

Admiral files

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE---PNO-V-85-86 Date: 12/16/85

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: Agreement State
Industrial Nuclear Co. Inc.
1124 Chess Drive,
Foster City, CA 94401
CA License No. 2229-41

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

SUBJECT: UNAUTHORIZED FOREIGN SHIPMENT WITH
FALSIFICATION OF SHIPPING PAPERS

Industrial Nuclear Company, Inc. of California shipped two 100 Curie Iridium-192 industrial radiography replacement sources in a modified source exchanger designed and authorized by NRC for one 100 Curie source. In addition, the shipping papers indicated that only one source was present in the shipping container. Such papers could reduce shipping costs and tariff costs on the additional source. This shipment was being exported. The source was shipped by air to New York and then on to Florida, where it was impounded by the Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Florida Radiation Control Program.

The container and sources are currently being held by the State of Florida for the DOT, who along with California and Florida are considering action against the licensee. The external surface of the shipping container appeared to meet DOT shipping regulations for external radiation levels because of unauthorized modification (additional lead shielding) to the source exchanger.

The following NRC offices have been informed: NMSS, IP, and OSP.

Region V was notified by phone from the State of California at 10:00 a.m. on December 16, 1985.

There is apparently no media interest at this time.

This information is current as of 11:00 a.m. on December 16, 1985.

CONTACT: J. W. Horner, FTS 463-3760; R. Thomas, FTS 463-3763

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