



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION III
2443 WARRENVILLE ROAD, SUITE 210
LISLE, ILLINOIS 60532-4352
January 15, 2014

Mr. Gary Williams, Director
National Health Physics Program (115 HP/NLR)
Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
2200 Fort Roots Drive
North Little Rock, AR 72114

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 03034325/2013005 (DNMS) —
VA MEDICAL CENTER, LEBANON, PENNSYLVANIA

Dear Mr. Williams:

On December 18, 2013, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) conducted a routine inspection at the VA Medical Center, Lebanon, Pennsylvania. The inspection was limited to a review of activities authorized under Permit Number 37-00595-01. The inspector conducted an exit meeting with the management and staff at the facility at the completion of the inspection.

The inspection was an examination of activities conducted under the Permit as they relate to radiation safety and to compliance with the Commission's rules and regulations. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, independent measurements, and observation of activities in progress. Within the scope of the inspection no violations of NRC requirements were identified; therefore, no response to this letter or the enclosed NRC Form 591M is required.

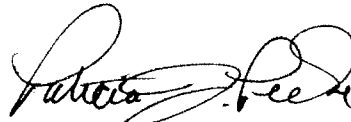
In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC's website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

G. Williams

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Should you have any questions concerning this inspection or the enclosed report, please contact Kevin Null of my staff at (630) 829-9854.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patricia J. Pelke". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Patricia" being more prominent than the last name "Pelke".

Patricia J. Pelke, Chief
Materials Licensing Branch
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

Docket No.: 03034325
License No.: 03-23853-01VA
Permit No.: 37-00595-01

Enclosure:
Inspection Report 03034325/2013005(DNMS)



SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT AND COMPLIANCE INSPECTION

1. LICENSEE/LOCATION INSPECTED:

Department of Veterans Affairs
Under Secretary for Health, Washington, D.C.
Location: VA Medical Center
Lebanon, Pennsylvania 17042

REPORT NUMBER(S) 2013005

2. NRC/REGIONAL OFFICE

Region III
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
2443 Warrenville Road, Suite 210
Lisle, IL 60532-4352

3. DOCKET NUMBER(S)

030-34325

4. LICENSE NUMBER(S)

03-23853-01VA

5. DATE(S) OF INSPECTION

December 18, 2013

LICENSEE:

The inspection was an examination of the activities conducted under your license as they relate to radiation safety and to compliance with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) rules and regulations and the conditions of your license. The inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observations by the inspector. The inspection findings are as follows:

- ☒ 1. Based on the inspection findings, no violations were identified.
- ☐ 2. Previous violation(s) closed.
- ☐ 3. The violation(s), specifically described to you by the inspector as non-cited violations, are not being cited because they were self-identified, non-repetitive, and corrective action was or is being taken, and the remaining criteria in the NRC Enforcement Policy, to exercise discretion, were satisfied.

Non-cited violation(s) were discussed involving the following requirement(s):

- ☐ 4. During this inspection, certain of your activities, as described below and/or attached, were in violation of NRC requirements and are being cited in accordance with NRC Enforcement Policy. This form is a NOTICE OF VIOLATION, which may be subject to posting in accordance with 10 CFR 19.11.
(Violations and Corrective Actions)

Statement of Corrective Actions

I hereby state that, within 30 days, the actions described by me to the Inspector will be taken to correct the violations identified. This statement of corrective actions is made in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 2.201 (corrective steps already taken, corrective steps which will be taken, date when full compliance will be achieved). I understand that no further written response to NRC will be required, unless specifically requested.

TITLE	PRINTED NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
LICENSEE'S REPRESENTATIVE	<i>fur</i>		
NRC INSPECTOR	Thomas K. Thompson	<i>Thomas K. Thompson</i>	1/13/14
BRANCH CHIEF	Patricia J. Pelke	<i>Patricia J. Pelke</i>	1/15/2014

Docket File Information
SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT AND COMPLIANCE INSPECTION

1. LICENSEE/LOCATION INSPECTED: Department of Veterans Affairs Under Secretary for Health, Washington, D.C. Location: VA Medical Center Lebanon, Pennsylvania 17042 REPORT NUMBER(S) 2013005		2. NRC/REGIONAL OFFICE Region III U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission 2443 Warrenville Road, Suite 210 Lisle, IL 60532-4352	
3. DOCKET NUMBER(S) 030-34325	4. LICENSE NUMBER(S) 03-23853-01VA	5. DATE(S) OF INSPECTION December 18, 2013	
6. INSPECTION PROCEDURES USED 87131 and 87129	7. INSPECTION FOCUS AREAS 02.01-02.08		

SUPPLEMENTAL INSPECTION INFORMATION

1. PROGRAM CODE(S) 02120	2. PRIORITY 3	3. LICENSEE CONTACT Gary Williams	4. TELEPHONE NUMBER (501) 257-1572
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☐ Main Office Inspection Next Inspection Date: N/A

☒ Field Office Inspection VA Medical Center, Lebanon, Pennsylvania

☐ Temporary Job Site Inspection

PROGRAM SCOPE

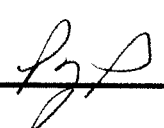
The permittee uses technetium-99m unit doses with a patient load of approximately five patients per day. They also use iodine-123 in 200 microcurie doses 1-2 times per month for uptake studies. Additionally, the permittee has a mobile PET unit brought into their location one day per week. This service is provided by Alliance Imaging, Inc., under NRC license number 47-25570-01. The permittee uses the services of a consultant (Keystone Physics Limited) to conduct quarterly visits which include audits, training, performance of linearity checks of the dose calibrator and annual accuracy tests. Instruments were calibrated as required. Independent surveys of technicians hands and selected areas of the facility were performed with an NRC Ludlum 14C. No significant contamination or excessive dose rates were noted.

Performance Observations

The permittee has been providing additional training to loading dock workers since the July, 27, 2011, National Health Physics Program (NHPP) inspection when it was identified that a 10 millicurie cobalt-57 flood source arrived at the facility and was not received by the nuclear medicine department in a timely fashion. This was categorized by the NHPP as a violation against 10 CFR 20.1802, but the NHPP treated it as a non-cited violation because it was identified by the permittee, was non-repetitive, and appropriate and adequate corrective actions had been taken and/or planned. The additional training was last given on March 8, 2012; however, the permittee does provide other annual training and is planning another specific training for the loading dock workers. Additionally, the circumstances surrounding the non-cited violation were directly related to the nuclear medicine department not being fully staffed and functional at that time, and the package containing the flood source was not expected to have been shipped. Since the nuclear medicine program is now fully staffed, they have not experienced any such similar problems.

The permittee was authorized for 35.300 material but had not administered any material requiring a written directive since the last inspection. Through interviews of nuclear medicine staff and a review of records of the administration of permitted material, the inspector determined that staff was knowledgeable of permittee requirements and procedures pertaining to written directives.

No violations were identified.



G. Williams

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Should you have any questions concerning this inspection or the enclosed report, please contact Kevin Null of my staff at (630) 829-9854.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Patricia J. Pelke, Chief
Materials Licensing Branch
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

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License No.: 03-23853-01VA
Permit No.: 37-00595-01

Enclosure:
Inspection Report 03034325/2013005(DNMS)

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DATE	01/14/14		01/15/14					

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