

May 7, 2001

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-01-019

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 the Region IV staff on this date.

**Facility**

Las Vegas Paving  
North Las Vegas, Nevada  
License No.: 00-11-0255-01  
Nevada Licensee

**Licensee Emergency Classification**

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

SUBJECT: STOLEN PORTABLE GAUGE

DESCRIPTION:

On May 4, 2001, the Nevada State Health Division (NSHD) notified the NRC Operations Center of a stolen portable gauge. The NSHD was informed by Las Vegas Paving, that a Troxler Model 4640-B portable gauge (Serial No. 1658) containing a 333 megabequerel (9 millicurie) source of cesium-137 had been stolen. The authorized user had secured the portable gauge in its locked case. The locked case was then chained and locked in the bed of a pickup truck. The chain securing the case was cut, and the gauge was stolen while the authorized user was in the convenience store located at Losse and Cheyene Road in North Las Vegas, Nevada at approximately 6:15 a.m. on May 4, 2001. The licensee promptly reported the theft to the local police department.

Region IV received notification of this occurrence from the NRC Operations Center at 2:00 p.m. (CDT). Region IV has informed OEDO, NMSS, OSTP, IAT, and Region IV's SLO and PAO.

This information has been discussed with the State and is current as of 10:40 a.m. (CDT) on May 7, 2001.

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