

## **NRC NEWS**

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

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## NRC STAFF PROPOSES \$9,600 CIVIL PENALTY AGAINST VIRGINIA FIRM FOR VIOLATION OF NRC RADIATION SAFETY REQUIREMENTS IN HAWAII

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has proposed a \$9,600 civil penalty against Testing Technologies, Incorporated, of Woodbridge, Virginia, for violation of NRC safety requirements related to the use of licensed radioactive material at a job site in Hawaii.

In a letter to the company, Luis A. Reyes, Administrator of the NRC's Region II office in Atlanta, said that, during an NRC inspection conducted in April of last year, the agency determined that, between December 29, 2001 and January 27, 2002, the company deliberately violated NRC requirements by permitting individuals who had not been properly certified to perform radiographic operations at multiple temporary construction job sites on the island of Oahu, Hawaii. He said that these individuals also were not accompanied by another radiographer or properly certified individual while performing radiography.

In addition, he said that, on April 22 of last year, a radiographer's assistant deliberately failed to wear an alarming device, a direct reading dosimeter, and/or a required film badge or TLD (thermoluminescent dosimeter) while conducting radiographic operations at the Tesoro Refinery in Kapolei, Hawaii.

Reyes said these violations indicated that, from December 2001 until April of last year, the corporate and site Radiation Safety Officers failed to adequately perform their oversight duties as required and that the violations, combined with their deliberate nature, resulted in a Severity Level 2 violation, the agency's second most serious.

The NRC's letter, its enclosures, and the company's response will be made available to interested members of the public through the agency's public electronic reading room at <a href="http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/ADAMS.html">http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/ADAMS.html</a> Help in accessing these documents is available from the NRC Public Document Room at (301) 415-4737 or at 1-800-397-4209.

The company has 30 days from receipt of the letter to either pay the civil penalty or to protest its imposition.