

January 19, 2000

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-IV-00-005

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 in Arlington, Texas on this date.

Facility

State Of Utah Licensee
Nuclear Testing Services
Salt Lake City, Utah
License No: UT1800139

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: MISSING/STOLEN PORTABLE MOISTURE DENSITY GAUGE

On January 18, 2000, the Utah Division of Radiation Control (UDRC) notified the NRC Operations Center of a missing possibly stolen portable moisture density gauge owned by Nuclear Testing Services a Utah licensee. UDRC received notification by the licensee of the missing, lost, or stolen portable gauge on January 18, 2000.

The licensee reported that they last had possession of the gauge in April 1999, and that this was when the last leak test had been performed on the gauge. The licensee also reported that they believe that the former owner of the company may have leased the gauge to another company in August 1999, and that there may be some problems with the paperwork or accountability on the gauge during this time. UDRC advised the licensee to notify the local police department.

The gauge is a Troxler Model 3430 (Serial No. 20882) containing an americium-241/beryllium source (Serial No. 47-16381) of approximately 1,480 megabecquerels (40 millicuries) and a cesium-137 source (Serial No. 7-2293) of approximately 396 megabecquerels (8 millicuries).

Region IV has informed the OEDO, OSP, NMSS and the I.A.T.

This information has been discussed with the State of Utah and is current as of 1:00 p.m., January 19, 2000.

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