

July 26, 1985

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-85-72

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 II staff on this date.

FACILITY:

University of North Carolina  
(Agreement State Licensee)  
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Licensee Emergency Classification:

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

SUBJECT: STOLEN REFRIGERATOR WITH LOW-LEVEL CONTAMINATION

North Carolina radiation protection authorities have informed Region II that a refrigerator contaminated by low levels of fixed tritium was stolen on July 22 from a loading dock at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. The university reported that contamination levels amounted to about 75 microcuries of fixed tritium. The refrigerator is believed to have been used for storage of radioactive materials utilized by the university.

Although the contamination does not pose a health hazard, both the university and the North Carolina Emergency Management Agency have issued press releases concerning the theft.

Region II has offered its assistance, but North Carolina authorities indicate it is not needed at this time.

This information is current as of 3 p.m. (EDT) today.

Contact: Al Gooden, 242-6206

W. E. Cline, 242-2665

DISTRIBUTION:

H. Street 2:25  
Chairman Palladino  
Comm. Roberts  
Comm. Asselstine  
Comm. Bernthal  
Comm. Zech  
SECY  
ACRS  
CA  
PDR

MNBB 2:30	Phillips 2:34	E/W 2:35	Willste 2:37	MAIL:
EDO	NRR	IE	NMSS	ADM:DMB
PA		OIA	RES	DOT: Trans Only
MPA		AEOD		Applicable State
ELD				
Air Rights 2:38		INPO 2:40		
SP		NSAC		

Regions: RI 2:43, RII 2:45, RIV 2:47, RV 2:50  
Licensee: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Reactor Licensees)  
Applicable Resident Site

8508010284 850726  
PDR I&E  
PNO-II-85-072 PDR

o/i DMB  
IF-34