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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NRC STAFF SUSPENDS VETERINARIAN'S LICENSE

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has issued an order suspending the NRC license held by Dr. Roy Sadovsky, a veterinarian, for failure to comply with numerous agency requirements. The order is effective immediately.

In addition, the NRC has issued a demand for information requiring Dr. Sadovsky to inform the agency within 20 days why his license should not be revoked (or not renewed) and to provide other information.

Dr. Sadovsky holds an NRC license authorizing him to use NRC-licensed materials for implantation in horses for the treatment of leg injuries and diseases at three specific locations in New Jersey, the Meadowlands Race Track in East Rutherford, and Showplace Farm and Gaitway Farm in Millstone Township. He also maintains an office in Floral Park, New York.

The order is based in part on findings from an NRC inspection on August 26 and September 5 at the veterinarian's office in Elmont, New York, and at the Gaitway Farm. Although an NRC investigation is continuing, according to the order, Dr. Sadovsky used NRC-licensed material at a location not listed on the license.

The order also states that Dr. Sadovsky failed to secure licensed materials, failed to transport materials in accordance with NRC regulations, failed to provide radiation monitoring devices for personnel, and failed to limit dose rates in an unrestricted area.

In the order, Hugh L. Thompson, Deputy Executive Director for Nuclear Materials Safety, Safeguards, and Operations Support, said, "...the Licensee's actions raise serious doubt as to whether the Licensee is able or willing to comply with NRC requirements and whether the public health and safety will be protected."

In addition to suspending his NRC license, the order requires that Dr. Sandovsky place all NRC-licensed materials in secured storage and keep all records related to licensed activities in their original form. In addition to its requirement for information as to why his license should not be revoked, the demand for information also requires Dr. Sandovsky to provide a list of all locations where and when licensed material has been used since February 1992, and the identity and estimated exposure for each person who treated or cared for horses under the veterinarian's care.

Dr. Sadovsky has 20 days to respond to the order or to request a hearing. Such a request will not stay the immediate effectiveness of this order.

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