

February 29, 2000

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-III-00-008

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	Licensee Emergency Classification
Solar Testing Laboratories	Notification of Unusual Event
Solar Testing Laboratories	Alert
Brooklyn Heights, Ohio	Site Area Emergency
	General Emergency
X	Not Applicable

Subject: STOLEN MOISTURE-DENSITY GAUGE

Between 9 and 10 p.m. on February 28, 2000, a vehicle belonging to a licensee employee was stolen from the employee's residence in Brooklyn Heights, Ohio. The vehicle contained a Humboldt moisture-density gauge owned by the licensee. The gauge was locked in its storage and transportation case, and the vehicle was locked.

The gauge contains a 10 millicurie sealed source of cesium-137 and a 40 millicurie sealed source of americium-241.

The theft was reported to local police and to the Ohio Department of Health, which is the agreement state agency with regulatory authority over radioactive materials.

The licensee intends to issue a news release to seek recovery of the missing gauge.

Region III (Chicago) was notified of the theft by the Ohio Department of Health at 12:45 p.m. on February 29, 2000. This information is current as of 2 p.m. on February 29, 2000.

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