

SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT AND COMPLIANCE INSPECTION

1. LICENSEE/LOCATION INSPECTED:
Robert Peccia & Associates, Inc.
3147 Saddle Drive
Helena, Montana

REPORT NO.: 2020-001

2. NRC/REGIONAL OFFICE

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

3. DOCKET NUMBER

030-17419

4. LICENSE NUMBER

25-19316-01

5. DATE(S) OF INSPECTION

February 11, 2020

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) 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.

- A. 10 CFR 20.1902(e) requires that the licensee shall post each area or room in which there is used or stored an amount of licensed material exceeding 10 times the quantity of such material specified in appendix C to Part 20 with a conspicuous sign bearing the radiation symbol and the words "CAUTION, RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL(S)."

Contrary to the above, on February 11, 2020, the licensee failed to have areas posted with the above stated signage in which licensed material exceeding 10 times the quantity of such material specified in appendix C to Part 20 were stored. Specifically, five portable nuclear gauges each containing 9 millicuries of cesium-137 and 44 millicuries of americium-241 were stored in a room that was not posted with a sign bearing the radiation symbol and the words "CAUTION, RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL(S)."

This is a Severity Level IV violation (NRC Enforcement Policy Section 6.3.d)

The licensee committed to correcting this violation by posting the required signage on the door to the gauge storage room.

CONTINUED ON PART 2

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.

Title	Printed Name	Signature	Date
LICENSEE'S REPRESENTATIVE	Lance Bowser, RSO	<i>Lance D. Bowser</i>	02/20/2020
NRC INSPECTOR	Allyce B. Bolger	<i>Allyce Bolger</i>	2/18/2020
BRANCH CHIEF	Patricia A. Silva	<i>Patricia A. Silva</i>	2/27/2020

☐ Non-Public ☐ Sensitive - Security-Related

☒ Public

☒ Non-Sensitive

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CONTINUED FROM PART 1

- B. License Condition 17 of NRC Materials License 25-19316-01, Amendment No.10, dated January 8, 2018, requires that each portable gauge shall have a lock or outer locked container to prevent unauthorized or accidental removal of the sealed source from its shielded position. The gauge or its container must be locked when in transport or storage, or when not under the direct surveillance of an authorized user.

Contrary to the above, on February 11, 2020, the licensee failed to lock each portable gauge or its container while in storage and not under the direct surveillance of an authorized user. Specifically, two portable gauges (Troxler 3430 serial no. 37530 and Troxler 3440 serial no. 36285) were observed in the licensee's storage area without a lock on either the gauge or the gauges' case.

This is a Severity Level IV violation (NRC Enforcement Policy Section 6.3.d)

The licensee immediately corrected the violation by locking both gauges. To prevent reoccurrence, the licensee intends to email all authorized users providing additional instruction regarding the safety requirement to lock the gauge or gauge case.