

January 8, 2001

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-001

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

Florida Department of Transportation (DOT)
(An Agreement State Licensee)
Ft. Lauderdale, FL
License Number: FL-0109-1

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: STOLEN PORTABLE GAUGE

The Florida Bureau of Radiation Control notified NRC that the licensee had reported the theft of a portable moisture density gauge. The gauge was a Troxler model 3440 (serial number 29723) containing 40 millicuries of cesium-137 and 8 millicuries of americium-241 as sealed sources. The gauge was inside a Florida DOT bright orange van parked at the licensee's address, and the van was stolen sometime between 6:00 a.m., Sunday, January 7, 2001 and 7:00 a.m., Monday, January 8, 2001. The licensee reported that the gauge was locked and the keys to the gauge were not stolen. The local law enforcement agency has been notified, and the State Bureau of Radiation Control is continuing their investigation into the missing source.

Region II received initial notification of this occurrence by facsimile from the Florida Bureau of Radiation Control at 9:59 a.m., Monday, January 8, 2001. The information presented herein has been discussed with the Florida Bureau of Radiation Control and is current as of 11:30 a.m., Monday, January 8, 2001.

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