

December 5, 2003

THIS EVENT IS NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE UNTIL NOTIFIED BY REGION IV

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-03-051

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 the Region IV staff on this date.

Facility

Bayou Inspection Services
Amelia, Louisiana
License No.: LA-7112-L01
Louisiana Agreement State Licensee

Licensee Emergency Classification

☐ Notification of Unusual Event
☐ Alert
☐ Site Area Emergency
☐ General Emergency
☒ Not Applicable

SUBJECT: MISSING INDUSTRIAL RADIOGRAPHY CAMERA

DESCRIPTION:

On December 4, 2003, the State of Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (the Department) notified NRC's Operations Center of a missing industrial radiography camera.

On December 4, 2003, at 9:40am CST, the Department received notification from Bayou Inspection Services, a State of Louisiana licensee, that a radiography camera was missing. Bayou Inspection Service, located at 318 Degraeville Road, Amelia, Louisiana, indicated that they had planned to transport the industrial radiography camera from a work-site located at 1081 Highway 70, Pierre Port, Louisiana, to their home office in Amelia, Louisiana. Upon arrival at the Amelia office, the licensee noticed that the radiography camera was missing from the pickup truck used to transport it from the work-site. The approximately 20 mile route traveled by the licensee from the work-site included transport on Highway 70, through Morgan City, Louisiana, and then on Highway 90 to the Amelia exit. The licensee has notified local law enforcement along the route of travel. The missing radiography camera is an Industrial Nuclear Model IR-100 (Serial No. 4470). Housed in the radiography camera is a 1221 gigabequerel (33 curies) iridium-192 sealed source. The sealed source is a SPEC Model G-40F (Serial No. KG2801). The licensee on December 3, 2003, retraced the route travel by the pickup truck transporting the radiography camera and attempted to use a survey meter to locate the missing radiography camera. The Department is continuing to investigate this event and plans to be on site today. The licensee has notified the media and offered a reward for the return of the device.

Region IV received notification of this occurrence from NRC's Operations Center on December 4, 2003. Region IV has informed NMSS, OEDO, STP, IAT and Region IV's PAO and SLO. This information has been discussed with the State and is current as of 10:00 a.m. CST on December 5, 2003.

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