

**Docket File Information****SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT AND COMPLIANCE INSPECTION**

1. LICENSEE <b>U.S. Environmental Protection Agency National Air &amp; Radiation Environmental Laboratory</b>		2. NRC/REGIONAL OFFICE <b>Region I</b>	
REPORT NUMBER(S) <b>2004-001</b>			
3. DOCKET NUMBER(S) <b>030-03576</b>	4. LICENSE NUMBER(S) <b>01-07317-01</b>	5. DATE(S) OF INSPECTION <b>November 29, 2004</b>	
6. INSPECTION PROCEDURES USED <b>87126</b>	7. INSPECTION FOCUS AREAS <b>87126 §02.01-02.07</b>		

**SUPPLEMENTAL INSPECTION INFORMATION**

1. PROGRAM CODE(S) <b>03620</b>	2. PRIORITY <b>5</b>	3. LICENSEE CONTACT <b>Sam Poppell; Ron Fraass</b>	4. TELEPHONE NUMBER <b>334-270-3401</b>
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>U</b>	Main Office Inspection	Next Inspection Date: <b>11/2009</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Field Office _____	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Temporary Job Site _____	

**PROGRAM SCOPE**

This was a routine inspection at the EPA National Air and Radiation Environmental Laboratory (NAREL) in Montgomery, AL. NAREL had recently gotten a new director, Ronald Fraass. Mr. Fraass is a health physicist and showed a significant interest in the licensed program. The primary RSO, Randy McClendon, had recently passed away, and Sam Poppell and Scott Telofski were filling the RSO function as Alternate RSOs (They are listed on the license). The inspector was informed by the licensee that they plan to amend the license to name another primary RSO.

NAREL collects environmental samples such as air, water, soil, milk, vegetation, etc., from EPA regions through out the United States for radiochemical analysis. The samples are analyzed for a broad spectrum of radioisotopes with concentration of piccocuries to nanocuries amounts. The unknown samples are spiked with standard radioisotopes, and tracers are made up in the QA/QC laboratory (Room 215) by a chemist. The samples are then transferred to the counting room and/or the instrument laboratories. The samples are analyzed in the counting and instrument labs to determine activity and radioisotope presence. The samples are used for radiochemistry procedures and instrument calibrations. The licensee possesses several germanium detectors and gamma counters for quantitative analysis in the counting room.

The inspector reviewed and discussed the licensed program with cognizant licensee personnel. Inventory is well maintained and security is controlled thru locked doors and keycard access. Instrumentation is appropriately maintained and review of various aspects of the program thru interviews and records review was conducted. These reviews included program reviews, surveys, training, dosimetry use, inventory, instrumentation and waste disposal. Overall the program was small but well-managed. No violations of NRC requirements or other concerns were noted.

**BAP 12/20/04**