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NRC Proposes \$22,400 Fine Against Qal-Tek Associates

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is proposing a \$22,400 civil penalty against Qal-Tek Associates of Idaho Falls, Idaho, for violations regarding the shipment of radioactive materials.

The violations were identified in an NRC [inspection report](#) prepared following an incident that occurred in April, when a package containing several radioactive sources was shipped from a temporary jobsite to the company's headquarters. Upon receipt, workers scanned the package and determined that radiation levels exceeded regulatory limits resulting from radioactive sources that had not been properly packaged.

A commercial shipping service was used, but based on interviews of licensee and shipper employees, no one is expected to have received a radiation exposure in excess of regulatory limits.

NRC staff met with company representatives on Nov. 9, during a pre-decisional enforcement conference. Company officials did not contest the violations, but provided information about long-term corrective actions. The company has 30 days in which to dispute the fine or request involvement of a neutral third-party mediator to resolve the issue.