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NRC TERMINATES LICENSES AT REQUEST OF CINTICHEM
IN TUXEDO, NEW YORK

At the request of Cintichem, Inc., the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has terminated the radioactive materials licenses the agency issued to the company for possession of nuclear materials and operation of a nuclear research reactor in Tuxedo, New York, following cleanup of residual radioactive material at the site to levels that meet NRC-approved criteria for unrestricted use.

Cintichem used radioactive materials at the site from 1961 to 1990 to produce medical radioisotopes and provide a variety of services for research, production, medical and educational institutions and groups. It held two NRC licenses, one for the operation of a 5-megawatt research reactor and another for other activities involving possession of nuclear materials.

In May 1990 the company informed the NRC that it had decided to decommission the reactor and related facilities. Over the next several years, Cintichem conducted cleanup activities and dismantled the reactor, following an NRC-approved decommissioning plan. It then conducted final radiation surveys and submitted reports on survey results to the NRC, indicating that the site had been remediated to levels that were suitable for unrestricted use.

Surveys by an NRC contractor, Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education, from 1995 through 1997 confirmed that the site meets the criteria for unrestricted use in the decommissioning plan and that the site is suitable for unrestricted use.

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