

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
Region III Office of Public Affairs
801 Warrenville Road, Lisle, IL 60532-4351

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NRC STAFF PROPOSES \$1,000 FINE AGAINST DIAGNOSTIC REAGENTS, INC
FOR DELIBERATELY POSSESSING AND RECEIVING RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS
IN AN UNAUTHORIZED LOCATION

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has proposed a \$1,000 fine against Diagnostic Reagents, Inc., Dearborn, Michigan, for receiving radioactive materials at a location not authorized by the NRC and for the unauthorized altering of its NRC license to show the new location.

NRC is taking this action based on the findings by NRC's Office of Investigations (OI) and NRC inspectors. The investigation was conducted in August of last year after NRC mail to the company was returned as "undeliverable."

Inspectors and investigators found that, in May 1993, the company moved to a location different from the one authorized by its license. NRC also found that, in order to continue receiving nuclear materials from other companies, the company deliberately altered the address on its NRC license.

Diagnostic Reagents distributes prepackaged kits used for medical diagnostic procedures. These kits contain small quantities of radioactive iodine-125.

"The NRC regulatory program is based on the candor and integrity of each licensee and their employees; therefore NRC cannot and will not condone willful violations," said NRC Regional Administrator A. Bill Beach in notifying the company of the fine.

Diagnostic Reagents has until September 3 to pay the fine or to protest it. If the fine is protested and subsequently imposed by the NRC staff, the company may request a hearing.

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