



NRC NEWS

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NRC Proposes \$9,000 Civil Penalty Against Geotechnical and Materials Engineers

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has [proposed](#) a \$9,000 fine to Geotechnical and Materials Engineers, Inc. for a violation of NRC requirements associated with the control of NRC-regulated material.

The violation involved the failure to control and maintain constant surveillance of a portable moisture density gauge containing radioactive material or to use two independent physical controls to secure the gauge. The gauge is used for measuring the moisture content and density of soil and aggregate.

The NRC was notified by the company that a gauge was struck and damaged by a bulldozer at a temporary job site in Fort Wayne, Indiana, on March 22, 2023. The technician then walked away from the gauge, failing to secure it from being removed from the site by an unauthorized user.

Following an inspection at the company's office in Fort Wayne, Indiana, the NRC documented the proposed violations in a November [inspection report](#).

Geotechnical and Materials Engineers [responded](#) to the violations, documenting actions it has taken to prevent recurrence of the violation.

The company has 30 days to pay the proposed penalty, contest the penalty in writing, or request alternative dispute resolution with the NRC to resolve this issue.