

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
Region III Office of Public Affairs
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NRC TO HOLD PREDECISIONAL ENFORCEMENT CONFERENCE WITH INDIANAPOLIS
DEPARTMENT OF CAPITAL ASSET MANAGEMENT ON APPARENT VIOLATIONS
OF NRC SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will meet May 6 with representatives of Indianapolis Department of Capital Asset Management, Indianapolis, Indiana, for a predecisional enforcement conference on apparent radiation safety violations.

The meeting will start at 1:00 p.m. in the Third Floor Technical Conference Room of the NRC Region III Office, 801 Warrenville Road, Lisle, Illinois. It will be open to public observation.

An NRC inspection in March at the agency discovered a number of apparent violations, including the failure to conduct a physical inventory of its nuclear gauges every six months as required. The last inventory performed was in July 1996.

Portable gauges containing small amounts of radioactive material are used by the agency to measure moisture and density of construction material at temporary job sites.

The NRC inspector also noted that in March an individual who had not been authorized by the Radiation Safety Officer, as required, used one of the agency's nuclear gauges. The individual, however, had completed the manufacturer's training on proper use of the gauge.

Since the inspection, the agency requires written authorization by the Radiation Safety Officer of designated nuclear gauge users.

The decision to hold an enforcement conference does not mean the NRC has determined that a violation has occurred or that enforcement action will be taken. Rather, the purpose is to discuss apparent violations, their causes and safety significance; to provide the licensee an opportunity to point out any errors that may have been made in the NRC inspection report; and to enable the company to outline its proposed corrective actions.

No decisions on apparent violations or any contemplated enforcement action, such as a fine, will be made at this conference. Those decisions will be made by senior NRC officials at a later date.

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