



Region I Office
Division of Nuclear Materials Safety
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Telephone Conversation Record

Date: 6/17/2015 at 11:15 am

License No. 19-31269-01

Docket No.(no hyphens): 03037532

Mail Control/Report No. N/A

Licensee Name: ECS Mid-Atlantic, LLC

Participant(s) Name/Title: Robert M. Najewicz, Branch Manger, VP, & Irvin Fisher, RSO

Work Telephone No. 410-297-8108

Business Cellphone No. 410-409-7016

NRC Representative Name/Title: Randolph C. Ragland, Jr., Senior Health Physicist

Subject: ECS Mid-Atlantic Car Fire

Discussion: I contacted Mr. Najewicz, Branch Manager, to obtain additional details of a vehicle fire reported by a representative of the Delaware Department of Health and Social Services. On June 16, 2015, at about 3:00 pm, an ECS Mid-Atlantic technician was preparing to leave a job site located at 702 Naamens Road, Claymont, Delaware. The technician placed a Troxler Model 3440 portable gauge, containing approximately 8 mCi Cs-137 and 40 mCi Am-241, in a transport container, and secured the container in the trunk of his personal vehicle (4-door Passat). The technician then started his vehicle and saw sparks and smoke, and the car started to catch fire. He left the vehicle to obtain a fire extinguisher and the vehicle became engulfed in flames and he could not retrieve the gauge. The fire department responded within 10 minutes and put the fire out. The gauge was recovered and the container sustained some damage. The inside of the gauge container had some soot but the gauge did not appear damaged. The Radiation Safety Officer (RSO) responded and the Technician and RSO placed the gauge in a new container. Radiation dose rates were measured with a portable survey meter and they appeared normal (e.g., 2 – 4 mR/h on contact with case). There was no spread of contamination and no significant exposures occurred. The RSO stated that to his knowledge, this was an accident and not caused by a malicious act. The licensee was reminded that because the case was damaged and the quantity exceeded 5 times the allowable level of intake in 10 CFR 20, that this event was a 24 hour reportable event in accordance with 10 CFR 30.50(b). The licensee was also reminded to immediately notify NRC if they discover any indication that the fire started due to a malicious act.

Action Required: ECS Mid-Atlantic will follow the guidance in 10 CFR 30.50(c) to report the event to the NRC Operations Center.

SUNSI REVIEW

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SUNSI Review Completed by: R. Ragland

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