

United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Office of Public Affairs
Washington, DC 20555
Phone 301-415-8200 Fax 301-415-2234
Internet:opa@nrc.gov

No: II-98-26
Contact: Ken Clark or Roger Hannah

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
(Friday, March 27, 1998)

**NRC STAFF ISSUES ORDER SUSPENDING LICENSE
OF RADIOGRAPHY COMPANY IN PUERTO RICO**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has issued an Order to NDT Services, Inc., of Caguas, Puerto Rico, which, effective immediately, suspends the company's license to use licensed radioactive material.

NRC officials said the Order was issued Friday, March 27, based on findings of NRC inspections at temporary job sites at the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority's San Juan and Costa Sur power stations and an ongoing investigation by the NRC Office of Investigations. An NRC letter transmitting the Order to the company said agency findings to date have raised serious concerns regarding the company's ability and/or willingness to comply with NRC requirements and the company's ability to conduct licensed activities in a manner that adequately protects health and safety of workers and the public.

The Order requires that the company: (1) immediately suspend all radiographic operations authorized by its license; (2) notify the NRC by Saturday, March 28, of the location, physical status and storage arrangements of licensed radioactive material; (3) provide a 48-hour notice to the NRC's Atlanta regional office prior to transferring licensed radioactive material; (4) not receive any NRC-licensed radioactive materials while the Order is in effect; and (5) maintain all records related to licensed activities in their current form and not alter the records in any way.

The NRC inspections and an ongoing investigation by the agency's Office of Investigations indicated the company had not conducted all its activities in accordance with its NRC requirements.

#