

July 27, 2000

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-00-029

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
Qore, Inc.	Notification of Unusual Event
(An Agreement State Licensee)	Alert
Tampa, Florida 33313	Site Area Emergency
License No: 1646-1	General Emergency
	X Not Applicable

Subject: STOLEN PORTABLE GAUGE

The Florida Bureau of Radiation Control (BRC) informed NRC that the licensee reported a portable moisture density gauge had been stolen during the night of July 26, 2000, from a truck parked at an employee's home in the Tampa, FL area. The gauge was a Troxler, Model 3430 (serial number 23299), containing 8 millicuries (296 Megabequerel) of cesium-137 and 40 millicuries (1.48 Terabecquerel) of americium-241. The licensee reported that the device had been removed from a container which had been left unlocked in the back of the truck, but the device was locked and the keys to the device had not been stolen.

Other items were also reported to be stolen. The Tampa Police Department has been notified and the BRC has the incident under investigation. The BRC related that the licensee is being urged to issue a press release and the licensee is considering offering a reward for the return of the device.

This information is current as of 11:30 a.m., Thursday, July 27, 2000.

Contact: R. Woodruff
(404)562-4704