



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION I
475 ALLENDALE RD, SUITE 102
KING OF PRUSSIA, PA 19406-1415

January 24, 2023

EA-22-050

Jeanette Edwards, Vice President
Operations
The Hospital of Central Connecticut
100 Grand Street
New Britain, CT 06050

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF VIOLATION – THE HOSPITAL OF CENTRAL CONNECTICUT –
NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 03001250/2021001

Dear Jeanette Edwards:

This letter refers to the routine inspection conducted on March 5, 2021, with on-site inspection from March 21-23, 2021, and with continued in-office review through August 19, 2022, of activities performed under the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) license issued to the Hospital of Central Connecticut (HOCC). The purpose of the inspection was to examine the HOCC's licensed activities as they relate to radiation safety, compliance with the NRC's regulations, and the conditions in the license. Based on the results of the inspection, the NRC staff identified apparent violations (AVs) of NRC requirements. NRC staff discussed the AVs with you during a telephonic exit meeting on August 19, 2022, and described the AVs in the NRC inspection report sent to you in a letter dated September 15, 2022 (ML22258A099).¹ The inspection report, and the AVs described therein, concern Security-Related Information in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390(d)(1), and disclosure to unauthorized individuals could present a security vulnerability. Therefore, the inspection report enclosed with the September 15, 2022, letter was not publicly available, and details regarding the AVs were provided in a non-public enclosure.

In the letter transmitting the inspection report, we informed you that the AVs identified in the report were being considered for escalated enforcement action. In a telephone conversation on September 22, 2022, Anne DeFrancisco of my staff informed you that we had sufficient information regarding the AVs and your corrective actions to make an enforcement decision without the need for a pre-decisional enforcement conference or a written response from you.

Enclosure transmitted herewith contains Sensitive, Unclassified, Non-Safeguards Information. When separated from the Enclosure, the transmittal document is decontrolled.

¹ Designation in parentheses refers to an Agency-wide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) accession number. Unless otherwise noted, documents referenced in this letter are publicly-available using the accession number in ADAMS.

J. Edwards

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In a letter dated October 21, 2022 (ML22336A183; non-public), you provided a response to the AVs in which you provide further detail about the violations and the HOCC's corrective actions. A summary of your response, the NRC staff's assessment of the AVs, and the actions taken by the HOCC to correct and prevent reoccurrence of these issues is provided in the non-public Enclosure 1.

Based on the information developed during the inspection, the NRC has determined that one or more violations of NRC requirements occurred and have been categorized in accordance with the NRC Enforcement Policy as Severity Level III (SL III) violations, which is escalated enforcement. The NRC Enforcement Policy can be found on the NRC's website at <http://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/regulatory/enforcement/enforce-pol.html>. The violations are cited in the Notice of Violation (Notice), provided as non-public Enclosure 2, and the circumstances surrounding them are described in detail in the subject inspection report.

In accordance with the NRC Enforcement Policy, a base civil penalty in the amount of \$8,000 is considered for a SL III violation. Because your facility has not been the subject of escalated enforcement actions within the last two inspections, the NRC staff considered whether credit was warranted for *Corrective Action* in accordance with the civil penalty assessment process in Section 2.3.4 of the Enforcement Policy. The NRC staff determined that the HOCC took prompt and comprehensive corrective actions, and credit is, therefore, warranted. Enclosure 2 (non-public) provides an explanation of the severity level determinations and a description of the HOCC's corrective actions to address the violations. Therefore, to encourage prompt and comprehensive correction of violations, and in recognition of the absence of previous escalated enforcement action, I have been authorized, after consultation with the Director, Office of Enforcement, not to propose a civil penalty in this case. However, significant violations in the future could result in a civil penalty. In addition, issuance of the SL III violations constitutes escalated enforcement action that may subject you to increased inspection effort.

The NRC has concluded that information regarding: (1) the reason for the violations; (2) the corrective actions that have been taken and the results achieved; and (3) the date when full compliance was achieved is already adequately addressed on the docket in Inspection Report No. 03001250/2021001, your letter dated October 21, 2022, and this letter. Therefore, you are not required to respond to this letter unless the description therein does not accurately reflect your corrective actions or your position. In that case, or if you choose to provide additional information, you should follow the instructions specified in the enclosed Notice.

Separately, in your October 21, 2022, letter, you identified an error in NRC Inspection Report No. 03001250/2021001. A corrected copy of the inspection report was provided to you with a letter dated January 23, 2023 (ML23023A111, ML23023A106; non-public).

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter will be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the NRC's document system (ADAMS), accessible from the NRC Website at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. However, the material enclosed herewith contains Security-Related Information as described above. Therefore, the material in the enclosure will not be made available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the NRC's document system (ADAMS). If you choose to respond and Security-Related Information is necessary to provide an acceptable response, please mark your entire response Security-Related Information in accordance with 10 CFR 2.390(d)(1) and follow the instructions for withholding in 10 CFR 2.390(b)(1). The NRC also includes significant enforcement actions on its Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/enforcement/actions/>.

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If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Anne DeFrancisco of my staff at 610-337-5078 or Anne.DeFrancisco@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

Raymond
K. Lorson

Digitally signed by
Raymond K. Lorson
Date: 2023.01.24
11:01:04 -05'00'

Raymond K. Lorson
Regional Administrator

Docket No. 03001250
License No. 06-02388-01

Enclosures:

1. Summary of licensee response, assessment of violations and corrective actions (non-public)
2. Notice of Violation (non-public)

cc w/encl:
George Pavlonnis, Radiation Safety Officer
State of Connecticut

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NRC INSPECTION REPORT NO. 03001250/2021001: DATED January 24,
2023

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ML23024A024 Public Non-Sensitive

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X SUNSI Review/ MMM		X Non-Sensitive Sensitive			X Publicly Available Non-Publicly Available	
OFFICE	RI/ORA	RI/DRSS	RI/ORA	RI/ORA	OE	
NAME	M McLaughlin	A DeFrancisco	B Klukan NLO	R McKinley	L Sreenivas	
DATE	11/10/22	12/02/22	12/05/22	12/12/22	1/09/23	
OFFICE					RI/DRSS	RA
NAME					B Welling	R Lorson
DATE					1/18/23	1/24/23

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