



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
REGION III  
2443 WARRENVILLE RD. SUITE 210  
LISLE, IL 60532-4352

July 27, 2022

Edwin M. Leidholdt, Ph.D. Director  
National Health Physics Program (115 HP/NLR)  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
Veterans Health Administration  
2200 Fort Roots Drive  
Building 101  
North Little Rock, AR 72114

**SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 03034325/2022006(DNMS) – VA MEDICAL  
CENTER, BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI**

Dear Dr. Leidholdt:

On June 2, 2022, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) conducted a routine inspection at the VA Medical Center, Biloxi, Mississippi. The inspection was limited to a review of activities authorized under Permit Number 23-12255-02. 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 (CFR) 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 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 concerning this inspection or the enclosed report, please contact Bryan Parker of my staff at 678-828-7050.

Sincerely,

**Michael M.  
LaFranzo**

Digitally signed by  
Michael M. LaFranzo  
Date: 2022.07.27  
13:40:59 -05'00'

Michael LaFranzo, Acting Chief  
Materials Licensing Branch  
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

Docket No. 030-34325  
License No. 03-23853-01VA  
Permit No. 23-12255-02

Enclosure:  
IR 03034325/2022006

## SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT AND COMPLIANCE INSPECTION

1. LICENSEE/LOCATION INSPECTED:

VA Gulf Coast Veterans Health Care System  
400 Veterans Avenue  
Biloxi, Mississippi 39531-2410

REPORT NUMBER(S) 2022006

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

July 2, 2022

## 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	Luis Nieves	Luis A. Nieves Folch <small>Digitally signed by Luis A. Nieves Folch Date: 2022.06.10 09:48:04 -05'00'</small>	
BRANCH CHIEF	Michael LaFranzo	Michael M. LaFranzo <small>Digitally signed by Michael M. LaFranzo Date: 2022.07.27 13:42:14 -05'00'</small>	

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5. DATE(S) OF INSPECTION

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(Continued)

*Docket File Information***SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT AND COMPLIANCE INSPECTION**

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3. DOCKET NUMBER(S)  030-34325	4. LICENSE NUMBER(S)  03-23853-01VA	5. DATE(S) OF INSPECTION  July 2, 2022
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6. INSPECTION PROCEDURES USED	7. INSPECTION FOCUS AREAS
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**SUPPLEMENTAL INSPECTION INFORMATION**

1. PROGRAM CODE(S)	2. PRIORITY	3. LICENSEE CONTACT	4. TELEPHONE NUMBER
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<input type="checkbox"/> Main Office Inspection	Next Inspection Date: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Field Office Inspection _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Temporary Job Site Inspection _____	

**PROGRAM SCOPE**

*Docket File Information*

**SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT AND COMPLIANCE INSPECTION**

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☐ Field Office Inspection \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Temporary Job Site Inspection \_\_\_\_\_

**PROGRAM SCOPE**

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- ☐ Temporary Job Site Inspection \_\_\_\_\_

**PROGRAM SCOPE**



## Materials Inspection Record

1. Licensee Name: VA Gulf Coast Veterans Health Care System		2. Docket Number(s): 030-34325		3. License Number(s)	
4. Report Number(s): 2022006			5. Date(s) of Inspection: July 2, 2022		
6. Inspector(s): Luis Nieves		7. Program Code(s): 02120		8. Priority: 3	9. Inspection Guidance Used: 02120
10. Licensee Contact Name(s): Carol Campbell, RSO		11. Licensee E-mail Address: oma.campbell@va.gov		12. Licensee Telephone Number(s): 228-523-4729	
13. Inspection Type: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Routine <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Routine <input type="checkbox"/> Initial <input type="checkbox"/> Unannounced		14. Locations Inspected: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Main Office <input type="checkbox"/> Field Office <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary Job Site <input type="checkbox"/> Remote		15. Next Inspection Date (MM/DD/YYYY): <input type="checkbox"/> Normal <input type="checkbox"/> Extended <input type="checkbox"/> Reduced <input type="checkbox"/> No change	

## 16. Scope and Observations:

This was an announced, routine inspection of a Veterans Affairs hospital in Biloxi, Mississippi, authorized to use unsealed byproduct material for diagnostic and therapeutic procedures. At the hospital the licensee was approved for diagnostic and therapeutic procedures. The licensee had one hot lab and was staff with four Nuclear Medical Technicians (NMT) who perform approximately eight patients total per day mainly hear studies. The licensee perform one I-131 administration in 2022. The licensee only receives unit doses from a local pharmacy. The licensee retains a physics consultant to perform calibration and audits quarterly.

## PERFORMANCE OBSERVATIONS

The inspector toured the nuclear medicine hot lab and discussed with an NMT package receipt, surveys, and instrument quality control checks. The licensee demonstrated patient administration procedures, since there were no patients to observed at the time of the inspection. The NMT and RSO demonstrated adequate knowledge of radiation safety principles and practices through interviews. The inspector reviewed quarterly audit reports, instrument quality control, inventory, written directives, dose calibrator linearity and accuracy, and training. The inspector also reviewed monthly dosimetry reports which indicated annual whole-body and extremity doses were below regulatory limits.

No violations of NRC requirements were identified during this inspection.