

November 27, 1996

MEMORANDUM TO: Donald A. Cool, Director  
Division of Industrial and  
Medical Nuclear Safety, NMSS

FROM: Larry W. Camper, Chief  
Medical, Academic, and Commercial  
Use Safety Branch  
Division of Industrial and  
Medical Nuclear Safety, NMSS

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF INFORMATION NOTICE REGARDING PORTABLE  
GAUGES BEING STOLEN OR LOST

This is in reply to your note questioning whether or not there is a need to issue another Information Notice to remind licensees of the security concerns surrounding the use, transportation and storage of portable gauges. The previous Information Notice, No. 87-55, October 29, 1987, addressed an increase in incidents of portable gauges being lost or stolen and the primary contributing factor being failure of the users to secure and maintain control over the gauges.

A review of PNs for the last twelve months involving lost or stolen gauges indicates that in most cases users had adequately secured the gauges in accordance with NRC requirements. In fact, only 3 out of 26 gauges stolen/lost were improperly secured. A further review of the PNs back to 1992 showed no change in the theft /loss of portable gauges nor any difference in the percentage of gauges stolen/lost that were improperly secured.

Based on the above information, the staff does not see a compelling reason to issue an Information Notice, at this time, reminding licensees of the security concerns surrounding the use, transportation and storage of portable gauges. However, in view of the lack of security infractions, an Information Notice at this time would have to focus primarily on the number of events rather than on security and control. The Generic Assessment Panel (GAP) is currently monitoring the frequency and nature of events involving stolen gauges. GAP is increasingly concerned about the number of events involving theft of such devices. Therefore, it is anticipated that, at some point, GAP will determine if any further action, e.g., IN's or rulemaking, are indicated for this category of licenses.

CONTACT: Stephen W. Holmes, NMSS  
(301) 415-5799

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DATE	11/16/96	11/20/96	11/20/96		

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23PM 26 GAUGE

STORAGE	AT	OFFICE				②
	AT	WORK SITE				⑦
TRUCK	AT	WOMES				④
		HOME / MOTEY				⑦ -
TRUCK	AT	STORE		①	UNLOCKE CABINET	
WHICH	SOTUEL	KEYS -	①			③

UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF NUCLEAR MATERIAL SAFETY AND SAFEGUARDS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555

October 29, 1987

NRC INFORMATION NOTICE NO. 87-55: PORTABLE MOISTURE/DENSITY GAUGES:  
RECENT INCIDENTS OF PORTABLE GAUGES  
BEING STOLEN OR LOST

[Refer also to NRC Information Notice No. 86-67, August 15, 1986, Same subject]

Addressees:

All NRC licensees authorized to possess portable gauges.

Purpose:

This notice is intended to inform licensees of the recent increase in incidents of portable gauges being lost or stolen during use, transportation, and storage. It is expected that recipients will review the information for applicability to their licensed activities and consider actions, if appropriate, to preclude similar problems from occurring at their facilities. However, suggestions contained in this information notice do not constitute NRC requirements; therefore, no specific action or written response is required.

Description of Circumstances:

Several incidents have occurred recently where portable moisture and density gauges have been lost or stolen from licensees, either from job sites or from vehicles during transportation. Gauges lost or stolen were not secured or were stolen while left unattended by the users. In one recent event, a gauge was stolen after the user failed to lock the case and failed to chain the case to the truck, which itself was left unattended. This event resulted in four violations of NRC requirements. In another case, a gauge was stolen after being left outdoors, unattended, over a weekend, at a construction site.

Discussion:

A primary contributing factor in these incidents was the failure of the gauge users to secure and maintain control over the gauges. Title 10 CFR 20.207 requires that licensed material (e.g., portable gauges) must be under the constant surveillance and immediate control of the licensee, or must be secured in storage. At construction sites, the licensee must constantly control access to the gauge during use at the site, and keep it in locked storage when not in use. 8710230213 IN 87-55 October 29, 1987 Page 2 of 2 NRC licensees transporting portable gauges are subject to the regulations in 10 CFR Part 71. Section 71.5(a) incorporates certain regulations (49 CFR 170-189) of the Department of Transportation (DOT), to which these licensees are also subject. Licensees who transport gauges to and from temporary job sites in private vehicles are shippers acting as private carriers, and as such, must comply with the DOT regulations governing both shippers and carriers. Title 49 CFR 177.842(d) requires that packages containing radioactive material (i.e., the gauge in its case) must be blocked and braced to prevent movement of the package during transportation (see Information Notice 87-31, attached). For pickup trucks, this

requirement is usually met when the gauge is secured within its case, and the case is secured and locked to the bed of the truck. The NRC has also noted several incidents where gauges were damaged in transportation accidents or by being run over by construction vehicles. The most prevalent cause of such incidents is the failure by the licensee to secure and lock the cargo door, combined with a failure to properly secure the device/case to the bed of the vehicle. Licensees are reminded that they should use care to avoid these types of incidents. If a gauge is damaged, the area around the gauge should be restricted, and the licensee's radiation safety officer and NRC should be promptly notified. No specific action or written response is required by this notice. If you have any questions regarding this information notice, please contact the appropriate NRC regional office or this office. Richard E. Cunningham, Director Division of Industrial and Medical Nuclear Safety Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards Technical Contact: Don Mackenzie, NMSS (301) 427-4052 Attachments: 1. Information Notice No. 86-672. List of Recently Issued NRC Information Notices

COVER SHEET FOR CORRESPONDENCE

Use this Cover Sheet to Protect Originals of Multi-Page Correspondence.

November 7, 1996

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-IV-96-060

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 IV staff (Arlington, Texas) on this date.

Facility

Texas Agreement State Licensee  
Rone Engineers  
11234 Goodnight Lane  
Dallas, Texas  
License No: L02356

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: PORTABLE GAUGE STOLEN

The licensee reported that a Troxler Model 3430 gauge was stolen from the back of a truck this morning (November 7) at 6:30 a.m. CST in Fort Worth, Texas. The driver had parked the truck at the front of a convenience store when the theft occurred. The gauge contains two sealed sources including a 40-millicurie americium-241 source and a 8-millicurie cesium-137 source. A case holding the gauge had been secured to the bed of the truck with a padlocked chain. An eyebolt on the chain had been pried open to effect the theft. The gauge was also locked within the chained case.

The local police and the Texas Department of Health were notified by the licensee.

Region IV received notification of this occurrence by telephone from the licensee at 10:00 a.m. CST on November 7, 1996. This information has been confirmed with a licensee representative.

Region IV has discussed the gauge theft with a state representative. The state representative will keep Region IV apprised of any new developments.

Contact: Charles Cain  
(817)860-8186

Charles Hackney  
(817)860-8267

9611070212 1P

October 16, 1996

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-96-072

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 II staff (Atlanta, Georgia) on this date.

Facility

Cat Engineering Consultants  
(An Agreement State Licensee)  
Coral Gables, Florida  
License No: FL-2611-1

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: STOLEN MOISTURE DENSITY GAUGE

Florida, an Agreement State, notified NRC that a portable moisture density gauge was reported stolen from the licensee's truck located in a residential area of Orlando, Florida. The event occurred during the night of October 15, 1996.

The device was a Troxler, Model 3440, portable gauge, serial number 26065. The device contains 9 millicuries of cesium-137, and 44 millicuries of americium:beryllium. The device was reported to have been locked inside the transportation container, and the container was locked and secured to the truck with a cable and lock.

The State related that the Polk County Sheriff's Department was investigating the event, and that a press release was being prepared for release.

This information is current as of 3:00 p.m. (EDT), on October 16, 1996.

Contact: R. L. Woodruff  
(404)331-5545

961017-0088

IP



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  
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

9609130039 1P



August 29, 1996

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-III-96-056

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 III staff (Lisle, Illinois) on this date.

Facility

Alt And Witzig Engineering, Inc.  
Alt And Witzig Engineering, Inc.  
Indianapolis, Indiana  
License No: 13-18685-01

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: STOLEN MOISTURE DENSITY GAUGE

On August 29, 1996, the licensee reported that a Troxler Model 3400 moisture- density gauge had been stolen. The gauge contained sealed radiation sources of 8 millicuries of cesium-137 (0.30 gigabecquerel) and 40 millicuries (1.48 gigabecquerel) of americium-241. The licensee reported that the gauge, within its transport case, was chained and locked to the "open" bed of a truck with the transport case and source locked. There was evidence that the chain securing the gauge transport case had been cut. The sources do not represent a significant radiation hazard when secured in the shielded position.

The vehicle was parked in front of the residence of one of the licensee's employees at the time of the theft. The gauge was stolen some time during the night or early morning before 6:20 a.m. when the user was preparing to go to work.

The local police were notified of the theft. The licensee plans to issue a news release and offer a reward in an attempt to recover the gauge.

The State of Indiana and the NRC Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards have been notified. The information in this preliminary notification has been reviewed with licensee management.

The licensee notified NRC Region III (Chicago) at 12:30 p.m. (EDT) on August 29, 1996. This information is current as of 3:00 p.m. (EDT).

Contact: D. G. WIEDEMAN  
(630)829-9808

ROY CANIANO  
(630)829-9801

7609030121 IP

August 20, 1996

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-IV-96-043

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 IV staff (Arlington, Texas) on this date.

Facility

Western Technologies, Pheonix, Az  
Western Technologies, Phoenix, Az  
Phoenix, Arizona  
License No: 07-080

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: THEFT OF PORTABLE GAUGE FROM ARIZONA LICENSEE

On Friday, August 16, 1996, the licensee reported to the State of Arizona Radiation Regulatory Agency (RRA) the theft of a portable gauge which occurred during the night of August 15-16, 1996. The gauge was subsequently recovered on August 18. The gauge is a Troxler Model 3440 containing 10 millicuries of cesium-137 and 50 millicuries of americium-241.

The truck in which the gauge was stored was stolen from a motel in Mesa, Arizona. The driver had left the truck unlocked and had left the keys to the truck on the seat of the vehicle. The gauge was stored in its case in a locked compartment in the back of the truck. The stolen vehicle was later seen in the vicinity of an attempted burglary in Gilbert, Arizona, the morning of August 16.

At 4:30 p.m. on August 18, a citizen reported to the Maricopa Sheriff Department that he had found the locked and labelled case containing the gauge in the desert near Mesa. The sheriff notified the Arizona RRA who took custody of the device and returned it to the licensee. The Arizona RRA does not believe that anyone opened the case containing the gauge. After the theft occurred, the licensee issued a press release and offered a \$500 reward for information leading to the return of the gauge. At the same time, Arizona officials informed Mexico, New Mexico, California, Utah, and Nevada of the vehicle description and that the truck carried the gauge. There was subsequent media interest in the event.

Local police and the Arizona RRA continue to investigate the circumstances of the theft of the truck which is still missing. Enforcement action is planned in regard to the Arizona licensee for failure to secure the material. The Arizona RRA has leak tested the device and found no contamination.

Region IV first received notification of this occurrence by fax from the Arizona RRA at 4:00 p.m. CDT on August 16, 1996. This information is complete as of 10:00 a.m. on August 20, 1996.

Region IV has informed NMSS, OPA, and OSP.

Contact: Charles Cain  
(817)860-8186

9608220001 10

August 7, 1996

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-III-96-048

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 III staff (Lisle, Illinois) on this date.

Facility

H. C. Nutting Company  
H. C. Nutting Company  
Cincinnati, Ohio  
License No: 34-18882-01

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: STOLEN MOISTURE DENSITY GAUGE

On August 7, 1996, the licensee reported that a vehicle which had a Troxler Model 3400 moisture-density gauge secured inside had been stolen. The gauge contained sealed radiation sources of 8 millicuries of cesium-137 (0.30 gigabecquerel) and 40 millicuries (1.48 gigabecquerel) of americium-241. The licensee reported that the vehicle was locked, and the transport case was locked and concealed under a draw cover in the back of the vehicle. Additionally, the source rod was also locked in the shielded position. The sources do not represent a significant radiation hazard when secured in the shielded position.

The vehicle was parked in front of an apartment complex at the residence of an authorized user at the time of the incident. The vehicle was stolen some time between 12:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m. (EDT) on August 7, 1996.

The local police were notified of the theft. The licensee plans to issue a news release and notify local radio stations.

The State of Ohio and the NRC Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards have been notified. The information in this preliminary notification has been reviewed with licensee management.

The licensee notified NRC Region III (Chicago) at 10:15 a.m. (EDT) on August 7, 1996. This information is current as of 11:30 a.m. (EDT).

Contact: TOYE SIMMONS  
(630) 829-9842

B. J. HOLT  
(630) 829-9836

9608080227 R

August 7, 1996

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-96-054

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 II staff (Atlanta, Georgia) on this date.

Facility

Gallet & Associates, Inc.  
(An Agreement State Licensee)  
Birmingham, Alabama

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: STOLEN TORXLER MOISTURE DENSITY GAUGE

On August 7, 1996, a representative of the State of Alabama advised the region that the licensee reported the theft of a Troxler moisture density gauge from a Company vehicle.

The theft occurred at approximately 3:45 p.m., August 6, 1996 from a Company truck which was parked in the parking lot of a local shopping mall in Irondale, Alabama. The licensee reported that the hinges on the secured container in which the gauge was stored were broken, and the gauge was apparently stolen.

The Troxler gauge in question was a Model 3401B, Serial Number 11353, containing 9 Millicurie Cs-137 and 44 Millicurie Americium-Beryllium.

Local law enforcement officials from the cities of Birmingham and Irondale, Alabama, as well as the Jefferson County Sheriff's have been notified.

No media interest has been expressed, and the licensee is expected to issue a press release today.

The Region was notified of this event by a representative of the State of Alabama at 11:00 a.m., EDT, August 7, 1996.

The region will monitor the activities of the State.

This information is current as of 12:00 p.m., EDT, August 7, 1996

Contact: R. Trojanowski  
(404) 331-5597

9608090096 1P

July 30, 1996

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-IV-96-041

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 IV staff (Arlington, Texas) on this date.

Facility

Arkansas Agreement State  
Anderson Engineering, Inc.  
Little Rock, Arkansas

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: PORTABLE GAUGE STOLEN IN AGREEMENT STATE

The Arkansas Division of Radiation Control notified the NRC Region IV Office on July 30, 1996, that a portable gauge containing licensed material was reported as stolen from a temporary job site in Fort Smith, Arkansas. The gauge, a Troxler Model 3411-B which contains sealed sources of cesium-137 (10 millicuries) and americium-241 (40 millicuries), was stored in a locked storage trailer at the job site. Anderson Engineering reported that although the trailer was locked, the gauge's transport case was not locked, nor was the gauge itself locked (to prevent the source rod from being extended from the gauge). Other items were also stolen from the trailer.

The Arkansas official reporting the event stated that Arkansas plans to issue a press release. Arkansas has notified Oklahoma officials, because they believe the stolen property may be transported to Oklahoma.

Region IV received notification of this occurrence by telephone from Arkansas officials and is current as of 11:00 a.m. CDT on July 30, 1996. Region IV has informed OSP, NMSS, and OPA.

Contact: Charles Cain  
(817)860-8186

96073104451P

June 26, 1996

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-III-96-039

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 III staff (Lisle, Illinois) on this date.

Facility

Alt & Witzig Engineering  
Alt & Witzig Engineering  
Indianapolis, Indiana  
License No: 13-18685-01

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: STOLEN MOISTURE DENSITY GAUGE

On June 26, 1996, the licensee reported a theft of a Troxler moisture/density gauge that took place at about 9:00 p.m. on June 25, 1996. The gauge was stolen from a pickup truck parked at Menards Hardware Store in Beech Grove, Indiana. The licensee reported that the camper top had been broken into and the chain securing the gauge had been cut. The gauge contains a nominal 40 millicuries (1,480 MBq) americium-241 sealed source and a 10 millicurie (370 MBq) cesium-137 sealed source. The gauge's source rod was locked in the shielded position at the time of the theft and the gauge was stored in its locked transport case.

NRC Region III (Chicago) will review the circumstances surrounding the theft during a future inspection.

The State of Indiana and the NRC Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards have been notified. The licensee has notified the local police and plans to issue a news release and offer a reward in an attempt to recover the gauge. The information in this preliminary notification has been reviewed with licensee management.

The licensee notified the NRC Operations Center of this event at 3:00 p.m. (CDT) on June 26, 1996. This information is current as of 3:30 p.m. (CDT).

Contact: B. J. HOLT  
(708) 829-9836

DARREL WIEDMAN  
(708) 829-9808

9606280004 1P



June 25, 1996

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-IV-96-035

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 IV staff (Arlington, Texas) on this date.

Facility

Halliburton, Inc.  
Halliburton Engineering Services  
Bossier City  
Bossier City, Louisiana

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: RECOVERY OF MISSING DENSOMETER

This updates information provided in PNO-II-96-045 issued by Region II on June 24, 1996. The original preliminary notification described the loss of a slurry densometer (containing approximately 50 millicuries of cesium-137) by Halliburton, Inc. during travel from a temporary jobsite in Mississippi back to Halliburton's office in Bossier City, Louisiana.

At approximately 4:00 p.m. (CT) on June 24, 1996, representatives of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality informed NRC Region IV staff that the missing densometer was found near Minden, Louisiana, at approximately 6:00 p.m. on June 23, 1996, and was later returned to Halliburton. Louisiana representatives reported that the densometer apparently fell out of an unlocked compartment normally used to store densometers on Halliburton vehicles during transportation. Initial examination of the densometer at Halliburton's facility did not identify any damage to the device.

The state of Mississippi has been informed.

Region IV received notification of this occurrence by telephone call from the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality at approximately 4:00 p.m. on June 24, 1996.

Region IV has informed NMSS and has coordinated with Region II.

The information herein is current as of 10:00 a.m., June 25, 1996.

Contact: Linda L. Howell  
(817)860-8213

Charles A. Hackney  
(817)860-8267

9606260001 1P



May 31, 1996

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-IV-96-029

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 IV staff (Arlington, Texas) on this date.

Facility

Sunrise Engineering Inc.  
Draper Office  
P.O. Box 186  
Utah Agreement State  
Fillmore, Utah  
License No: UT-1400313

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: STOLEN MOISTURE/DENSITY GAUGE

At 12:10 p.m., May 31, 1996, the NRC Headquarters Operations Center was notified by the Utah Division of Radiation Control that a Troxler nuclear gauge had been stolen from a Utah licensee. The Utah representative stated that Sunrise Engineering, Inc. (SEI), located in Fillmore, Utah, reported on May 31 that a Troxler moisture/density gauge was stolen from the back of an SEI vehicle at approximately 1530 MDT on May 30, 1996. An SEI representative stated that the gauge had been chained and locked (in a transportation container) in the bed of a pickup truck and that a bolt cutter was used to remove the gauge. The stolen gauge was identified as a Troxler Model 3430 (S/N 23008) containing approximately 8 milliCuries of cesium-137 and 40 milliCuries of americium-241. The Agreement State licensee also notified the Salt Lake County Sheriff's Department of the stolen gauge. The Utah Division of Radiation Control has notified local media, and announcements have been made by radio and television in the Salt Lake City area. The Utah Division of Radiation Control has also notified radiation control program directors in surrounding states and plans to notify scrap metal yards in the Salt Lake City area.

The Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards has been informed. Region IV received notification of this occurrence by facsimile from NRC Headquarters Operations Center at 12:08 p.m. CDT, May 31, 1996.

This information herein has been discussed with the State and is current as of 3:00 p.m. (CDT), May 31, 1996.

Contact: Linda L. Howell  
(817)860-8213

Charles Hackney  
(817)860-8267

9606030058 1A

May 29, 1996

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-IV-96-028

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 IV staff (Arlington, Texas) on this date.

Facility

California Agreement State  
Engeo, Inc  
San Ramon, California

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: GAUGES STOLEN FROM TEMPORARY JOBSITE

The licensee, ENGEO, Inc., reported to the state of California at 4:45 p.m., May 28, 1996, that two portable gauges in transport cases were stolen from a temporary jobsite in the San Jose, California, area over the Memorial Day weekend. The gauges were stored in a locked 8- by 20-foot metal storage unit ("Sea Land"). The locks and chains securing the gauges were both cut. Also stolen were other tools and a pickup truck. The local police, NRC, and the gauge manufacturers have been notified. There will be a press release with a reward offered for return of the gauges. The licensee's Radiation Safety Office (RSO) is Daniel Haynosch, and he can be reached at 510-838-1600. The RSO is performing a local search as well as offering a \$500 reward for the gauges. The gauges are a Troxler 3400, S/N 22181 and a Humboldt 5000, S/N 1742. The San Jose Police Case No. is 96-1490262.

This information herein has been discussed with the licensee and is current as of 12 noon, May 29, 1996.

NMSS has been informed of this matter.

Contact: Jack Horner  
(510) 975-0224

9605300022 1P

May 15, 1996

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-96-038

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 II staff (Atlanta, Georgia) on this date.

Facility

Southern Earth Sciences, Inc.  
(An Agreement State Licensee)  
Mobile, Alabama  
License No: AL-647

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: STOLEN MOISTURE DENSITY GAUGE

The Alabama Division of Radiological Health notified NRC by faxsmile on May 7, 1996, that the Licensee had reported a stolen moisture density gauge. As of May 15, the gauge has not been recovered.

The device was stolen from the Licensee's truck parked at a residence in Satsuma, AL (near Mobile) between 5:00 p.m. on April 29, 1996, and 6:00 a.m. (CDT) on April 30, 1996. The device was a Campbell-Pacific Nuclear Corporation gauge with a 10 millicurie (370 MBq) cesium-137 source, and a 50 millicurie (1.85 GBq) americium-241 source. The device was reported by the Licensee to have been chained and locked in the truck, and the chain was cut. The maximum surface dose rate on the device is 13 millirem per hour (.13 mSv).

The Licensee issued a press release on April 30, 1996, and offered a reward for the recovery or information leading to the recovery of the device. The State also provided to Satsuma/Mobile Police Department, State Department of Public Safety, and the Alabama Emergency Management Agency, information regarding the stolen device including the device description, actions to be taken, and who to notify in case the device was recovered.

This information is current as of 4:00 p.m., EDT, May 15, 1996.

Contact: R.L. Woodruff  
(404) 331-5545

9606030095 1P

April 30, 1996

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-IV-96-021

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 IV staff (Arlington, Texas) on this date.

Facility

Broce Construction Company, Inc.  
Temp Job Site Near Lawton, Ok  
2745 Broce Drive  
Norman, Oklahoma  
Dockets: 03033354 License No: 35-27481-01

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: STOLEN PORTABLE GAUGING DEVICE CONTAINING CESIUM-137

On April 29, 1996, the radiation safety officer (RSO) for Broce Construction Company, Inc., (Broce) notified Region IV that a portable gauge containing a sealed source was stolen from a temporary storage location at a job site near Lawton, Oklahoma, on April 27 or 28. The device contained approximately 8 millicuries (296 MBq) of cesium-137.

The device had been placed in storage within a 8 X 20 foot mobile equipment trailer, in a locked Department of Transportation Type 7A container, at a construction site on April 27, 1996. The trailer housed construction tools and associated equipment and the licensee's Troxler Model 4545 (Serial No. 59) portable gauge. The trailer had a double door which was locked by construction personnel prior to leaving the job site on April 27. In addition, the trailer hitch had a lock which secured the trailer within a fenced area. The job site was an asphalt production facility located on a private citizen's farm approximately 6 miles east of Lawton, Oklahoma.

The RSO stated that a perimeter fence had been installed around the asphalt facility, and that the fenced area had a locked access gate. However, the RSO reported that the gate may have been unlocked at the time of the theft so that the land owner could have access to the surrounding farm land.

The RSO stated that between 7:30 p.m. on April 27 and 8 a.m. on April 28, the trailer and the equipment contained therein were stolen from the site. Apparently, the thieves broke the lock that was attached to the trailer hitch, hooked the trailer to a vehicle, and drove off with the entire trailer and its contents.

The licensee has filed a stolen property report with the Comanche County Sheriff's department. The sheriff's department has notified law enforcement organizations in the surrounding area and intends to issue a press release to neighboring communities to assist with recovery of the device.

The state of Oklahoma has been informed.

Region IV received notification of this occurrence by telephone from the licensee's RSO at 8:30 a.m. on April 29, 1996. Region IV has informed

7604300406.2PA

NMSS.

This information herein has been discussed with the licensee and is current as of 10 a.m. April 29, 1996.

Contact: Mark R. Shaffer  
(817)860-8287

Linda L. Howell  
(817)860-8213

March 11, 1996

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-96-015

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 II staff (Atlanta, Georgia) on this date.

Facility

Stottler Starmer & Associates, Inc.  
8680 North Atlantic Avenue  
Cape Canaveral, Florida  
License No: FL-825-2

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: FOUR STOLEN PORTABLE GAUGES

Florida, an Agreement State, notified NRC Region II on March 11, 1996 that the Licensee reported the theft of four portable gauges on March 4, 1996. The devices were stolen from the temporary job-site located at Interstate 75 and State Road 54 in Pasco County, Florida.

The devices were identified as Troxler Model 3440 containing approximately 40 millicuries of americium-241:beryllium and 8 millicuries of cesium-137 as sealed sources. The model 3440 device has a reported maximum dose rate of 20.5 millirem per hour at the surface of the device.

The devices were locked inside a temporary storage building located inside a chain link fenced area. The fence was cut and the padlock to the storage building was removed during the night of March 4, 1996. The radioactive sources in the devices were locked in the shielded position. Local law enforcement authorities were notified and the device manufacturer was notified. Region II is requesting the State to issue a press release.

This information is current as of 05:45 p.m., EST, March 11, 1996.

Contact: R.L. Woodruff  
(404)331-5545

9603130190 HP



March 11, 1996

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-96-014

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 II staff (Atlanta, Georgia) on this date.

Facility

Florida Dept. Of Transportation  
2006 NE Waldo Rd.  
Gainesville, Florida  
License No: FL-0109-1

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: PORTABLE GAUGE STOLEN

Florida, an Agreement State, notified NRC Region II on March 11, 1996 that the Florida Department of Transportation (DOT) reported the theft of one portable gauge. The theft occurred during the afternoon on February 22, 1996 at a temporary job location located near Davie, Florida (Miami Beach).

The device was a Troxler Model 3440 containing approximately 40 millicuries of americium-241:beryllium and 8 millicuries of cesium-137 as sealed sources. The model 3440 has a reported maximum dose rate of 20.5 millirem per hour at the surface of the device.

The device was reported to have been chained and locked to the bed of a State DOT truck. Initial information indicated that the radioactive sources were locked in the shielded position in the device. Local law enforcement authorities were notified. Region II is requesting the State to issue a press release.

This information is current as of 05:15 p.m., EST, March 11, 1996.

Contact: R.L. Woodruff  
(404) 331-5545

9603130193 1P



March 8, 1996

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-I-96-016

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

Lane Construction Company  
Lane Construction Company  
965 East Main Street  
Meriden, Connecticut  
Dockets: 03015231 License No: 060628402

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: STOLEN TROXLER MOISTURE DENSITY GAUGE

On March 8, 1996 at 9:37 a.m., the licensee informed the Region I Duty Officer that a Troxler Model 3440 moisture density gauge (serial No. 22276) containing 8 millicuries of cesium 137 and 40 millicuries of americium 241 was stolen from a locked storage shed at their corporate office. The gauge was in its original shipping container. The gauge had been stored in a locked plywood cabinet within the locked storage shed. The licensee plans to move the storage location of their gauges to the basement of their main building.

The local police and State Department of Environmental Protection were notified.

Region I Public Affairs office is prepared to respond to media interest.

Contact: John McGrath  
(610)337-5069

4603/110313 1P

February 26, 1996

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-96-012

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 II staff (Atlanta, Georgia) on this date.

Facility

Collins Engineering  
231 Largo Drive  
Nashville, Tennessee  
License No: R-19152-E8

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: STOLEN PORTABLE GAUGE

Tennessee, an Agreement State, notified Region II that a Tennessee Licensee reported a stolen portable gauge. The device was stolen sometime between Friday night and Monday morning from a locked out-building storage area at the Licensee's facility in Nashville, TN.

The device was a Troxler, Model 3411, moisture density gauge, S/N 4391, containing approximately 9 millicuries of cesium-137 and 44 millicuries of americium-241:beryllium. The device was in a transport case and thought to be locked. However, one of two keys is missing.

The local authorities were notified and a press release was being prepared by the State.

This information is current as of 05:00 p.m., EDT.

Contact: R.L. Woodruff  
(404)331-5545

9602290297 1P

February 7, 1996

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-IV-96-007

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 IV staff (Arlington, Texas) on this date.

Facility

Agra Earth & Environmental, Inc.  
Agra Earth & Environmental, Inc.  
3232 West Virginia  
Phoenix, Arizona  
License No: AZ-7-95

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: STOLEN CAMPBELL PACIFIC NUCLEAR MOISTURE DENSITY GAUGE

On February 5, 1996, AGRA Earth & Environmental, Inc., holder of Arizona License 7-95, reported to the Santa Cruz County Sheriff (Case No. 96020503A) that a Campbell Pacific Nuclear (CPN) moisture density gauge had been stolen from a locked trailer located in a locked fenced area at a Nogales, Arizona, job site at 91 Old Ruby Road in Nogales, Arizona. The circumstances of the theft are currently under investigation by both the Arizona Radiation Regulatory Agency and the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office. The licensee is offering a \$500 reward for the return of the gauge.

The State of Arizona published a Notice of the theft on February 5, 1996, and subsequently reported the incident to the Headquarters Operation's Officer on February 6, 1996. The state's written Notice was distributed to media contacts within the state and to radiation control programs in surrounding states.

Region IV has informed NMSS.

This information is current as of 1:00 p.m. (CT).

Contact: Jack Horner                      Dwight Chamberlain  
(510) 975-0224                      (817) 860-8249

9602080060 1P

February 7, 1996

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-I-96-006

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

Miller Engineering And Testing  
Miller Engineering And Testing  
100 SHEFFIELD ROAD  
Manchester, New Hampshire

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Dockets: 03022208 License No: 28-23457-01

Subject: TROXLER PORTABLE NUCLEAR DENSITY GAUGE STOLEN

On February 6, 1996, at 5:15 p.m., the licensee notified the NRC's Headquarters Operations Center that a Troxler Model 3411-B portable nuclear density gauge (serial number 6838) containing approximately 8 millicuries of cesium-137 (Cs-137) and 40 millicuries of Americium-241 (Am-241) was stolen from the back of a pickup truck in Dorchester, Massachusetts. According to the licensee, the gauge user was returning to the Northborough, New Hampshire office after completing work at a job site in Rockland, Massachusetts. The source rod was locked in its shielded position and the gauge was locked in its transport case. The transport case was chained and locked to the bed of the pickup truck. When the gauge user returned to his truck, he found the cap of the pickup truck was unlocked. In addition, the gauge, transport case, chains and locks were missing.

The licensee notified the Boston City Police Department and the police informed the media. The licensee also notified Campbell Pacific and Troxler, two gauge manufacturers, and requested that they place this gauge on the manufacturer's "stolen gauge list."

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts and State of New Hampshire have been notified. The Region I Office of Public Affairs is prepared to handle inquiries from the media.

This information is current as of 12 p.m. on February 7, 1996.

Contact: Kathleen Dolce  
(610) 337-5251

Frank Costello  
(610) 337-5275

9602200174-4p

December 7, 1995

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-III-95-062

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 III staff (Lisle, Illinois) on this date.

Facility

Cti And Associates, Inc.  
Cti And Associates, Inc.  
Brighton, Michigan  
License No: 21-17007-01

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: MOISTURE DENSITY GAUGE STOLEN FROM LICENSEE'S FACILITY

On December 6, 1995, the licensee reported that a Troxler 3401 Series moisture density gauge containing a nominal 8 millicurie (296 MBq) cesium-137 sealed source and a 40 millicurie (1480 MBq) americium-241 sealed source, had been stolen from locked storage at the licensee's Ann Arbor, MI location. The theft occurred some time after 7:30 p.m. (EST), December 5, 1995. According to the Corporate Radiation Safety Officer (CRSO), the device had been returned and secured in locked storage in its transport case from field operations at approximately 3:00 p.m., December 5, 1995. The device's source rod was locked in its shielded position, although the case containing the device was not locked. The general office building was locked at approximately 7:30 p.m. According to the CRSO, evidence of forced entry through back windows and the gauge storage room door was observed. No other items in the building were stolen. The Washtenaw County Sheriff's Department has been notified.

The licensee submitted a written report of the occurrence to Region III in a letter dated December 6, 1995, which was received on December 7, 1995. NRC Region III (Chicago) will continue to monitor licensee recovery efforts.

NMSS and the State of Michigan have been notified. The information in this preliminary notification has been reviewed with licensee management.

Region III was notified of the theft at 10:00 a.m. (CST) on December 6, 1995. This information is current as of 12:00 p.m. on December 7, 1995.

Contact: SAM MULAY  
(708) 829-9837

THOMAS KOZAK  
(708) 829-9866

9512080117 1P

November 28, 1995

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-95-067

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 II staff (Atlanta, Georgia) on this date.

Facility

Atlantic Geotechnical Services, Inc  
Ashland, Virginia  
Dockets: 03032657 License No: 45-25191-01

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: STOLEN PORTABLE GAUGE

On November 28, 1995, the licensee reported that a portable moisture-density gauge (Campbell-Pacific Model MC-3), containing 50 millicuries (mCi) of Americium-241 and 10 mCi of Cesium-137 was stolen from a licensee truck on the night of November 27, 1995. The gauge was in its storage box and was chained and locked to the bed of the pickup truck parked in Hopewell, Virginia. The dose rate at the surface of the storage box is approximately 10 millirem per hour.

The licensee has notified the Hopewell Police Department and the theft is under investigation. The licensee is preparing a press release for the local media and plans to offer a reward for the recovery of the gauge.

The Commonwealth of Virginia has been notified.

This information is current as of 12:15 p.m., November 28, 1995.

Contact: Jerry Ennis  
(404) 331-5787

9511300109 1P



November 3, 1995

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-III-95-058

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 III staff (Lisle, Illinois) on this date.

Facility

Applied Construction Technologies, Inc.  
Applied Construction Technologies,  
Cleveland, Ohio  
License No: 34-25834-01

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: STOLEN MOISTURE DENSITY GAUGE

On November 2, 1995, the licensee reported that a Troxler Model 3430 moisture-density gauge stored in the back of a company vehicle had been stolen. The gauge contained sealed radiation sources of 8.5 millicuries (0.30 GBq) of cesium-137 and 40 millicuries (1.48 GBq) of americium-241. The gauge and the transport case were locked, however, the vehicle was unlocked.

The vehicle was parked at a convenience store in Eastlake, Ohio while the authorized user visited the rest room. Upon return, the user noticed that the back door to the camper was open and the gauge had been stolen.

The local police were notified of the theft. The Ohio Department of Health and the NRC Office of Nuclear Materials Safety were also notified. The information in this preliminary notification has been reviewed with licensee management.

Region III (Chicago) will review the circumstances surrounding the theft during a future inspection.

The licensee issued a press release on November 2, 1995.

The NRC Operations Center was notified of the theft at 5:30 p.m. (EST) on November 2, 1995. This information is current as of 10:00 a.m. (EST) on November 3, 1995.

Contact: B.J. HOLT  
(708) 829-9836

D. WIEDEMAN  
(708) 829-9808

9511060224



October 31, 1995

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-95-063

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 II staff (Atlanta, Georgia) on this date.

Facility

Ecs Limited  
An Agreement State Licensee  
Research Triangle Park, North Carolina

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: STOLEN GAUGE

On October 31, 1995, a representative of the State of North Carolina notified Region II that a Troxler moisture/density gauge belonging to Engineering Consultant Services (ECS) Limited of Research Triangle Park, North Carolina had been stolen. The gauge was located in the rear of a pick up truck. The vehicle was stolen at approximately 7:00 a.m. on October 31, 1995, from a technician's house in Durham, NC.

The model 3400 Troxler gauge, containing 8 millicuries of cesium-137 and 40 millicuries of americium-241, was stored in an unlocked transport case. The cesium-137 source rod in the device was also not locked. The licensee has notified the State of North Carolina's Division of Radiation Protection and local police department. A press release has not been issued. Radiation dose rates at 1 meter from the gauge are approximately 0.3 millirem per hour which is below the 2.0 millirem per hour rate in an unrestricted area.

This information is current as of 2:00 p.m. on October 31, 1995.

Contact: A. Jones  
(404)331-5565

9511010375 1P

October 30, 1995

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-95-062

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 II staff (Atlanta, Georgia) on this date.

Facility

Kci Technololgies  
Manassas, Virginia  
License No: 45-19018-01

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: STOLEN GAUGE

On October 29, 1995, the Radiation Safety Officer of Whitlock, Dalrymple, Poston and Associates (recently purchased KCI Technologies) located in Manassas, VA reported that an undamaged Troxler soil moisture density gauge was stolen from a trailer at a construction site located in Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania (Luzeren County). The gauge was stolen between Friday evening, October 27, 1995, and Saturday morning October 28, 1995. The 3411B Troxler gauge, containing 8 millicuries of cesium-137 and 40 millicuries of americium-241, had been stored in a locked transport case chained to a fixture inside of a trailer. The cesium-137 source rod was locked. Other industrial, non-radioactive items were also stolen from the trailer.

The licensee notified the State, County, and city emergency management agencies. The Wilkes Barre fire department and police department were also notified. The local police issued a press release. An article was also in the Sunday morning edition of the Wilkes Barre paper detailing the incident. The gauge has not been recovered. Radiation dose rates at 1 meter from the gauge are approximately .3 millirem per hour which is below the 2 millirem per hour rate in an unrestricted area.

The Commonwealths of Pennsylvania and Virginia have been informed.

This information is current as of 12 noon on October 30, 1995.

Contact: A. Jones  
(404) 331-5565

96103T0391 1P

October 10, 1995

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-III-95-052

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 III staff (Lisle, Illinois) on this date.

Facility

Nth Consultants  
Nth Consultants  
Detroit, Michigan  
License No: 21-14894-01

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: STOLEN MOISTURE DENSITY GAUGE

On October 9, 1995, the licensee reported that a vehicle which had a Troxler Model 3411 moisture-density gauge secured inside had been stolen. The gauge contained sealed radiation sources of 8.5 millicuries (0.30 GBq) of cesium-137 and 40 millicuries (1.48 GBq) of americium-241. The licensee reported that the sources were locked in a case and the case was locked to the inside of the van by a cable.

The windowless van was parked at the residence of an authorized user in Detroit, Michigan at the time of the incident. The van was stolen some time between 12:00 a.m. - 5:00 a.m. (CDT) on October 9, 1995.

The local and state police were notified of the theft. The Michigan Department of Health and the NRC Office of Nuclear Materials Safety were also notified. The information in this preliminary notification has been reviewed with licensee management.

Region III (Chicago) will review the circumstances surrounding the theft during a future inspection.

The NRC Operations Center was notified of the theft at 5:30 a.m. (CDT) on October 9, 1995. This information is current as of 9:00 a.m. (CDT) on October 10, 1995.

Contact: THOMAS KOZAK  
(708) 829-9866

JOHN JONES  
(708) 829-9832

9510180003 1P

September 25, 1995

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-95-053A

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 II staff (Atlanta, Georgia) on this date.

Facility

Weavexx Corporation  
Wake Forest, North Carolina  
Dockets: 03020201 License No: 32-18405-02

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: STOLEN PORTABLE GAUGE

This updates the licensee's report September 12, 1995, that an NDC Model 104RPD portable gauge containing 80 millicuries of Americium 241 had been stolen from a locked licensee van in Terre Haute, Indiana.

On September 22, 1995, as the result of a newspaper article in the local newspaper and Weavexx's offer of a \$3,000 reward, an individual returned the stolen gauge to Weavexx. The device, which appeared to be undamaged, is being returned to the manufacturer for further examination.

This information is current as of 9:15 a.m., September 25, 1995.

Contact: C. M. Hosey  
(404) 331-5614

9509260220 1P

September 13, 1995

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-95-053

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 II staff (Atlanta, Georgia) on this date.

Facility

Weavexx Corporation  
Wake Forest, North Carolina  
Dockets: 03020201 License No: 32-18405-02

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: STOLEN PORTABLE GAUGE

In the afternoon of September 12, 1995, the licensee notified Region II that a portable gauge had been stolen from a locked licensee's van parked for the night at a hotel in Terre Haute, Indiana on September 11, 1995. The gauge was a NDC Model 104RPD portable device used to measure paper properties at customer plants. The gauge contained 80 millicuries of Americium 241. The dose rate two inches from the gauge surface with the shutter open is approximately 80 millirem per hour. The gauge was in a storage box with the shutter closed. Neither the box nor the shutter are equipped with locks.

The licensee notified the local police and the incident is under investigation. The licensee is also preparing a press release for the Terre Haute area offering a reward for the return of the gauge.

Region III has been notified. Region III will inform the State of Indiana.

This information is current as of 8:00 a.m., September 13, 1995.

Contact: C. M. Hosey  
(404)331-5614

9509140360 1P