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LICENSING BOARD APPROVES SETTLEMENT BETWEEN NRC STAFF AND
ONCOLOGY SERVICES CORPORATION OF HARRISBURG AND RADIATION
ONCOLOGY CENTER AT MARLTON, NJ

A Nuclear Regulatory Commission Atomic Safety & Licensing Board has approved a settlement requested by the NRC with Oncology Services Corporation and Radiation Oncology Center at Marlton, New Jersey. The NRC staff has agreed to reduce separate civil penalties previously issued to the two facilities to one fine of \$140,000.

The fine against Oncology Services Corporation (OSC) stemmed from a November 1992 misadministration at OSC's Indiana (Pennsylvania) Regional Cancer Center and inspections at two of its facilities. A strong radiation source was left in the body of a woman undergoing cancer treatment at the cancer center. The source went undetected and the patient died five days later. The official autopsy report listed the cause of death as acute radiation exposure and its consequences. A \$280,000 fine was proposed last April 25.

The NRC staff also proposed an \$80,000 fine against Radiation Oncology Center at Marlton (ROCM) last April 24. ROCM and OSC share common ownership. ROCM was cited for a number of violations found during an NRC inspection of ROCM's New Jersey facility.

Oncology Services and ROCM appealed their fines and requested hearings.

Under the approved settlement, OSC and ROCM have agreed to pay a single \$140,000 civil penalty in 12 equal monthly installments. They also have agreed to withdraw their respective requests for hearings.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the State of New Jersey were notified of this settlement agreement.

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