

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**NRC FINES MATERIALS TESTING LABORATORY \$2,750
FOR DELIBERATE VIOLATIONS OF NRC REQUIREMENTS**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has proposed a \$2,750 fine against Materials Testing Laboratory, Inc. for deliberate violations of NRC requirements.

Materials Testing, based in New Hyde Park, N.Y., holds an NRC license allowing it to use nuclear measuring gauges at temporary job sites in areas where NRC maintains jurisdiction, including Connecticut, Delaware and New Jersey. The company has branch offices in Newington, Conn., Dover, Del., and Edison, N.J.

NRC has determined that a former company vice president deliberately allowed at least one field technician to use a nuclear gauge without being properly certified and without wearing appropriate dosimetry. It based this finding on an investigation begun last July and on additional information provided by the company.

In reaching its enforcement decision, the NRC evaluated the company's corrective actions, determining they were "prompt and comprehensive." These measures include demotion of the vice president and his removal from any involvement in overseeing the radioactive materials program; reviews of all dosimetry reports; and review of the certifications for all technicians. In a letter to the company forwarding the notice of violation, NRC Region I Administrator Hubert J. Miller said the civil penalty would have been higher had these corrective measures not been taken.

In addition, the NRC has issued a Notice of Violation to the former vice president, John Chmielorz, for deliberately causing the Materials Testing Laboratory to violate NRC requirements. No fine is proposed.

Both the company and the individual have 30 days to contest this enforcement action.

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