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NRC to Conduct Predecisional Enforcement Conference with West Virginia Hospital to Discuss Proposed Violations

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Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will meet with representatives of a Bridgeport, West Virginia, hospital on Oct. 11 to discuss three proposed violations stemming from a medical event and NRC follow-up inspections earlier this year. The agency is considering taking escalated enforcement action against United Hospital Center.

The proposed violations involved the hospital's failure to carry out written emergency procedures and for staff not wearing their assigned radiation-measuring devices during routine and emergency response activities. Separate from the medical event, the NRC also identified a proposed violation involving the hospital's failure to adequately secure a room where radioactive material was stored from personnel not authorized to access it.

The meeting will begin at 1 p.m. at the NRC's Region I Office, located at 475 Allendale Road in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania. Interested members of the public who cannot attend in person may view it via videostream or listen by phone. Additional details, including the point of contact, are provided in the <u>meeting notice</u>.

NRC conducted several inspections following the United Hospital Center's notification in mid-April of a medical event, which was precipitated by a malfunction of radiation therapy equipment. This resulted in a patient receiving an underdose during a nuclear medicine treatment for cancer. The event also involved overexposures of radiation to hospital staff responding to the incident.

Hospital representatives will have an opportunity during the predecisional enforcement conference to discuss what occurred and provide additional information, including any corrective actions planned or taken to prevent a recurrence, before the agency makes a final enforcement decision.