

Region I
NMSS Licensee Event Report

License No. General License

Docket No. _____

MLER-RI 2001-012

LICENSEE: Penn State

EVENT DESCRIPTION Theft or Loss of ^{Generally} Licensed Material

EVENT DATE 3-13-01 REPORT DATE 4-4-01

1. REPORTING REQUIREMENT

- 10 CFR 20.2201 Theft or Loss
- 10 CFR 20.2203 30 Day Report
- 10 CFR 30.50 Report
- Other _____
- 10 CFR 35.33 Misadministration
- License Condition

2. REGION I RESPONSE

- Immediate Site Inspection
- Special Inspection
- Telephone Inquiry
- Preliminary Notification
- Information Entered on the RI Log
- Review at Next Routine Inspection
- Report Referred to _____
- Inspector/Date _____
- Inspector/Date _____
- Inspector/Date _____
- Daily Report

3. REPORT EVALUATION

- Description of Event
- Levels of RAM Involved
- Cause of Event
- Corrective Actions
- Calculation Adequate
- Letter to Licensee Requesting Additional Information

4. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS OR COMMENTS

The licensee promptly reported this event to the NRC
this should be reviewed during the next inspection of the
specifically licensed program by branch 2 (refer to Branch
4)

Completed By: J. A. Jordan Date 4/11/01
Reviewed By: M. S. Turbaky Date 4/12/01

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April 4, 2001

Sattar Lodhi
U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Nuclear Materials Safety Branch, Region I
475 Allendale Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Reportable Occurrence: Reports of theft or loss of licensed material.
General License

This report is submitted in accordance with 10CFR20.2201(b) following the initial NRC notification of the theft or loss of 2.3 to 10 Ci or tritium from a self luminescent EXIT sign. Initial verbal notification was made to the NRC Operations Center on March 13, 2001.

Description of Material:

The missing material consists of one of the four tubes that was originally part of an Everglo Safety Sign manufactured in April 1983 by Self-Powered Lighting, Inc. It was produced under New York state license number G.L. 1424-1611. It is model number 710-1, serial number 14867.

Sequence of Events:

The sign had been installed in the Pavilion Theater. It was removed during the weekend of March 10, as part of the University's policy to replace all self-luminescent signs with non-radioactive signs. The sign was delivered to Environmental Health and Safety on March 12. On March 13, during a routine inspection of the sign in a very dark room, it became evident a part of the sign was missing. Specifically the letter "E" was not glowing. The device had no exterior evidence of tampering and there was no sound of broken glass. The lack of light from the sign was not noticed earlier because the whole sign was too dim to be seen as shining whenever room lights were on. The replacement date on the sign is April 1993. Investigation by Radiation Protection personnel revealed that the tube under the letter "E" was not present. There is no way to determine if the sign had been improperly constructed or if the tube was stolen.

Follow-up actions:

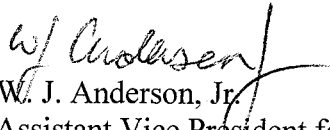
A survey of the sign and the Pavilion Theater was conducted on March 14 to identify whether any radioactive material contamination was present. No unexpected contamination was found.

The sign will be shipped to a manufacturer of this type of device for disposal in the near future.

To prevent recurrence, all devices of this type have been removed from buildings at the University Park campus.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact our Radiation Safety Officer, Eric Boeldt at ejb6@psu.edu or 814-865-6391.

Sincerely,


W. J. Anderson, Jr.
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WJA:cw