



NRC NEWS

Office of Public Affairs, Region III
Naperville, IL. 60563-2657
www.nrc.gov



No: III-25-001

January 16, 2025

Contact: [Viktoria Mitlyng](#), 630-829-9662
[Prema Chandrathil](#), 630-829-9663

NRC Proposes \$9,000 Civil Penalty Against Karmanos Cancer Center

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has [proposed](#) a \$9,000 fine to Karmanos Cancer Center, in Detroit, Michigan, for a violation of NRC requirements associated with the control of NRC regulated material.

The violation involved the hospital's failure to ensure radioactive materials are secured, stored and handled/maintained according to regulations. Specifically, lutetium-177 was left unsecured in an unrestricted area within the hospital. This failure resulted in the material being disposed of in the normal hospital trash and ultimately in a municipal waste landfill. Lutetium is used in medical procedures to treat cancer.

The NRC was notified of the loss by the hospital and conducted an inspection from July to August. Details of the inspections and the proposed violation were documented in a [September report](#).

Karmanos responded to the violation in writing, documenting its corrective actions and actions taken to prevent recurrence of the violation.

The NRC has concluded that the company's information and actions in response to the violation are adequate and compliance with NRC requirements has been addressed.

The company has 30 days to pay the proposed penalty, contest the penalty in writing, or request alternative dispute resolution with the NRC to resolve this issue.