



NRC NEWS

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NRC, MALLINCKRODT TO DISCUSS APPARENT VIOLATIONS AT PA. FACILITY

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will meet with representatives of Mallinckrodt Inc. on Wednesday, August 30, to discuss apparent violations of agency requirements at a Harrisburg, Pa., facility that prepares and distributes radioactive pharmaceutical products to regional hospitals and clinics. The apparent violations stem from radiation exposure to the hand of one worker in excess of the NRC's regulatory limit. The exposure occurred earlier this year.

The predecisional enforcement conference is scheduled to begin at 1 p.m. in the Public Meeting Room at the NRC Region I office in King of Prussia, Pa. It will be open to the public for observation. NRC officials will remain afterwards to answer questions from interested members of the public.

On June 30, Mallinckrodt notified the NRC that a worker at the Harrisburg facility received an exposure of greater than 60 rem to one hand during the period from February to May of this year. (Rem is a measure of radiation.) The NRC dose limit for exposure to an extremity is 50 rem per year.

The decision to hold a predecisional enforcement conference does not mean that the NRC has determined 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 with an opportunity to point out any errors that may have been made in the NRC inspection report; and to enable the licensee to outline its proposed corrective action.

No decision on the apparent violations will be made at this conference. That decision will be made by NRC officials at a later time.

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