



NRC NEWS

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NRC PROPOSES \$13,000 FINE FOR ACCURATE NDE & INSPECTION, LLC

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission has proposed a fine of \$13,000 against Accurate NDE & Inspection, LLC, of Broussard, La., for violating NRC requirements.

In a March 20 letter to the company, Bruce S. Mallett, Administrator of the NRC's Region IV office in Arlington, Texas, said that as a result of an NRC inspection, the agency determined that the company violated NRC requirements for the possession and use of radioactive materials.

The violations occurred between Dec. 18 - 20, 2005, when a worker failed to wear required radiation monitoring equipment while using a device containing radioactive Iridium-192 and failed to maintain proper controls over the device after use on an offshore oil platform. The company also failed to provide complete and accurate information to the NRC regarding the event.

NRC discussed the violations, their significance, the root cause and the company's corrective actions during an enforcement conference with the company on Feb. 14. In setting the proposed fine, the normal base civil penalty of \$6,500 was doubled because the violations were willful, the company did not identify them, and initial efforts at corrective action were not sufficient to prevent recurrence.

"These three violations are also significant because willfulness was associated with each of them," Mallett said. "Willful violations are of concern to us because the NRC must rely on licensees and its employees to comply with NRC requirements even when the NRC is not present."

The company has 30 days to either pay the proposed fine or challenge it and 10 days in which to request alternative dispute resolution. The NRC's letter, its enclosures and the company's response will be made available to the public through the agency's public electronic reading room at: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html> . Help in accessing these documents is available from the NRC Public Document room at 1-800-397-4209.

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