

January 24, 1997

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-I-97-007A

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 Region I staff in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania on this date.

Facility

National Institute Of Health  
National Institute Of Health  
Bethesda, Maryland  
Dockets: 03001786 License No: 19-00296-10

Licensee Emergency Classification

Notification of Unusual Event  
Alert  
Site Area Emergency  
General Emergency  
X Not Applicable

Subject: UPDATE OF STATUS OF LOST PACKAGE CONTAINING ONE MILLICURIE OF IODINE-125

At 4:17 p.m. on January 22, 1997, the licensee's Radiation Safety Officer (RSO) notified the NRC Operations Center that they were unable to locate a package containing 1 millicurie of iodine-125. The RSO reported that the package was received by the Radiation Safety Branch (RSB) staff on January 9 and was delivered by the RSB staff to the laboratory of the authorized user who requested the material on January 10, 1997.

On Friday, January 24, 1997, the licensee reported that the vial was discovered following the search of a waste container located at the on-site waste handling facility. The vial was verified to be the missing vial by the licensee.

The State of Maryland has been notified by Region I. The Region I Office of Public Affairs is prepared to respond to media inquiries. This information is current as of 4:00 p.m. on January 24, 1997.

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