



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

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

June 4, 2012

Mr. Gary Williams, Director
National Health Physics Program (115 HP/NLR)
Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
2200 Fort Roots Drive
North Little Rock, AR 72114

**SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT 030-34325/12-015(DNMS) – SOUTH TEXAS VA
HEALTH CARE SYSTEM, KERRVILLE, TEXAS**

Dear Mr. Williams:

On May 15, 2012, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) conducted a routine inspection at the South Texas VA Health Care System, Kerrville, Texas. The inspection was limited to a review of activities authorized under Permit Number 42-17691-01. The inspector conducted an exit briefing with the staff at the facility at the completion of the inspection.

The inspection was an examination of activities conducted under the Permit as they relate to radiation safety and to compliance with the Commission's rules and regulations. Within these areas, the inspection consisted of selective examinations of procedures and representative records, interviews with personnel, independent measurements, and observation of activities in progress. Within the scope of the inspection no violations of NRC requirements were identified; therefore, no response to this letter or the enclosed NRC Form 591M is required.

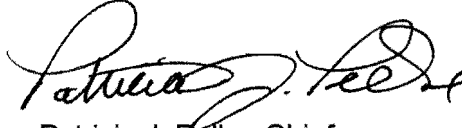
In accordance with Title 10 Code of Federal Regulations 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

G. Williams

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Should you have any questions concerning this inspection or the enclosed report, please contact Kevin Null of my staff at 630-829-9854.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patricia J. Pelke". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "P" and "J".

Patricia J. Pelke, Chief
Materials Licensing Branch
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

Docket No. 030-34325
License No. 03-23853-01VA
Permit No. 42-17691-01

Enclosure:
Inspection Report No. 030-34325/12-015(DNMS)

SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT AND COMPLIANCE INSPECTION

1. LICENSEE/LOCATION INSPECTED: Department of Veterans Affairs Under Secretary for Health Washington, D.C. Location: South Texas VA System, Kerrville, TX REPORT NUMBER(S) 2012-015	2. NRC/REGIONAL OFFICE Region III U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission 2443 Warrenville Road, Suite 210 Lisle, IL 60532-4352
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3. DOCKET NUMBER(S) 030-34325	4. LICENSE NUMBER(S) 03-23853-01VA	5. DATE(S) OF INSPECTION May 15, 2012
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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:

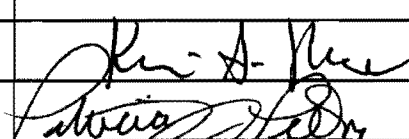
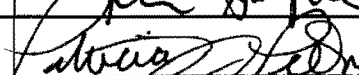
- 1. Based on the inspection findings, no violations were identified.
- 2. Previous violation(s) closed.
- 3. The violation(s), specifically described to you by the inspector as non-cited violations, are not being cited because they were self-identified, non-repetitive, and corrective action was or is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

_____ Non-cited violation(s) were discussed involving the following requirement(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 in accordance with NRC Enforcement Policy. This form is a NOTICE OF VIOLATION, which may be subject to posting in accordance with 10 CFR 19.11.
(Violations and Corrective Actions)

Statement of Corrective Actions

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	Martha Poston		6/1/12
BRANCH CHIEF	Patricia J. Pelke		6/4/2012

Docket File Information

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6. INSPECTION PROCEDURES USED 87130	7. INSPECTION FOCUS AREAS 03.01 - 03.07
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SUPPLEMENTAL INSPECTION INFORMATION

1. PROGRAM CODE(S) 2120	2. PRIORITY 3	3. LICENSEE CONTACT Gary Williams	4. TELEPHONE NUMBER (501) 257-1572
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Main Office Inspection Next Inspection Date: _____

Field Office Inspection South Texas VA System, Kerrville, TX

Temporary Job Site Inspection _____

PROGRAM SCOPE

This facility is closed and a review of records by the inspector indicated that no radioactive material had been used on site at the Kerrville location after June 30, 2011. All records for the Kerrville site were transferred to the San Antonio office and maintained by the Radiation Safety Office staff in San Antonio. The former Radiation Safety Officer (RSO) for the Kerrville location, the nuclear medicine technologist, and all four authorized users are now employed by the San Antonio VA hospital.

A review of records and the permit indicated that only material described in Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 35, Sections 35.100 and 35.200, was used at this location.

The inspector conducted a records review for material used at the Kerrville site. The records indicated that no radioactive material had been used on site after June 30, 2011. Records prior to June 30, 2011, indicated the radiation safety staff and Nuclear Medicine staff maintained physical inventory of radioactive material, performed leak tests on sealed sources, properly maintained radiation survey equipment including the dose calibrator, and performed surveys and conducted periodic reviews of the radiation safety program as required.

In support of their request to terminate the permit, the staff at the Kerrville facility performed and submitted decommissioning close out surveys to the National Health Physics Program (NHPP) in March 2012. Additional information was requested from NHPP and a response was submitted by the end of March. The NHPP was in the process of reviewing the close out surveys and the permittee's reply to their request for additional information in an effort to complete the termination of the permit.

No violations were identified.