

August 9, 2001

**PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE** PNO-II-01-022B

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**

Ameristeel, Inc.  
(Jacksonville, FL Facility)  
Baldwin, FL  
Dockets/License: Non-Licensee

**Licensee Emergency Classification**

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

Subject: UPDATE ON MELTED CESIUM SOURCE

A radioactive source was reported to have been melted at the facility on July 13, 2001. The Florida Bureau of Radiation Control (the Bureau) responded to the event with their mobile laboratory and a survey team, and determined that the source was cesium-137. The team also determined that there were no off-site releases or contaminated personnel. The facility contracted with GTS Duratek for clean up of the facility.

The contractor developed a Health and Safety Plan for the clean-up of the facility, and the clean-up was completed on August 6, 2001. The Bureau conducted a confirmatory survey and determined that the facility met the radiological criteria for unrestricted use. The facility resumed melting operations on August 7, 2001.

The tests performed by the contractor and the Bureau confirmed that there was no internal contamination of the facility personnel, and there was no release of radiological material outside of the facility. The origin of the cesium-137 source of contamination could not be determined by the investigation.

The information presented herein has been discussed with the State and is current as of 09:00 a.m., Thursday, August 9, 2001.

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