

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PN1-088A

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 I staff on this date.

Facility:
Amersham Corporation
40 North Avenue
Burlington, Massachusetts 01803

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

Docket No.: 030-29300
License No.: 20-12836-01
Event No.:
Event Location Code:

SUBJECT: MISSING SHIPMENT CONTAINING IRIDIUM-192 RADIOGRAPHY SOURCE - UPDATE

On December 16, 1996, Amersham Corporation reported to the NRC that the package containing a 64-curie iridium-192 radiography source, which was reported missing on December 11, had been located. The carrier, Purolator, reported that the package was found at one of their depots in Sydney, Nova Scotia, Canada during the night of December 13. Apparently, the package was transferred by Purolator to a wrong shipping route, traveling by truck to Nova Scotia. The package had been scheduled for air shipment to Newfoundland. According to Amersham, Purolator is reviewing the cause of the mis-routing of the package and why Purolator employees took so long to report the unexpected package which arrived at the wrong depot. The package will be returned to Amersham in Burlington, Massachusetts, because the licensee had already shipped a replacement source to their customer in Newfoundland.

Contact: John D. Kinneman Betsy Ullrich
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(Rev. August 1996)