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I-96-65
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September 19, 1996
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NRC STAFF PROPOSES \$8,000 FINE AGAINST VA MEDICAL CENTER
IN PHILADELPHIA FOR ALLEGED HARRASSMENT OF EMPLOYEE

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has proposed to fine the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VA) in Philadelphia \$8,000 for allegedly discriminating against an employee who raised safety concerns.

In March, the acting district director of the U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division in Philadelphia found that the VA discriminated against the radiation safety officer at the medical center after she raised safety concerns to the NRC.

The NRC staff has determined that NRC regulations prohibiting such discrimination were violated, based on the Labor Department official's decision and on information provided by the VA during a predecisional enforcement conference on August 26.

VA has 30 days either to pay the proposed fine or to request in writing that part or all of it be withdrawn.

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