

SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT AND COMPLIANCE INSPECTION

1. LICENSEE/LOCATION INSPECTED:

Department of Commerce
NOAA/GLERL
4840 South State Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48108

REPORT NUMBER(S) 12-01

2. NRC/REGIONAL OFFICE

Region III
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
2443 Warrenville Road, Suite 210
Lisle, IL 60532-4352

3. DOCKET NUMBER(S)

030-11209

4. LICENSE NUMBER(S)

21-16544-01

5. DATE(S) OF INSPECTION

September 17, 2012

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	Andrew M. Bramnik	<i>Andrew M. Bramnik</i>	9/17/12
BRANCH CHIEF	<i>T. Bloomer</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>	9/29/12

Docket File Information

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6. INSPECTION PROCEDURES USED

87126

7. INSPECTION FOCUS AREAS

03.01 - 03.07

SUPPLEMENTAL INSPECTION INFORMATION

1. PROGRAM CODE(S)

03620

2. PRIORITY

5

3. LICENSEE CONTACT

Kimberly Kulpanowski, RSO

4. TELEPHONE NUMBER

(734) 741-2074

☒ Main Office Inspection

Next Inspection Date: 09/17/2017

☐ Field Office Inspection

☐ Temporary Job Site Inspection

PROGRAM SCOPE

This was a routine inspection of an environmental and marine experimental laboratory for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration: the Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory. The licensee's main office was located in Ann Arbor, Michigan; however, licensed materials were only authorized for possession and use at a laboratory in Muskegon, Michigan, and a research vessel on the Great Lakes. At the time of the inspection, the licensee had recently completed a long-term study at the Muskegon laboratory using carbon-14 for primary productivity sample analysis. No other materials had been used for several years, and over a year had passed since the last use of licensed material aboard the research vessel. Since the previous inspection, the licensee had transferred one nickel-63 source and one plutonium-239 source to specifically licensed entities. The licensee did not have any immediate plans to continue using radioactive materials in the near future, and was evaluating whether or not to terminate their license or pursue additional research opportunities.

PERFORMANCE OBSERVATIONS

Interviews conducted with available staff revealed an adequate level of understanding of emergency and materials handling procedures and techniques. The licensee's Radiation Safety Officer (RSO) or her staff completed inventories and leak tests at appropriate frequencies. The licensee also conducted area surveys at the Muskegon laboratory at the frequencies described in the license application. The licensee described annual refresher training, radiation safety audits, waste handling procedures, and instrument calibration. The inspector confirmed that these activities were routinely and successfully completed by reviewing selected records since the previous inspection. The inspector also reviewed records of waste disposal activities that had occurred since the previous inspection, and verified that they were completed in accordance with regulatory requirements. The licensee had performed an evaluation and determined that workers were not required to wear radiation dosimetry.

No violations were identified during this inspection.