



NRC NEWS

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS, REGION II

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NRC PROPOSES \$3,000 FINE AGAINST VIRGINIA FIRM FOR VIOLATION OF NRC RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has proposed a \$3,000 civil penalty against CTI Consultants, Inc., of Chantilly, Virginia, for violation of NRC safety requirements related to a January 17, 2001, incident at a job site near Dulles International Airport.

NRC inspections and an investigation by the agency's Office of Investigations revealed that a company employee failed to control and maintain constant surveillance of licensed radioactive material as required. Specifically, a CTI operator temporarily walked away from a portable Troxler soil moisture density gauge containing 40 millicuries of Americium and 8 millicuries of Cesium-137 in an unrestricted area. The gauge was subsequently run over and damaged by a bulldozer.

NRC officials said no over exposures to radioactivity occurred and that the company's corrective actions were adequate. The company was cited for two additional violations associated with the incident. The NRC said the company failed to notify the agency of the incident within 24 hours as required and improperly transferred the damaged gauge for storage at another company which had no NRC license authorizing receipt of this type, form or quantity of material.

The company has 30 days from receipt of the NRC Notice of Violation to either pay the civil penalty or to protest its imposition, in whole or in part.

Members of the public may obtain copies of the letter from the NRC to the company at the above email address or from the NRC Internet Web Site at www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/ADAMS.html (the public electronic reading room).

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