



NUCLEAR FUEL SERVICES, INC.

a subsidiary of The Babcock & Wilcox Company

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***CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED***

21G-14-0065
GOV-01-55-04
ACF-14-0081

March 17, 2014

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Attention: Document Control Desk
Washington, DC 20555

Subject: 30-Day Written Notification of Event (NRC Event No. 49848)

Reference: Docket No. 70-143: SNM License 124

Gentlemen:

On February 21, 2014, at approximately 1427 hours (ET), Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc. (NFS) made a telephone notification to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Operations Center of an event for which 10CFR50.b(2) requires a notification. This letter provides the 30-day written notification of that event.

If you or your staff have any questions, require additional information, or wish to discuss this matter further, please contact me or Mr. Randy Shackelford, Nuclear Safety and Licensing Manager, at (423) 743-2504. Please reference our unique document identification number (21G-14-0065) in any correspondence concerning this letter.

Sincerely,

NUCLEAR FUEL SERVICES, INC.

Richard J. Freudenberger, Director
Safety and Safeguards

WRS/smd

Attachment: 30-Day Notification of Reportable Event

nuclear fuel services, inc., *a subsidiary of The Babcock & Wilcox Company*

IE72
MHSS

cc: Regional Administrator
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region II
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Mr. David Hartland
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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Region II
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Mr. Charles Stancil
Senior Resident Inspector
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

R.J. Freudenberger to U.S. NRC
March 17, 2014

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Attachment

30-Day Notification of Reportable Event

(2 pages to follow)

30-Day Notification of Reportable Event

1. The date, time, and exact location of the event

The issue occurred on February 21, 2014, at approximately 0839 hours (ET). The report of the event was made on February 21, 2014, at approximately 1427 hours (ET). The location of the event is the Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc. (NFS) facility (Building 110B Restroom), located in the town of Erwin, Unicoi County, Tennessee.

2. Radiological or chemical hazards involved, including isotopes, quantities, and chemical and physical form of any material released

There were no radiological or chemical hazards associated with the event; and, there were no materials released.

3. Actual or potential health and safety consequences to the workers, the public, and the environment, including relevant chemical and radiation data for actual personnel exposures to radiation or radioactive materials or hazardous chemicals produced from licensed materials (e.g., level of radiation exposure, concentration of chemicals, and duration of exposure)

There were no actual safety consequences to the workers, the public, or the environment associated with the event. The potential health and safety consequences to a worker include potential delayed evacuation response due to not being able to hear the alarm.

4. The sequence of occurrences leading to the event, including degradation or failure of structures, systems, equipment, components, and activities of personnel relied on to prevent potential accidents or mitigate their consequences

On February 21, 2014 at 0839 hours (ET), an employee identified safety item was entered into to the facility Corrective Action Program (PIRCS # 42900) regarding difficulty hearing plant announcements and alarms in the recently renovated Building 110B restroom. The Building 110B restroom is located outside of any SNM processing areas. Testing of the Public Address (PA) system confirmed that announcements were difficult to hear in the Building 110B restroom. The speakers associated with the PA system are also used for annunciating the site evacuation warning. Subsequent testing of the evacuation alarm indicated the alarm was also difficult to hear in the Building 110B restroom. Safety management personnel were notified of the problem; and, the restroom was locked and posted with signs indicating the area was not to be occupied, pending resolution of the audibility issue.

5. **The probable cause of the event, including all factors that contributed to the event and the manufacturer and model number (if applicable) of any equipment that failed or malfunctioned**

The probable cause of the event was a recent remodeling effort associated with the Building 110B restroom. This remodeling effort is believed to have created a situation where the current speakers (i.e., alarms) were no longer sufficiently audible.

No equipment failed or malfunctioned. However, existing equipment in the area or surrounding areas (i.e., speakers) were not adequate in providing sufficiently audible evacuation alarms.

6. **Corrective actions taken or planned to prevent occurrence of similar or identical events in the future and the results of any evaluations or assessments**

After subsequent testing of the evacuation alarm indicated the alarm was difficult to hear, Safety management personnel were notified of the problem. The restroom was then locked and posted with signs indicating the area was not to be occupied, pending resolution of the audibility issue. Actions are underway to install additional speakers in the area. Testing of the PA system and alarms is conducted on a routine basis; therefore, similar problems will be promptly corrected if identified.

7. **If the event involved an area or equipment with an approved Integrated Safety Analysis, whether the event was identified and evaluated in the Integrated Safety Analysis**

The event was not associated with an area having an approved Integrated Safety Analysis (ISA).

8. **The extent of exposure of individuals to radiation or radioactive materials**

There were no exposures of individuals to radiation or radioactive materials.