



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

REGION III  
2443 WARRENVILLE RD. SUITE 210  
LISLE, IL 60532-4352

April 15, 2016

Mr. Craig Adams, 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 03034325/2016003(DNMS) – VA MEDICAL  
CENTER, HAMPTON, VIRGINIA

Dear Mr. Adams:

On March 23, 2016, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) conducted a routine inspection at the VA Medical Center, Hampton, Virginia. The inspection was limited to a review of activities authorized under Permit Number 45-07569-01. 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>.

C. Adams

-2-

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

Sincerely,



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

Docket No. 030-34325  
License No. 03-23853-01VA  
Permit No. 45-07569-01

Enclosure:  
IR 03034325/2016003(DNMS)

C. Adams

-2-

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

Docket No. 030-34325  
License No. 03-23853-01VA  
Permit No. 45-07569-01

Enclosure:  
IR 03034325/2016003(DNMS)

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| NAME   | Seely:rj              |   | KNull                 |  | PJPelke    |  |  |
| DATE   | 04/05/2016 via e-mail |   | 04/05/2016 via e-mail |  | 04/15/2016 |  |  |

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## 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, Hampton, Virginia

REPORT NUMBER(S) 2016003

## 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

March 23, 2016

## 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 |                   |           |           |
| NRC INSPECTOR             | Shawn W. Seeley   |           | 4/15/2016 |
| BRANCH CHIEF              | Patricia J. Pelke |           | 4/15/2016 |

**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, Hampton, Virginia

REPORT NUMBER(S) 2016003

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

March 23, 2016

6. INSPECTION PROCEDURES USED

87131

7. INSPECTION FOCUS AREAS

02.01 - 02.09

**SUPPLEMENTAL INSPECTION INFORMATION**

1. PROGRAM CODE(S)

02120

2. PRIORITY

3

3. LICENSEE CONTACT

Craig Adams, NHPP

4. TELEPHONE NUMBER

(501) 257-1573

☐ Main Office Inspection

Next Inspection Date: N/A

☒ Field Office Inspection Hampton, VA

☐ Temporary Job Site Inspection

**PROGRAM SCOPE**

This was a routine unannounced inspection of a VA permittee licensed for 35.100 and 35.200 material, Iodine-131 under 35.300, and 31.11 prepackaged kits (storage only pending disposal). The Nuclear Medicine (NM) Department is staffed with two certified nuclear medicine technologists (NMT) and consists of a hot lab, one treadmill, and two cameras. The Radiation Safety Officer (RSO) is a contractor from a health physics consulting firm, who visited quarterly and conducted services that included, but was not limited to: radiation safety training, DOT/Hazmat training, instrument calibration, sealed source inventory and leak tests, camera QC, surveys, ALARA reviews, and audits. A Radiation Safety Committee, which meets quarterly, provided additional oversight for the program.

NM operates between 7:00 am and 4:00 pm Monday through Friday, with no evening or weekend hours, and conducted mostly cardiac studies. On average, 12-15 studies were performed daily using unit doses provided by Cardinal Health. All doses were assayed in the dose calibrator prior to administration. PET services were provided by a mobile contractor two days per month.

The inspector observed the NMT perform a variety of tasks including: disposing of waste, demonstrating the package receipt procedure, and end of the day surveys. The NMT demonstrated a good understanding of radiation safety principles as well as security practices. Radiation surveys were taken during these activities. All readings were in compliance with regulatory requirements and consistent with licensee postings. The inspector discussed the importance of end of the day surveys. Specifically, the significance of surveying sharps containers and trash receptacles as housekeeping and Stericycle staff enter the nuclear medicine area to remove the trash daily, and that no contaminated material should be removed from the area by non-occupational workers. The following records were reviewed: annual program reviews, audits, dosimetry, radiation safety committee minutes, leak tests and inventory, and instrument calibrations. No concerns were identified.

Within the scope of the inspection, no violations were noted.