



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

REGION III
2443 WARRENVILLE ROAD, SUITE 210
LISLE, ILLINOIS 60532-4352

July 9, 2008

E. Lynn McGuire, Director
National Health Physics Program (115HP/NLR)
Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
2200 Fort Roots Drive
Little Rock, AR 72114

**SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 030-34325/08-15(DNMS) (FORM 591M PART 1)
MEDICAL CENTER, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA**

Dear Mr. McGuire:

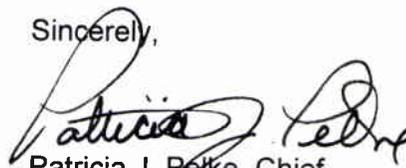
This refers to the inspection conducted on June 16, 2008, at the Department of Veterans Affairs, Medical Center, San Francisco, California. The inspection was limited to a review of activities authorized under Permit No. 04-00421-05. The inspector conducted an exit briefing with the staff at the Medical Center at the completion of the inspection.

Within the program areas reviewed during this inspection, the inspector did not identify any violations of NRC requirements. Therefore, you are not required to respond to this letter.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be available electronically in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records (PARS) component of NRC's document system (ADAMS). The NRC's document system is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

We will gladly discuss any questions you have concerning this inspection.

Sincerely,



Patricia J. Belke, Chief
Materials Licensing Branch

Docket No. 030-34325
License No. 03-23853-01VA
Permit No. 04-00421-05

Enclosure:
Inspection Report 030-34325/08-15(DNMS) (Form 591M Part 1)

SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT AND COMPLIANCE INSPECTION

1. LICENSEE/LOCATION INSPECTED:

Department of Veteran Affairs
VA Medical Center
San Francisco, California

2. NRC/REGIONAL OFFICE

USNRC Region IV
612 East Lamar Blvd., Suite 400
Arlington, Texas 76011-4125

REPORT NUMBER(S) 2008-015

3. DOCKET NUMBER(S)

030-34325

4. LICENSEE NUMBER(S)

03-23853-01VA

5. DATE(S) OF INSPECTION

June 16, 2008

LICENSEE:

The inspection was an examination of the activities conducted under your license as they relate to radiation safety and to compliance with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) rules and regulations and the conditions of your license. The inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, and observations by the inspector. The inspection findings are as follows:

- 1. Based on the inspection findings, no violations were identified.
- 2. Previous violation(s) closed.
- 3. The violation(s), specifically described to you by the inspector as non-cited violations, are not being cited because they were self-identified, non-repetitive, and corrective action was or is being taken, and the remaining criteria in the NRC Enforcement Policy to exercise discretion, were satisfied.

_____ Non-Cited Violation(s) was/were discussed involving the following requirement(s) and Corrective Action(s):

- 4. During this inspection certain of your activities, as described below and/or attached, were in violation of NRC requirements and are being cited. This form is a NOTICE OF VIOLATION, which may be subject to posting in accordance 10 CFR 19.11.

(Violations and Corrective Actions)

Licensee's Statement of Corrective Actions for Item 4, above.

I hereby state that, within 30 days, the actions described by me to the inspector will be taken to correct the violations identified. This statement of corrective actions is made in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR 2.201 (corrective steps already taken, corrective steps which will be taken, date when full compliance will be achieved). I understand that no further written response to NRC will be required, unless specifically requested.

Title	Printed Name	Signature	Date
LICENSEE'S REPRESENTATIVE			
NRC INSPECTOR	James L. Thompson		7/2/08

(1/2008 edited by RIV)
10 CFR 2.201

Docket File Information
SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT AND COMPLIANCE INSPECTION



1. LICENSEE VA San Francisco REPORT NUMBER(S): 2008-015		2. NRC/REGIONAL OFFICE USNRC Region IV	
3. DOCKET NUMBER(S) 030-34325		4. LICENSE NUMBER(S) 03-23853-01VA	5. DATE(S) OF INSPECTION June 16, 2008
6. INSPECTION PROCEDURES USED 87131		7. INSPECTION FOCUS AREAS all	

SUPPLEMENTAL INSPECTION INFORMATION

1. PROGRAM CODE(S) 02120	2. PRIORITY ---	3. LICENSEE CONTACT Arnulfo Germes, RSO	4. TELEPHONE NUMBER
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Main Office Inspection
 Field Office Inspection
 Temporary Job Site Inspection

Next Inspection Date: _____

PROGRAM SCOPE

This was an unannounced inspection of this VA permittee, located in San Francisco, California.

The nuclear medicine department performs mostly cardiac studies, with Tc-99m. There are approximately 6 I-131 ablations per year performed, all with caps, no liquid I-131 is used. There are approximately 24 prostate implants performed per year using I-125 permanent seed implants. This permittee is licensed for F-18, but it is not possessed yet. A blood irradiator is also possessed and used as needed. There is no temporary manual brachytherapy performed here.

The nuclear medicine department has a quarterly internal audit through the RSC, and a separate quarterly external audit by their consultant from Stanford. There are 4 full time nuclear medicine technologists here.

Quarterly leak tests and inventories are performed in-house, and area wipes are performed weekly, and radiation surveys are performed daily in use areas.

An incident occurred during this inspection cycle which involved the permittee receiving leaking I-125 seeds from Best Medical International, and is being investigated by the VA NHPP, and the NRC was informed.

No violations were identified during this inspection.