



Materials Inspection Report

1. Licensee/Location Inspected: Valparaiso University 1610 Campus Drive East Valparaiso, IN 46383 Report Number(s) 2023-001	2. NRC/Regional Office Region III U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission 2443 Warrenville Road, Suite 210 Lisle, IL 60532-4352	
3. Docket Number(s) 030-00701	4. License Number(s) 13-06711-01	5. Date(s) of Inspection 01/26/23 - 06/27/23

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. During this inspection, certain of your activities, as described below and/or attached, were in violation of NRC requirements, and were assessed at Severity Level IV, in accordance with the NRC Enforcement Policy.

A. 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, corrective action was or is being taken, and the remaining criteria in the NRC Enforcement Policy were satisfied.
 (Non-cited violation(s) was/were discussed involving the following requirement(s))

B. The following violation(s) is/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)

Contrary to Condition 18 of NRC License No. 13-06711-01, between August 22, 2018 and August 17, 2022, Valparaiso University did not conduct a physical inventory every six months to account for all sealed sources and devices possessed under the license. Specifically, it conducted a physical inventory every 12 months at the beginning of fall semester. As corrective action, on February 17, 2023, the licensee conducted a physical inventory and committed to conduct and document physical inventories in the future at the beginning of fall and spring semesters.

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 AND DATE
LICENSEE'S REPRESENTATIVE	SHIRVEL STANISLAUS	<i>Shirvel Stanislaus</i> 8/17/23
NRC INSPECTOR	Ryan Craffey	<i>Ryan Craffey</i> <small>Digitally signed by Ryan J. Craffey Date: 2023.07.06 12:18:37 -0400</small>
BRANCH CHIEF	Rhex Edwards	<i>Rhex Edwards</i> <small>Digitally signed by Rhex A. Edwards Date: 2023.07.26 10:11:41 -0500</small>



Materials Inspection Record

1. Licensee Name: Valparaiso University		2. Docket Number(s): 030-00701		3. License Number(s) 13-06711-01	
4. Report Number(s): 2023-001			5. Date(s) of Inspection: January 26, 2023; in-office review through June 27, 2023		
6. Inspector(s): Ryan Craffey		7. Program Code(s): 22110	8. Priority: 3	9. Inspection Guidance Used: IP 87126	
10. Licensee Contact Name(s): Shirvel Stanislaus, PhD - RSO		11. Licensee E-mail Address: shirvel.stanislaus@valpo.edu		12. Licensee Telephone Number(s): 219-464-5031	
13. Inspection Type: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Routine <input type="checkbox"/> Announced <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Routine <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unannounced		14. Locations Inspected: <input type="checkbox"/> Hybrid <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Main Office <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary Job Site <input type="checkbox"/> Remote		15. Next Inspection Date (MM/DD/YYYY): 01/26/2026 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Normal <input type="checkbox"/> Extended <input type="checkbox"/> Reduced <input type="checkbox"/> No change	
16. Location(s) Inspected List: Neils Science Center, 1610 Campus Drive East, Valparaiso, IN					
17. Scope and Observations: Valparaiso University is a 2,500-student independent Lutheran university in Valparaiso, Indiana, authorized to use a variety of sealed and plated sources containing byproduct, source, and special nuclear material for research and development, student instruction, and instrument checks. At the time of the inspection, the RSO and another AU in the Department of Physics and Astronomy used sources for student instruction in activation, instrumentation, and accelerator experiments during a physics lab offered in the fall semester. The inspector toured the Department of Physics and Astronomy. All areas were adequately posted, and all licensed material was adequately secured. The inspector performed independent and confirmatory radiation surveys in and around restricted areas and found no evidence of residual contamination or exposures in unrestricted areas in excess of limits to members of the public. University personnel demonstrated and explained the use of various sources and devices for activation, instrumentation, and accelerator experiments for the laboratory class. Personnel were knowledgeable of the radiation hazards present, used adequate ALARA practices during demonstrations, and used calibrated and operable instrumentation during confirmatory surveys. The inspector accounted for all sources listed on the university's latest physical inventory of sources (it currently possessed material under each authorization on its license except (1) Ru-106 per 6-9.G, which it had not possessed in over 20 years, and (2) activation products per 6-9.K, since activation experiments were not ongoing at the time of the inspection) and reviewed a selection of records including previous inventories, instrument calibration records, and leak test results (per LC 13.E, the licensee tests all sources before use in the fall, then returns them to storage and does not use them until they are tested again next fall). During a review of inventory records, the inspector identified that the licensee only conducted physical inventories once a year (at the time of leak testing), contrary to LC 18 which requires them to be conducted every six months. The root cause was a lack of understanding of regulatory requirements. As corrective action, on February 17, 2023, the licensee conducted and documented a physical inventory; all sources were accounted for. The licensee also committed to conduct and document physical inventories in future at the beginning of fall and spring semesters.					

Materials Inspection Record (Continued)

During the period of in-office review, the licensee performed characterization surveys of an accelerator target stored in a locked fume hood in the restricted area to confirm that it was a tritium target foil.

Signature and Date - Branch Chief



Digitally signed by Rhex A. Edwards
Date: 2023.07.26 10:11:20 -05'00'