



NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

REGION IV

611 RYAN PLAZA DRIVE, SUITE 400
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76011-8064

JAN 15 1992

Record of Conversation

January 14, 1992

Date/Time: January 14, 1992 at 3:45 pm
Person Calling: Rob Miller/SFC
Person Called: Richard A. Leonardi, Jr.
Subject: REPORT OF EXCEEDANCE OF SFC's NPDES PERMIT FOR pH

Mr. Rob Miller called to report that on January 13, 1992, SFC exceeded its NPDES permit for pH at the combination stream outfall. SFC recorded a pH of 9.3, a value in excess of SFC permitted pH action level of 9.0.

Mr. Miller committed to providing NRC with a written report within 30 days regarding the NPDES permit exceedance.

Richard A. Leonardi, Jr.

Richard A. Leonardi, Jr.
Radiation Specialist
Nuclear Materials Inspection Section

cc:
LJCallan
JPJaudon
CLCain
GMVasquez
NMIS File
Docket File 40-8027

1/7/268

I-18

Sequoyah Fuels Corporation
24 Hour Notification
10 CFR 40.60 (b) (1)
January 20, 1992

- (i) The caller's name and call back number:
Robert Miller, 918/489-3244.
- (ii) A description of the event:
Contamination was identified following surveys performed to evaluate radiological conditions in the warehouse. Currently, two areas in the warehouse have been posted as Controlled Access Areas. (This type posting establishes control over future entry into these areas.) The two posted areas are the crawl space above the warehouse offices and the floor of the warehouse fan room. As other survey results are evaluated and future surveys are performed, this notification may require updating. This notification is not associated with any recent contamination event or incident. Application of new, more stringent surface contamination criteria at the facility has identified these locations as contaminated areas.
- (iii) The exact location of the event:
The event was discovered in the warehouse at Sequoyah Fuels Corporation (SFC). SFC is located at Highway 10 and Interstate 40, Gore, Oklahoma 74435.
- (iv) The isotopes, quantities, and chemical and physical form of the licensed material involved:
The isotope involved is natural uranium. It is present as an oxide in a solid form. The contamination is present as both fixed and removable. The ranges of contamination discovered to date are as follows:

Alpha direct: 332 - 8475 dpm/100 cm²,
Alpha removable: 17 - 750 dpm/100 cm²,
Beta/gamma direct: <5000 - 792000 dpm/100 cm²,
Beta/gamma removable: 60 - 8116 dpm/100 cm².
- (v) Any personnel radiation exposure data available:
None. The SFC Health and Safety staff has evaluated the situation and determined that it did not contribute any exposure to personnel above normal operating conditions.

I-19

January 21, 1992

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-92-03

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: Sequoyah Fuels Corporation
Gore, Oklahoma

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

DOCKET: 40-8027

SUBJECT: DISCOVERY OF CONTAMINATION IN AN UNRESTRICTED AREA

On Sunday, January 19, 1992, licensee personnel decided to control access in two areas in the warehouse, an unrestricted area at the Sequoyah Facility, after the areas were found to be contaminated. As a result of conservative assumptions, the licensee formally reported the event in accordance with 10 CFR 40.60(b)(1) on January 20, 1992.

The licensee discovered the contamination as a result of more stringent radiological controls implemented after issuance of an Order Modifying License and Demand For Information dated October 3, 1991, and the licensee's comprehensive survey program to identify previously unknown contamination in the unrestricted areas. The licensee plans no cleanup actions until after the warehouse is relocated to a new building, which is under construction.

The contaminated areas are relatively inaccessible, reducing the likelihood of personnel exposure. Nonetheless, based on the data, any exposures to licensee personnel from the previously unknown contamination are believed to have been minimal.

Sequoyah Fuels Corporation is a subsidiary of General Atomics.

Region IV is following the licensee's evaluation and corrective actions.

The NRC offices of NMSS and PAO have been informed. Also, the state of Oklahoma has been informed.

The licensee has not issued a press release.

Region IV personnel received notification of this occurrence by telephone from the licensee at approximately 10:43 a.m. on January 20, 1992.

This information has been confirmed with a licensee representative.

CONTACT: G. M. Vasquez, FTS 728-8121 or C. L. Cain, FTS 728-8186

RIV:NMIS	C:NMIS	D:DRSS	RA
GMVasquez:nh	CLCain	LJCallan	RDMartin
01/21/92	01/21/92	01/21/92	01/21/92

I-20

920-296030

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MAIL: DCS (Orig. IE34)

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(5520: 1/21/92 @ 2:55 p.m

Regions & HQ)

(PHONE VERIF: 1/21/92

NRR 964-1168 or 964-1166)

GENERAL DISTRIBUTION: (NOVEMBER 1991)

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Contact
Name

FAX #

Darlene Wright	492-1757	Chairman Selin
Stan Schofer	492-4878	ACRS
Barb Tompkins	443-7725	OCAA
Dick Donovan	492-4474	OIG

* Does not include non-NRC locations (labs, utilities)

REGIONS: DOT (transportation only) - Fax or mail:

Mail Stop DHM-23
Hazardous Material Technology
U.S. Department of Transportation
Washington, DC 20590

Fax: FTS: 366-3753
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