United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission Office of Public Affairs, Region I 475 Allendale Road King of Prussia, PA 19401 Phone: 610/337-5330 Fax: 610/337-5241 Internet: dps@nrc.gov or nas@nrc.gov

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Contact: Diane Screnci Neil A. Sheehan July 15, 1997 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NRC, GRAND VIEW HOSPITAL OFFICIALS TO MEET TO DISCUSS APPARENT VIOLATIONS

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will meet with officials from Grand View Hospital, in Sellersville, Pa., on Thursday, July 17, to discuss apparent violations of NRC requirements. The predecisional enforcement conference, which is open to the public for observation only, will be held in the public meeting room at the NRC's Region I office, in King of Prussia, Pa. It begins at 1:00 p.m.

The conference is being held to discuss apparent violations found during a June inspection at the facility to look into the events surrounding a contaminated package that was sent back to a nuclear pharmacy on June 3. Based on the inspection, four apparent violations of NRC requirements were found: failure to ensure that external removable contamination on the package was within regulatory limits, release of a package with fixed contamination in excess of the regulatory limits, failure to conduct daily radiation level surveys and weekly removable contamination level surveys of the nuclear medicine hot lab floor, and the failure of the radiation safety officer to ensure that radiation safety activities were being performed in accordance with approved procedures and regulatory requirements.

The decision to hold a predecisional enforcement conference does not mean that the NRC has determined that 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 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 actions.

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