test Measurement Diagnostic Equipment (TMDE). Mr. K. Ford, Radiation Safety Officer at Aberdeen Proving Grounds was contacted in November 1999 and he conducted a records search. Mr. Ford, who has since retired, was unable to locate any records on the former license. Both the ATC and the TMDE were also contacted and they had no additional information.

Mr. Ford's replacement, Matthew Wihlerle, has looked for the sources and was able to locate former employees who used the licensed material. Mr. Wihlerle contacted former employee, Mr. Murray Schmoke, who indicated he used these sources at the Westwood area of the Aberdeen Proving Ground in Edgewood. Mr. Schmoke stated that the project he was working on closed down and the cesium-137 sources and some cobalt-60 sources were sent to Barnwell, South Carolina in the early 1970's.

In a letter dated February 18, 2000 (Attachment 2), Mr. Still of Chem-Nuclear Systems, LLC. stated that Barnwell received a shipment of two containers from BRL that were disposed of on May 13, 1974. One of these containers held cesium-137 sources totaling 444.328 curies and the second held cobalt-60 totaling 501.687 curies. This shipment accounts for almost all of the sealed sources which were used under the old General Dynamics license. The remaining sources were reportedly transferred to the BRL or ARL license which superceded the DNL 19-1826-07 license.

Based on the above information Region III considers License File No. 42-00787-04 closed. No further action will be taken for 42-00787-04.

Attachments: As stated (2)

cc w/atts: J. Buckley, NMSS  
W. Snell, RIII

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