

DEPT. OF ENERGY

701515

Division Head (Health Phys.)

May 7th, 1947

Eric Jetts

Room 7K247 E

Wright Langham

Room #102 Peoria, Ill, Conv.

Scheduling of Persons Classified as High Exposure to Plutonium.

During the past month the health ward has not been scheduled to capacity. This provides an opportunity for more frequent scheduling of your personnel classed as highly exposed to plutonium.

Mr. Frank Pittman has suggested that we adopt the policy of scheduling these persons every thirty days instead of six weeks. I feel this is an excellent suggestion. I do not feel, however, that it is necessary to schedule the moderate and lightly exposed groups any more often than is being done at the present time.

The program of plutonium urine assays is carried on entirely for your benefit and convenience. I wish to extend to you an opportunity to express your opinion as to the way the assays are being done and the way the new hospital ward is being operated. Any constructive criticisms you may care to offer will be greatly appreciated.

I would like to call your attention to the fact that frequent tests are being run on 24-hour urine samples to which small amounts of plutonium have been added. The results of these tests are being included in the reports of urine assays coming from this office. Our average recovery seems to be of the order of 70-80%. Occasionally recoveries may drop as low as 50%. Considering the extreme difficulty of this analysis, the statistical errors involved, the frequent change in personnel occurring in my laboratory and the extremely poor arrangement of my present set-up, I feel these results are quite satisfactory.

LANL

Wright Langham

WL/arc
cc/Pitman
Tribby
Magness
Armstrong, Meyer, Files

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