

RA BAR Jm Rld

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-V-85-45A Date: July 19, 1985

This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information presented is as initially received without verification or evaluation and is basically all that is known by Region V staff on this date.

FACILITY: Department of the Navy
Naval Ocean Systems Center
San Diego, California
License No. 04-13495-02

30-03708

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

SUBJECT: UPDATE - CONTAMINATION OF THREE LABORATORIES

The vial of Osmium-185 and 191 which was received from the University of Missouri had been initially sent to the Naval Research Laboratory (NRL) in Maryland. NRL opened the package and found contamination inside the shipping container and outside the vials. A spectral analysis conducted at that time indicated Iridium-192 contamination outside the vials. Ruthenium-97 and 103 were detected inside the vials as well as Osmium-185 and 191. NRL forwarded the package to the Naval Ocean Systems Center (NOSC).

NOSC has two counting systems capable of spectral analysis, but both systems are inoperative at this time. The licensee has hired an outside contractor to assist with decontamination efforts and spectral analyses.

The three employees who were in the laboratory when the vial was opened have received additional whole body counts by Helgeson Nuclear, who is currently analyzing the results. Bioassay samples are being collected.

NRC Region V is still following the licensee's progress.

No press releases have been issued.

This information is current as of 9:00 AM, PDT, July 19, 1985.

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(Revised 3/14/83)

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