



**UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
REGION II
SAM NUNN ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET SW SUITE 23T85
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8931**

November 24, 2000

MEMORANDUM TO: Luis A. Reyes, Regional Administrator

FROM: Douglas M. Collins, Director */RA/*
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety

SUBJECT: ONE LINERS AND WEEKLY BRANCH CHIEF REPORTS

Attached are weekly One Liners and Branch Chief Reports for the Division of Nuclear Materials Safety. The key accomplishments this week were:

1. Caucused Pechiney Rolled Products response to a choice letter.
2. Coordinated with Region IV the shipment from Baylor received by Best Industries with elevated radiation levels.

The key activities for next week are:

1. Caucus Bass Energy's failure to respond to the order imposing a CP.
2. Panel the BWXT pool leak issue.

cc w/att:
B. Mallett
L. Plisco
C. Casto
R. Trojanowski
A. Boland
R. Woodruff
DNMS Branch Chiefs

DNMS ONE LINERS - NOVEMBER 24, 2000

1. Best Industries

November 21, 2000

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-00-049

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of possible safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by Region II staff (Atlanta, Georgia) on this date.

Facility

Best Industries
Springfield, Virginia

Docket No. 030-19199
License No. 45-19757-01

Licensee Emergency Classification

Notification of Unusual Event
Alert
Site Area Emergency
General Emergency
X Not Applicable

Subject: RECEIPT OF PACKAGE WITH RADIATION LEVELS THAT EXCEEDED
TRANSPORTATION LIMITS

On November 21, 2000, the licensee reported to the NRC that a package containing millicurie quantities of iridium-192 brachytherapy sources was received which had a surface radiation level exceeding the regulatory limit of 200 millirem per hour. Using radiation survey instruments, the licensee detected radiation levels of 2.7 rem per hour on contact and 65 millirem per hour at one meter from the package. The licensee was conducting routine package surveys of shipments received from its medical customers when they identified these elevated radiation levels on a package received from Baylor University Medical Center, Dallas, Texas. After identifying the elevated radiation levels, the licensee did not open the package and placed it in a safe and shielded storage area.

The licensee is in the process of determining the cause of the high radiation levels from the package. The licensee informed Baylor and the transporter of the package. Region II will continue to followup on this event with Best Industries.

Region IV notified the State of Texas who is coordinating with Baylor to determine their actions.

The NRC received initial notification of this occurrence by telephone from the licensee at 12:00 p.m. on November 21, 2000. The information presented herein has been discussed with the licensee, the State of Texas, the Commonwealth of Virginia, the State of Tennessee, NRC's Region IV office and is current as of 4:00 p.m.

CONTACT: Wade Loo
(404) 562-4727

November 24, 2000

NOTE TO: Douglas M. Collins

FROM: Thomas R. Decker

SUBJECT: MATERIALS LICENSING/INSPECTION BRANCH 1 ACTIVITIES FOR THE
WEEK OF NOVEMBER 20, 2000

I. PLANNED INSPECTIONS AND LICENSING ACTIVITIES NEXT WEEK

B. Parker is scheduled to conduct assist inspections for RIV at Egland AFB, Florida.

II. SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK AND PLANNED

Completed Self Assessments, Operating Plan, and Retreat input. An event reported by a RII licensee involving a high radiation reading on a transportation container was followed up with the reporting licensee, the involved states, and RIV in which the licensee (Texas license) operates.

III. SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR THIS WEEK

MAINTAIN SAFETY AND SAFEGUARDS

See the above event involving a high radiation reading on a shipping container. A PN was prepared.

INCREASE PUBLIC CONFIDENCE

RII took prompt action on the reported event. The PN appropriately informed stakeholders.

MAKE NRC ACTIONS EFFECTIVE, EFFICIENT AND REALISTIC

Follow up to complete actions to resolve findings from internal IMPEP.

REDUCE UNNECESSARY BURDEN ON STAKEHOLDERS

Routine.

November 24, 2000

NOTE TO: Doug Collins

FROM: E. McAlpine

SUBJECT: Weekly Status Report and Activities Planned for November 27 - December 1, 2000

I. Planned Inspections and Significant Travel for Next Week

W. Tobin

St. Lucie

Physical Security

II. Training to be Conducted

Continuation of self-study: Nuclear Criticality Safety - - A. Gooden, W. Gloersen, and D. Seymour; and Fire Protection - - D. Seymour. Deborah Seymour is schedule to take the F-101S exam on Monday.

III. Other Significant Activities Planned for Next Week

Participation in management retreat.

Viewing of briefing by DOE on Plutonium Disposition and MOX Fuel Fabrication Facility Licensing on Monday from 9:00 to 11:30.

Enforcement Panel on BWXT Pool Leak Issue on Friday at 9:30.

Review of Mixed Oxide construction program.

Loading of Region II Master Inspection Schedule for information after NMSS places document into ADAMS.

IV. Significant Accomplishments from This Week

Work on a spread sheet to track inspection procedure completion against TI 2600/007 requirements.

Revision of Self-Assessment based on division review.

Conference call with NMSS and NFS concerning resolution of safety issues involving conflicts between fire protection and nuclear criticality safety controls.

Completion of information needed for management retreat.

• <u>Allegation Status</u>	<u>Date Opened</u>	<u>Day Open</u>
RII-2000-A-0124:	Response from licensee was received on 10/27. Review and preparation of AER is ongoing.	8/23/00 93 days

VI. Correspondence

In Concurrence: Inspection Report 70-27/2000-08 (To be issued by COB 12/4)

Issued: Rescheduling of Enforcement Conference with GNF (Issued 11/22)

VII. FFB Contribution to Agency Goals During the Past Week

Reduce unnecessary regulatory burden

- Work on spread sheet to track inspection procedure completion

Increase public confidence

- Resident inspection at BWXT and NFS
- Pre-panel on BWXT Pool Leak

Maintain safety and safeguards

- Resident inspection at BWXT and NFS

Make NRC actions and decisions more effective, efficient, and realistic

- Pre-panel on BWXT Pool Leak