

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 staff on this date.

Facility: John C. Haynes  
Newark, Ohio

License No. 34-137774-01

*34-5884*

Licensee Emergency Classification:

Notification of an Unusual Event

☐ Alert

☐ Site Area Emergency

☐ General Emergency

☒ Not Applicable

Subject: ARREST FOR UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL (FIFTH UPDATE)

Full decontamination activities began May 23, 1985, at the licensee's laboratory facility in rural Newark, Ohio. The decontamination work is being performed by Oak Ridge Associated Universities and Batelle Memorial Institute (West Jefferson, Ohio) with funding from the Environmental Protection Agency's Superfund. Decontamination activities had been previously delayed pending completion of a contract with Batelle for the work. The project is expected to continue for approximately three weeks. Decontamination activities are being monitored by Region III (Chicago) personnel.

In preparation for the decontamination work, the facility was fumigated and the surrounding yard was mowed to alleviate a tick infestation. The potentially radioactively contaminated ticks posed a health hazard to the cleanup workers.

Soil and water samples collected at area residences and offsite radiation surveys by Region III and the Ohio Disaster Services Agency showed no evidence of any radioactive contamination from the Haynes facility. The residents have been notified of the findings.

An Order was issued to Mr. Haynes by the NRC's Office of Inspection and Enforcement on May 10, 1985, prohibiting access to the laboratory facility by anyone not authorized by the Regional Administrator, Region III, or his designee. The Order was issued to prevent interference with decontamination activities and to avoid any unnecessary radiation exposure.

The Department of Justice investigation is continuing.

Region III continues to receive occasional inquiries from area news media.

The State of Ohio has been kept informed of the decontamination activities.

This information is current as of 10 a.m., May 24, 1985.

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INPO *X*  
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Willste *3:43*  
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RES

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Applicable Resident Site *X*

Regions I *3:26*, II *3:33*, IV *3:39*, V *3:43*

Licensee (Corporate Office) *X*

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