



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

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

June 13, 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 030-34325/12-019(DNMS) VA NEBRASKA WEST,
IOWA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM, LINCOLN, NEBRASKA**

Dear Mr. Williams:

On May 17, 2012, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) conducted a routine inspection at VA Nebraska West, Iowa Health Care System, Lincoln, Nebraska. The inspection was limited to a review of activities authorized under Permit Number 26-16293-01. 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 (CFR) 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

-2-

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 a long, sweeping underline.

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

Docket No. 030-34325
License No. 03-23853-01VA
Permit No. 26-16293-01

Enclosure:
Inspection Report No. 030-34325/12-019(DNMS)

G. Williams

-2-

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

Sincerely,

/RA/

Patricia J. Pelke, Chief
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*See previous concurrence

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Docket File Information

SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT AND COMPLIANCE INSPECTION

1. LICENSEE/LOCATION INSPECTED: Department of Veterans Affairs Under Secretary for Health Washington, D.C. Location: Lincoln, Nebraska REPORT NUMBER(S) 12-019	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 17, 2012
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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) 2121	2. PRIORITY	3. LICENSEE CONTACT Gary Williams, Director	4. TELEPHONE NUMBER (501) 257-1572
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Main Office Inspection Next Inspection Date: _____

Field Office Inspection VA Nebraska West. Iowa Health Care System

Temporary Job Site Inspection _____

PROGRAM SCOPE

The Veterans Administration Medical Center (VAMC) is authorized under Permit Number 26-16293-01 for limited scope medical use as authorized by NRC License No. 03-23853-01 VA. The VAMC was authorized by the permit to use any byproduct material for any patient study permitted by Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 35.100, 35.200, and 31.11 as prepackaged kits at the location specified on the permit. The nuclear medicine department was staffed with one nuclear medicine technologist (NMT). The NMT administered an average of 2-3 diagnostic studies per day with the majority being cardiac studies. No PET isotopes are used. Iodine-123 is administered for uptake studies and averaged no greater than three administrations per month. The nuclear medicine department received unit doses from a local nuclear pharmacy. All waste was either held for decay-in-storage or returned to the nuclear pharmacy as limited quantity shipments.

Performance Observations

During the inspection, the permittee's NMT, demonstrated/discussed: (1) survey meter use and calibrations; (2) package check-in procedures; (3) unit dosage prep and safe use including one diagnostic administration of permitted material; (4) wipe test counting; (5) waste handling; (6) sealed source inventories and leak tests; (7) routine security of permitted material; (8) dose calibrator tests; (9) radiation safety program audits; (10) any contamination events (none); (11) HAZMAT refresher training; and (12) dosimetry records were reviewed and no whole body or ring badge overexposures were identified with records indicating less than 10 percent of the applicable 10 CFR 20 limits.

The inspector performed independent and confirmatory radiation measurements which indicated results consistent with permittee survey records and postings. The inspector was accompanied by Gary E. Williams, Director, National Health Physics Program (NHPP).

No violations or issues were identified.

