

November 1, 1996

Mr. Eric Reber
Nuclear Regulatory Commission - Region 1
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406-1415

In order to comply with the reporting requirements of 10 CFR 20.2201 - 20.2203, ABI laboratories, Inc. is submitting the following report regarding the theft of our Troxler portable nuclear gauge.

Sometime during the early morning of September 12, 1996, our laboratory was broken into and burglarized. Among the items stolen, was our Troxler portable nuclear gauge (Model No/ 3440 - Serial No. 19541). The radioactive material involved was 11 millicuries of Cesium 137 and 50 millicuries of Americium 241. Immediately after discovering that the gauge had been stolen, we contacted the Nuclear Regulatory Commission Region 1 staff and the Philadelphia Police Department. The police arrived shortly afterwards, and a Police Report was prepared by the attending officer.

At this point, the case was turned over to Detective Fred Mc Quiggan of the Philadelphia Police Department. Nothing was discovered until the afternoon of September 23, 1996, at which time we received a phone call from Steven Courtemance of Region 1, alerting us to the fact that an NRC licensee in Bordentown, NJ had been contacted by someone attempting to sell him the gauge. The RSO of the laboratory was able to obtain the serial number of the gauge from Troxler and notified the NRC. The serial number matched our gauge, and the Bordentown police then apprehended two people, on the evening of September 23, 1996, at CTL Laboratories, Inc.

Accordingly, the gauge was released to CTL. The following day, NRC staff performed a radiological survey on the instrument and determined that there was no unusual radiation levels at the surface of the gauge. They also noted that there was no apparent damage to the gauge, and performed a leak test on the instrument. ABI Lab provided Joseph Cuzzo, President of CTL, with our most recent leak test, and the gauge was released in our custody, and transported back to Philadelphia.

East Coast Office
3201 South 61st Street
Philadelphia, PA 19153
LAB (215) 724-9885
FAX (215) 724-2539

AASHTO ACCREDITED

RETURN ORIGINAL TO
REGION I

West Coast Office
630 West 24th Place
Eugene, OR 97405
LAB (541) 484-7213
FAX (541) 484-1375

9702100059 961101
PDR ADOCK 03033841
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In addition, it was determined that no individuals were exposed to any radiation, as a result of the incident.

As a result of this occurrence, ABI Laboratories, Inc. has taken appropriate precautionary measures to prevent any future burglaries. A stronger lock has been installed on the door where the gauge is located, along with an outside steel latch to prevent prying open the door.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,
ABI Laboratories, Inc.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Albert J. Masters".

Albert J. Masters
President



ABI Laboratories, Inc.
3201 South 61st. Street
Philadelphia, PA 19153

Date 11/1/96

Send To Eric Reber

Phone #

Fax # (610) 337-5368

From Al Masters

Phone # (215) 724-9885

Fax # (215) 724-2939

Message:

ABI Laboratories, Inc.License No. 37-30245-01Docket No. 030-33841MLER-BI - 96-48

November 1, 1996

Mr. Eric Reber
Nuclear Regulatory Commission - Region 1
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406-1415

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Accordingly, the gauge was released to CTL. The following day, NRC staff performed a radiological survey on the instrument and determined that there was no unusual radiation levels at the surface of the gauge. They also noted that there was no apparent damage to the gauge, and performed a leak test on the instrument. ABI Lab provided Joseph Cuozzo, President of CTL, with our most recent leak test, and the gauge was released in our custody, and transported back to Philadelphia.

East Coast Office
3201 South 61st Street
Philadelphia, PA 19133
LAB (215) 724-9881
FAX (215) 724-2935

AASHTO ACCREDITED

West Coast Office
630 West 24th Place
Eugene, OR 97405
LAB (541) 484-7213
FAX (541) 484-1375

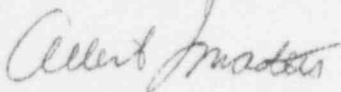
RETURN ORIGINAL TO
REGION 1

In addition, it was determined that no individuals were exposed to any radiation, as a result of the incident.

As a result of this occurrence, ABI Laboratories, Inc. has taken appropriate precautionary measures to prevent any future burglaries. A stronger lock has been installed on the door where the gauge is located, along with an outside steel latch to prevent prying open the door.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,
ABI Laboratories, Inc.



Albert J. Masters
President

September 25, 1996

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-I-96-069

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 (King of Prussia, Pennsylvania) on this date.

Facility

ABI Laboratories
Abi Laboratories
3201 South 61st Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19153
Dockets: 03033841 License No: 37-30215-01

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: RECOVERY OF A STOLEN PORTABLE GAUGE (UPDATE PN196-064)

On September 23, 1996, about 3:30 pm, the Radiation Safety Officer (RSO) of Certified Testing Laboratories, Inc. (CTL), an NRC licensee, called the Region I Office to request information about a portable nuclear gauge. The RSO stated that an unnamed individual offered to sell him a Troxler gauge and that the individual had been referred to his company by another NRC licensee. The RSO obtained the serial number of the gauge from the individual and contacted the manufacturer of the gauge to determine if it had been stolen. The manufacturer provided the RSO with the name of the last licensed company to possess the gauge. NRC staff reviewed the license and determined that the gauge had been transferred to ABI Laboratories (ABI) and that the gauge had been stolen from that company on September 12, 1996. Region I staff contacted the RSO of ABI and the Philadelphia Police Department.

In the evening of September 23, 1996, Bordentown, NJ police apprehended two individuals in CTL's parking lot with the gauge and other stolen equipment. The individuals are being questioned by the police regarding the stolen items. The gauge was released to the possession of CTL.

On September 24, 1996, ABI personnel retrieved the portable gauge from CTL. NRC staff performed a radiological survey of the gauge, determined that there were no unusual radiation levels at the surface of the gauge, noted that the gauge did not appear to be damaged, and performed a test for leakage and contamination of the gauge. The leak test wipe is being analyzed by Region I.

All information is current as of 2:00 pm, September 24, 1996.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the State of New Jersey have been notified.

The Region I Office of Public Affairs is prepared to respond to media inquiries.

Contact: S. Courtemanche
(610)337-5075

F. Costello
(610)337-5275

September 12, 1996

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-I-96-064

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 (King of Prussia, Pennsylvania) on this date.

Facility

ABI Laboratories Job Trailer
Philadelphia International Airport
8252 Enterprise Road
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19153
Dockets: 03033841 License No: 37-30215-01

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: PORTABLE GAUGE STOLEN

On the morning of September 12, 1996, ABI Laboratories notified the NRC that, at 6:00 a.m., they discovered that a portable gauge and other equipment had been stolen from their trailer at Philadelphia International Airport. The gauge had been placed in the locked trailer at the end of the workday on September 11, 1996. The trailer was on a construction site within a locked, fenced area. The Troxler Model 3430 moisture/density gauge with two sealed sources containing 40 millicuries of Americium 241 and 8 millicuries of Cesium 137, respectively, has not been located. The police have responded to the incident. The licensee plans to issue a press release.

All information is current as of 2:00 p.m.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has been notified.

The Region I Public Affairs Office is available to respond to press inquiries.

Contact: Eric H. Reber
(610)337-5276

REGION I
NMSS LICENSEE EVENT REPORT

License No. 37-30215-01
Docket No. 030-33841
MLER-RI 96-48

LICENSEE ABI Laboratories, Inc
EVENT DESCRIPTION Theft + Recovery of Portable Gauge
EVENT DATE 9/23/96 REPORT DATE 11/1/96

1. REPORTING REQUIREMENT

- ☒ 10 CFR 20.2201 Theft or Loss
☐ 10 CFR 20.2203 30 Day Report
☐ 10 CFR 30.50 Report
☐ 10 CFR 35.33 Misadministration
☐ License Condition
☐ Other _____

2. REGION I RESPONSE

- ☐ Immediate Site Inspection Inspector/Date _____
☐ Special Inspection Inspector/Date _____
☐ Telephone Inquiry Inspector/Date _____
☒ Preliminary Notification
☒ Information Entered on the Region I Log
☒ Review at Next Routine Inspection
☐ Report Referred to _____
☐ Daily Report

3. REPORT EVALUATION

- ☒ Description of Event
☒ Levels of RAM Involved
☒ Cause of Event
☒ Corrective Actions
☐ Calculation Adequate
☐ Letter to Licensee Requesting Additional Information

4. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR COMMENTS

070078

Completed by Johansen

Date 11/12/96

Reviewed by Anna C. Gell

Date 11/14/96

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(Revised 1/6/95)

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