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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**NRC BANS FORMER EXECUTIVE OF NEW JERSEY COMPANY
FROM LICENSED ACTIVITIES FOR THREE YEARS**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued a confirmatory order banning a former executive of a Ewing Township, N.J., company from NRC-licensed activities until July 1, 2001, for deliberately violating agency requirements. The violations occurred while Stanislaw Piorek was Radiation Safety Officer and Vice President of New Technology Development for Metorex Inc.

The order is effective immediately.

The company holds two NRC licenses. One authorizes the company to distribute generally licensed devices containing radioactive material. The other authorizes the possession and use of radioactive material in the form of sealed sources for research and development; the manufacturing, repair and servicing of analyzer devices; and the receipt of devices from customers for disposal.

An NRC investigation was conducted in August 1998 after the company's then-president informed the agency that Metorex had distributed the devices prior to obtaining the authorization to do so. The investigation determined that Piorek deliberately failed to stop shipments of X-ray fluorescence analyzer devices from January through July 1998 even though he knew the company was not authorized by the NRC to distribute them.

Additionally, NRC investigators determined that Piorek deliberately failed to submit required quarterly reports to the agency regarding the transfer of radioactive material for the fourth quarter of 1997 and the first quarter of 1998.

Piorek cooperated with the NRC investigation and has admitted that these violations occurred. In consenting to the issuance of this confirmatory order, he has waived his right to a hearing.

Any other person adversely affected by this order has 20 days to request a hearing.

The NRC also cited, but did not fine, the company for three violations: unauthorized transfer of devices containing radioactive material between October 1997 and July 1998; deliberate failure to submit to the NRC required quarterly reports; and having an individual who was no longer with the company named as Radiation Safety Officer on the company's NRC-issued license.

In a letter to the company forwarding the notice of violation, NRC Region I Administrator stated, "Were it not for your identification (of the violations, which were reported to the NRC by the company) and corrective actions, a civil penalty would have been issued."

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