



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION III
2443 WARRENVILLE RD. SUITE 210
LISLE, IL 60532-4352

May 15, 2017

EA-17-073
NMED No. 150643 (Closed)

Ms. Christine Raaf, RN
Vice President of Outpatient Services
Columbus Regional Hospital
2400 East 17th Street
Columbus, IN 47201

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 03001597/2016001(DNMS), NRC OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS REPORT NO. 3-2016-009, AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION – COLUMBUS REGIONAL HOSPITAL

Dear Ms. Raaf:

On April 26, 2016, an inspector from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) conducted a routine inspection at your Columbus, Indiana institution, with continued in-office review through May 24, 2016. One unresolved issue was identified during this inspection regarding your report of two missing cesium-137 sources (one vial source and one exempt quantity button source) that was identified by your staff on November 12, 2015, and documented in the subject inspection report dated June 6, 2016. On April 27, 2017, Ms. Deborah A. Piskura of my staff discussed the outcome of our deliberation regarding the unresolved issue in detail with Mr. Bill Algee and Dr. Michael Parrot of your staff via telephone.

On May 11, 2016, the NRC Office of Investigations (OI) initiated an investigation to determine if a former employee of Columbus Regional Hospital deliberately removed two cesium-137 sources from your nuclear medicine hot lab. According to your records, the sources were inventoried by your consulting physicist on November 10, 2015. These sources were last used for instrumentation checks by members of your staff on the morning of November 11, 2015. On the morning of November 12, 2015, a member of your staff attempted to perform a daily dose calibrator constancy check using one of your cesium-137 vial sources and discovered that the source was missing from the hot lab. In your report of the missing sources, you speculated that the sources may have been removed by a former employee that was terminated around that same timeframe. The NRC OI investigation was completed on March 13, 2017. As result of the investigation, the NRC could not substantiate that the former employee deliberately removed licensed material from your nuclear medicine hot lab. The whereabouts of these two cesium-137 sources remain unknown. A copy of the OI Report Synopsis is enclosed.

Based on the results of the inspection and investigation, the NRC has determined that one Severity Level IV violation of NRC requirements occurred. The violation was evaluated in accordance with the NRC Enforcement Policy. The current Enforcement Policy is included on the NRC's website at <http://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/regulatory/enforcement/enforce-pol.html>. The violation involved the failure to secure licensed material stored in a controlled area, as required by Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Section 20.1801. The violation is

cited in the enclosed Notice of Violation (Notice). The violation is being cited because it was identified through an event.

You are required to respond to this letter and should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice when preparing your response. The guidance in Information Notice 96-28, "Suggested Guidance Related to Development and Implementation of Corrective Action," may be helpful. You can find the information notice on the NRC website at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/gen-comm/info-notices/1996/in96028.html>. The NRC will use your response, in part, to determine whether further enforcement action is necessary to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter, its enclosures, and your response will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC's Public Document Room or from the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC's website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To the extent possible, your response should not include any personal privacy, propriety, or safeguards information so that it can be made available to the public without redaction. You should note that final NRC documents, including the final OI report, may be made available to the public under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) subject to redaction of information pursuant to the FOIA. Requests under the FOIA should be made in accordance with 10 CFR 9.23, Request for Records. The instructions for making a request for information under the FOIA are accessible at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/foia/foia-request.html>.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (630) 829-9650.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Aaron T. McCraw, Chief
Materials Inspection Branch
Division of Nuclear Materials and Safety

Docket No. 030-01597
License No. 13-01631-05

Enclosures:

1. Notice of Violation
2. OI Report Synopsis

cc w/encls: State of Indiana

Letter to Christine Raaf, RN from Aaron McCraw dated May 15, 2017

SUBJECT: NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 03001597/2016001(DNMS), NRC OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS REPORT NO. 3-2016-009, AND NOTICE OF VIOLATION – COLUMBUS REGIONAL HOSPITAL

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NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Columbus Regional Hospital
Columbus, Indiana

Docket No. 030-01597
License No. 13-01631-05
EA-17-073

During a U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) inspection conducted on April 26, 2016, with continued in-office review through May 24, 2016, and an NRC Office of Investigations investigation completed on March 13, 2017, one violation of NRC requirements was identified. In accordance with the NRC Enforcement Policy, the violation is listed below:

Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Section 20.1801 requires that the licensee secure from unauthorized removal or access licensed materials that are stored in controlled or unrestricted areas.

Contrary to the above, on or about November 11, 2015, the licensee did not secure from unauthorized removal or access to one reference source vial containing approximately 200 microcuries of cesium-137 that was stored in the nuclear medicine hot lab, which is a controlled area.

This is a Severity Level IV violation (Section 6.7).

Pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 2.201, Columbus Regional Hospital is hereby required to submit a written statement or explanation to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Document Control Desk, Washington, DC 20555-0001, with a copy to the Regional Administrator, Region III, within 30 days of the date of the letter transmitting this Notice of Violation (Notice). This reply should be clearly marked as a "Reply to a Notice of Violation" and should include: (1) the reason for the violation, or, if contested, the basis for disputing the violation or its severity level, (2) the corrective steps that have been taken and the results achieved, (3) the corrective steps that will be taken, and (4) the date when full compliance will be achieved. Your response may reference or include previously docketed correspondence, if the correspondence adequately addresses the required response. If an adequate reply is not received within the time specified in this Notice, an order or a Demand for Information may be issued as to why the license should not be modified, suspended, or revoked, or why such other action as may be proper should not be taken. Where good cause is shown, consideration will be given to extending the response time.

If you contest this enforcement action, you should also provide a copy of your response, with the basis for your denial, to the Director, Office of Enforcement, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

Your response will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC's Public Document Room or from the NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC's website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To the extent possible, your response should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be made publicly available without redaction.

In accordance with 10 CFR 19.11, you may be required to post this Notice within two working days of receipt.

Dated this 15th day of May, 2017.

OI SYNOPSIS

This investigation was initiated on May 11, 2016, by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Office of Investigations, Region III, to determine whether a Nuclear Medicine Technologist deliberately removed two radioactive calibration sources from Columbus Regional Hospital's hot lab.

Based on the evidence developed, this investigation did not substantiate the allegation that a Nuclear Medicine Technologist deliberately removed radioactive calibration sources from Columbus Regional Hospital's hot lab.