Pennsylvania Firm Institutes Corrective Actions, Pays Fine Under Settlement Agreement with NRC

Under a settlement agreement reached with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, a Pennsylvania company is implementing numerous corrective actions and enhancements related to the secure handling of nuclear materials. The firm will also pay a $3,500 fine.

Prime NDT, based in Schnecksville, Pa., asked to take part in the NRC’s Alternate Dispute Resolution process, by which conflicts are resolved using a neutral third party. The firm took the action following an NRC inspection where the agency identified one or more potentially escalated apparent violations associated with the theft of a device containing a radioactive source.

The theft occurred in Ripley, W.Va., on Sept. 1, 2018, when the vehicle in which the device was being transported was stolen. Both the device, which is used for industrial radiography, and the vehicle were recovered within several hours. The device remained locked in the vehicle and there were no public health consequences because of the event.

The company’s actions are detailed in a confirmatory order issued by the NRC. The agency will not pursue further enforcement action.