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NRC Proposes \$7,500 Fine for West Virginia Engineering Firm

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has proposed a \$7,500 civil penalty for a Bridgeport, W.Va., engineering firm for failing to properly secure a portable nuclear gauge when it was not in use.

NRC regulations require a minimum of two independent physical controls to prevent the unauthorized removal of such gauges when they are not under the control and constant surveillance of the owners/operators. However, on Oct. 29, 2019, an NRC inspector observed during an inspection at a temporary jobsite, a Thrasher Engineering Inc. work truck contained a nuclear gauge not properly secured and the operator was not in the immediate area.

The NRC has determined this to be a violation of agency requirements. In addition, it represents a repeat violation, as a Severity Level IV violation involving Thrasher Engineering's security and possession of portable nuclear gauges was identified by the NRC following a March 21, 2019, inspection.

The company has implemented long-term corrective actions to address the issue.

Thrasher Engineering will have 30 days to inform the NRC in writing if it agrees with the violation or plans to appeal it.