



# NRC NEWS

## UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS, REGION II

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Web Site: [www.nrc.gov/OPA](http://www.nrc.gov/OPA)

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### **NRC PROPOSES \$5,500 FINE AGAINST VIRGINIA COMPANY FOR VIOLATIONS OF NRC REQUIREMENTS**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has proposed a \$5,500 civil penalty against Testing Technologies, Inc., of Woodbridge, Virginia, for violations of NRC requirements related to the company's use of radiographic equipment in August of this year.

A special NRC inspection was conducted in response to an event that involved the failure of the company to control access to radiographic operations. Although no member of the public received an exposure in excess of the NRC's annual limit for the public of 100 millirem, one person received an unplanned radiation exposure of about 20-25 millirem. The event occurred in August of this year in Washington, D.C., where company radiographers were working.

The violations include the failure to limit unrestricted dose limits to less than two millirem in any one hour, the failure to post radiation areas with appropriate signs, the failure to perform adequate surveys necessary to demonstrate compliance with the regulations and to evaluate potential radiological hazards and the failure to maintain continuous direct surveillance to protect against unauthorized entry into high radiation areas.

The company admitted the violations and outlined its corrective actions at an October conference with the NRC in Atlanta. Because of the corrective actions, a civil penalty would not normally be issued, but the NRC staff decided the fine was warranted in this case because of the poor performance by the company in conducting evaluations of the potential radiological hazards during the operation which led to the exposure. In addition, the company may be subject to increased NRC inspections.

The company has 30 days from receipt of the Notice of Violation to either pay the fine or protest its imposition.

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