

December 2, 1992

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-92-041

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:  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
V.A. Medical Center  
Shreveport, Louisiana  
Docket No. 030-01757  
License No. 17-12273-01

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

SUBJECT: SPENT MOLYBDENUM-99/TECHNETIUM-99M GENERATORS IN SHREVEPORT LANDFILL

On December 2, 1992, at 9:00 a.m., an employee of V.A. Medical Center, Shreveport, Louisiana, notified NRC Region IV that eleven spent molybdenum-99/technetium-99m generators had been inadvertently compacted and sent to the local landfill on December 1, 1992. The hospital employee stated that the generators had been surveyed and packaged for return to the manufacturer on November 30, 1992. The surface radiation level of each generator was approximately 0.03 mR/h. The licensee determined that the total activity of molybdenum-99 released to the landfill was 188 microcuries.

The licensee has attempted to recover the generators and has determined that they are irretrievable.

Region IV will review the licensee's evaluation of this incident during the next routine inspection.

The state of Louisiana has been informed.

This information has been confirmed with a licensee representative.

The licensee notified Region IV of this matter by telephone at 9:00 a.m. on December 2, 1992. This information is current as of 2:00 p.m. CST.

CONTACT: William L. Fisher Vivian H. Campbell  
817-860-8215 817-860-8143

RIV:D:DRSS	RA <i>[Signature]</i>			
LJCallan	JLMilhoan			
12/02/92	12/2/92			

9212090037 921202  
PDR I&E  
PNO-IV-92-041 PDR

1E34  
0/1

DISTRIBUTION:

<u>OWEN</u>			<u>NMBB</u>	<u>FAX</u>	<u>L-ST</u>	MAIL: DCS (Orig. IE34)
Chairman Selin	OCA	NMSS	AEOD	INPO	PDR	DOT (Transp. Only)
Comm. Rogers	OGC	NRR	IRM	NSAC		
Comm. Curtiss	PA	SLITP	LSSA	RRI	<u>FWW</u>	
Comm. Flemick	OE		RES	Licensee	OIG	
Comm. de Planque						
EDO						