

March 8, 2000

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-00-014A

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	Licensee Emergency Classification
Clinical Pharmacy Services	Notification of Unusual Event
(An Agreement State Licensee)	Alert
Gray, Tennessee	Site Area Emergency
License No: R-90033-C01	General Emergency
	X Not Applicable

Subject: UPDATE ON IODINE-131 SPILL

This information updates PNO-II-014, dated March 6, 2000.

State officials confirmed that bio-assays were performed on three individuals, not two as originally reported, twenty four hours after the initial exposure, resulting in activity levels of below minimum detectable for one individual, 0.003 microcuries for a second individual, and 0.013 microcuries for the third person, respectively. The NRC annual limit of intake for iodine-131 is 50 microcuries.

Bio-assays are planned to be performed on the three individuals on a weekly basis to ensure that the maximum activity uptake has been bounded, and to quantify the uptake activity as a percentage of the annual limit. The next scheduled bio-assays will be conducted on March 9, 2000.

The facility itself is a one story stand alone building in an area which is zoned as light industrial, and is not located in a residential area. Regarding decontamination and clean up of the facility, the licensee contracted with an outside contractor, who after assessing the situation recommended, in light of the relatively short half-life of iodine-131 of eight days, that the areas of concern be physically secured until the material has decayed to background levels. The licensee submitted a license amendment seeking approval to proceed with this course of action. State officials authorized the licensee to secure the areas in question.

Initially, the fume hood stack sampler indicated an instantaneous reading of 1.09 E-8 microcuries per milliliter. Subsequent sampler results show a decline in activity, which when averaged over the year under normal operations is not expected to exceed the annual NRC effluent release limit in air for an unrestricted area, which is 2.0 E-8 microcuries per milliliter. State officials are satisfied that no additional personnel

were exposed or contaminated, and that no unrestricted areas have been contaminated.

The State is continuing its investigation of this matter.

This information was obtained from State officials, and is current as of 2:30 p. m., March 8, 2000.

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