

NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NRC, VIRGINIA COMPANY TO DISCUSS RESULTS OF INSPECTION

A Nuclear Regulatory Commission inspection conducted in April that identified a series of low-level violations for a Virginia company licensed to use portable nuclear gauges will be discussed by NRC staff and representatives of the firm on Wednesday, June 29.

The meeting, which will be open to the public, is scheduled to begin at 1 p.m. at the NRC's Region I Office, 475 Allendale Road, King of Prussia, Pa. There will be an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions of NRC staff before the session is adjourned.

On April 4, 5 and 6, an NRC inspector traveled to several branch offices in Virginia operated by CTI Consultants, Inc., based in Ruckersville, Va. In addition, the inspector visited several field sites in Virginia where CTI had nuclear gauges in use. (Nuclear gauges contain radioactive material and are used for such industrial purposes as measuring soil density.)

Based on these inspections, the NRC has identified a number of Severity Level IV violations on the part of CTI, including: a failure to perform an annual audit of its radiation safety program; a failure to perform leak tests on some of its nuclear gauges; a failure to properly label and secure nuclear gauges during transportation; and a failure to ensure all employees received the required training. Severity Level IV is the lowest of the four levels used to capture the significance of cited violations.

The June 29 meeting was scheduled because of the number of violations and because several violations were repeats of earlier infractions. The violations were described in a Notice of Violation sent to the company on May 25.

At the meeting, NRC staff and CTI representatives will discuss the results of the inspection and corrective actions either already undertaken or planned by the company to preclude a recurrence of violations.