

# Region I NMSS Licensee Event Report

Licensee L. Lawrence + Memorial Hospital  
 Event Description Inadvertent Shipment of  
 Radwaste to E. L. and free

License # 06-09261-01 Docket # 03001275 MLER-RI 2004-057  
 Event Date 9-28-04 Report Date 9-28-04

**1. REPORTING REQUIREMENT**

- |                                     |  |                          |                                |
|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 10 CFR 20.2201 Theft or Loss                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> | 10 CFR 35.33 Misadministration |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 10 CFR 20.2203 30 Day Report                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> | License Condition              |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | 10 CFR 30.50 Report  |                          |                                |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Other: <u>Medical waste from patients Not reportable event</u> |                          |                                |

**2. REGION I RESPONSE**

- |                                     |                               |                                     |                           |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Immediate Site Inspection     | Inspector/Date                      |                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Special Inspection            | Inspector/Date                      |                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Telephone Inquiry             | Inspector/Date                      |                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Preliminary Report            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Daily Report              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Information Entered in RI Log | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Review at next inspection |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Report referred to: _____     |                                     |                           |

**3. REPORT EVALUATION**

- |                                     |                        |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Description of Event   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Corrective Actions                             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Levels of RAM Involved | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Calculations Adequate                          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Cause of Event         | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Additional Information Requested from Licensee |

**4. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR COMMENTS**

Refer to file for review by next inspector.

Public  RW 11/8/04 Non-Public

Completed by:	<u>Richard W. McKinley</u>	Date	<u>11/8/04</u>
Reviewed by:	<u>Amelia Henderson</u>	Date	<u>11/8/04</u>

**From:** Richard McKinley  
**To:** Constance Yusko  
**Date:** 9/29/04 2:05PM  
**Subject:** LER

Connie,  
If anything is missing, let me know.  
Rich

## Telephone Conversation Log

For  
Richard McKinley  
September 29, 2004

<b>Person Called</b>	Gary McCahill Robert Brouillette	<b>License Number</b>	06-09261-01	<b>Phone Number</b>	(860)424-3691 (860)444-5197
<b>Facility</b>	CT DEP Radiation Section Lawrence & Memorial Hospital	<b>Docket Number</b>	03001275	<b>Mail Control Number</b>	

<b>Subject</b>	Inadvertent shipment of radwaste to a landfill
<b>Synopsis</b>	<p>On September 28, 2004, Gary McCahill of the Connecticut DEP Radiation Section notified NRC that a shipment of hospital waste from Lawrence &amp; Memorial Hospital had triggered an alarm at the Preston, CT incinerator. The hospital is located at 365 Montauk Avenue, New London, CT. Mr. McCahill stated that at 10am on September 28, 2004, the Nal alarm at the incinerator indicated that radwaste was contained in the shipment from the above hospital. When Mr. McCahill responded he used an ion chamber to determine that there was a 0.3 mR/hr exposure rate at the driver's side of the truck, and he used a Nal detector to determine that there was a 35 microR exposure rate on the passenger side.</p> <p>He then called Robert Brouillette at the hospital, who responded to the incinerator. They isolated the contaminated bag. Mr. McCahill then resurveyed the bag and found an exposure rate of 1.2 mR/hr on contact. He then used a Nal detector to determine that the contamination was Tc-99m. The activity was not determined. Mr. Brouillette then returned to the hospital with the contaminated bag of waste. He told Mr. McKinley that he believed that the Tc-99m came from the diaper of an inpatient who had been admitted to the hospital on September 27, 2004, and had received a bone scan.. It had been mistakenly placed in the regular hospital waste by a hospital employee. Regular hospital waste is not normally monitored for radioactivity before disposal. Nuclear medicine waste and biohazard waste are monitored. He plans to advise the nursing director to issue a memo to all nursing staff reminding them that patients who have received certain nuclear medicine procedures will contain radioactive material and that potentially contaminated items should be held for nuclear medicine staff to retrieve. This is not an NRC reportable event.</p>
<b>Action Taken or Required</b>	