



# NRC NEWS

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## **NRC BANS FORMER TECHNICIAN AT PENNSYLVANIA COMPANY FROM NRC-LICENSED ACTIVITIES**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has issued an order to Stanley Pitts banning him from involvement in NRC-licensed activities for five years. Pitts had been employed by Professional Inspection and Testing Services, Inc., of Chambersburg, Pa.

The company is licensed to possess and use radioactive materials in portable nuclear gauges used to measure the moisture/density of soil or other materials.

In April 2004, Professional Inspection and Testing Services officials informed the NRC that they could not locate a gauge and considered it stolen by an employee, Pitts, because he was the last to have used it. Police recovered the gauge about a week later in an apartment formerly occupied by Pitts.

The NRC Office of Investigations conducted an investigation into the reported loss of the gauge. Investigators found that Pitts was in possession of the nuclear gauge for about 13 days when he was no longer employed by Professional Inspection and Testing and was not authorized by the company or the NRC to possess licensed material. In addition, investigators found that Pitts deliberately violated NRC requirements when he apparently stole and illegally possessed the gauge.

In the order to Pitts banning him from licensed activities, NRC Deputy Executive Director for Materials, Research, State and Compliance Programs, Martin J. Virgilio, said the deliberate violation of NRC requirements "has raised serious doubt as to whether he can be relied upon to comply with NRC requirements in the future."

The order is effective immediately. Pitts and any other person adversely affected by the order may request a hearing within 20 days.

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