



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION IV
1600 EAST LAMAR BOULEVARD
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-4511

January 17, 2020

James B. Paces, PhD
Chair, Radiation Safety Committee
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
Denver Federal Center
Building 810, ENT E-11, MS-205
Denver, CO 80225

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 030-03728/2019-001

Dear Dr. Paces:

This letter refers to the announced inspection conducted on November 21, 2019, at your Denver Federal Center in Denver, Colorado. The inspection was an examination of activities conducted under your license as they relate to public health and safety, to confirm compliance with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) rules, regulations, and with the conditions of your license. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of a selected examination of procedures and representative records, observations of activities, and interviews with personnel. The preliminary inspection findings were discussed with you at the conclusion of the onsite portion of the inspection on November 21, 2019. A final exit briefing was conducted with the radiation safety officer, Mr. Jeffrey Cruz, telephonically on December 20, 2019.

During the previous inspection on January 24, 2018, through March 28, 2018, the NRC identified two Severity Level IV violations involving the failures to: 1) Limit the use/storage of licensed material to the locations authorized on the license, and 2) Perform physical inventories of sealed sources possessed under the license every 6 months. The inspector reviewed your corrective actions to assure that the use and storage of licensed material will be limited to the authorized locations on your license and found them acceptable; therefore, this violation is considered closed. The violation related to the failure to perform sealed source inventories every 6 months remains open and will be evaluated during a future inspection. Based on the results of this inspection, no new violations were identified and no response is required to this letter. The enclosed report presents the results of the NRC's inspection.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Agency Rules of Practice and Procedure," a copy of this letter, its enclosure, and your response, if you choose to provide one, will be made 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 Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

Should you have any questions regarding this letter or the enclosed inspection report, please contact Linda Gersey at 817-200-1922, or the undersigned at 817-200-1455.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Patricia A. Silva', written in a cursive style.

Patricia A. Silva, Chief
Materials Inspection Branch
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

Docket: 030-03728
License: 05-01399-08

Enclosure:
NRC Inspection Report 030-03728/2019-001

cc:

Jeffrey Cruz
Radiation Safety Officer
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
P.O. Box 25046, MS 206
Denver, CO 80225

(4-2008)
10 CFR 2.201

SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT AND COMPLIANCE INSPECTION

1. LICENSEE/LOCATION INSPECTED:
U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
One Denver Federal Center
Denver, CO 80225

2. NRC/REGIONAL OFFICE

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Region IV, 1600 East Lamar Blvd
Arlington, Texas 76011-4511

REPORT NO.: 2019-001

3. DOCKET NUMBER

030-03728

4. LICENSE NUMBER

05-01399-08

5. DATE OF INSPECTION

November 21, 2019

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 closed. (Failure to limit the use/storage of licensed material to the locations authorized on the license)
- ☐ 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) was/were discussed involving the following requirement(s) and Corrective Action(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. This form is a NOTICE OF VIOLATION, which may be subject to posting in accordance with 10 CFR 19.11.

Licensee's Statement of Corrective Actions for Item 4, above.

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.

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|---------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|----------|
| LICENSEE'S REPRESENTATIVE | | | |
| NRC INSPECTOR | Linda M. Gersey | <i>Linda M. Gersey</i> | 12/20/19 |
| BRANCH CHIEF | Patricia A. Silva | <i>Patricia A. Silva</i> | 1/17/20 |

NRC FORM 591M PART 1

☐ Non-Public ☐ Sensitive – Security-Related

☒ Public

☒ Non-Sensitive

Enclosure