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NRC, PENNSYLVANIA FIRM TO DISCUSS APPARENT VIOLATIONS INVOLVING RADIATION SAFETY PROGRAM ON DECEMBER 12

Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff and representatives of a Pennsylvania company that uses radioactive materials will meet on Friday, December 12, to discuss apparent violations of agency requirements involving the firm's two licensed radiation safety programs. The apparent violations were identified at properties owned by Haines & Kibblehouse Inc., of Skippack, Pa., during inspections conducted on November 6, 19 and 21.

The predecisional enforcement conference will begin at 10 a.m. in the Division of Nuclear Materials Safety conference room at the NRC Region 1 office in King of Prussia, Pa. It will be open to the public for observation.

NRC inspectors found the apparent violations at Haines & Kibblehouse facilities in Reading, Blooming Glen and Skippack, Pa., and at a temporary job site in Souderton, Pa. Some examples of the issues identified are:

- A failure to notify the NRC that the company had taken over the Reading facility, which had previously been operated by Windsor Service Inc.
- A failure to notify the NRC that for both licensed programs the named radiation safety officer had ceased performing his duties or had not requested that a new radiation safety officer be named on each license issued by the NRC.
- A failure to test sealed sources of NRC-licensed materials for contamination and/or leakage at the required six-month interval.
- A failure to maintain direct control of licensed material that was not in storage.

The decision to hold a predecisional enforcement

conference does not mean that the NRC has determined a violation has occurred or that enforcement action will be taken. Rather, the purpose is to discuss apparent violations, their causes and safety significance; to provide the licensee with an opportunity to point out any errors that may have been made in the NRC inspection report; and to enable the licensee to outline its proposed corrective action.

No decision on the apparent violations will be made at this conference. That decision will be made by NRC officials at a later time.