

March 7, 2007

THIS EVENT IS NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE PER AGREEMENT STATE REQUEST UNTIL 03/14/07

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-07-001A

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 IV staff on this date.

Facility

IPS
Oklahoma City, OK
Oklahoma Agreement State Licensee

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

SUBJECT: UPDATE: RADIATION DOSE IN EXCESS OF REGULATORY LIMITS

DESCRIPTION: On February 23, 2007, the state of Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (the state) notified the NRC Operations Center about a potential radiation overexposure of an individual employed at a well logging facility (EN 43183). The individual had picked up an object in the licensee's parking lot, that was later identified as a one-curie Cs-137 source, and placed it inside his coat pocket. The coat was worn for 5 ½ hours.

The mechanic has been medically examined several times since the incident and has not exhibited physical symptoms indicative of a significant radiation exposure to the skin as of March 5, 2007. Medical monitoring is continuing.

A report has been received from RPA in London, England, regarding their cytogenetic analysis of a blood sample from the exposed individual. Results from this chromosome analysis were reported today. The report cited damage that is slightly above normal background perhaps indicating an exposure of 0.1 Gy (10 rads) averaged whole body dose. The report included uncertainties due to sampling statistics such that the upper and lower 95 percent confidence limits are, respectively, 0.2 Gy (20 rads) and zero.

Region IV has informed FSME, the regional SLO, and the regional PAO. Region IV continues to monitor the state's followup to the event. This information has been discussed with the state and is current as of 1:00 p.m.(CT) on March 7, 2007.

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