



NRC NEWS

Office of Public Affairs, Region I
King of Prussia, PA. 19406-2713
www.nrc.gov



No: I-24-015

July 24, 2024

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NRC Withdraws Enforcement Action After Puerto Rico Firm Properly Disposes of Nuclear Gauge

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has [withdrawn a civil penalty](#) issued to a Toa Alta, Puerto Rico, firm after it complied with an agency order by properly disposing of a portable nuclear gauge and completing the decommissioning of its site.

The NRC notified Almonte Geo Services Group in November that the agency was proposing a \$17,500 fine for the company's failure to dispose of or transfer a nuclear gauge in its possession within a specified time period. Such gauges contain small amounts of radioactive material and are used for purposes that include measuring the density of soil at construction sites.

In May, Almonte Geo Services informed the NRC that the gauge had been transferred to a contractor for disposal. The NRC verified that the gauge was received by the authorized facility. Almonte Geo Services also requested that its NRC license be terminated.

"The goal of the NRC enforcement action was to ensure the company met its obligation to properly transfer or dispose of the gauge and thereby prevent the material from falling into the wrong hands. Almonte Geo Services also needed to complete the decommissioning of its site," Region I Administrator Ray Lorson said. "We have now confirmed that has occurred and therefore are withdrawing the order imposing the civil penalty in recognition of those actions."