

May 29, 2001

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-III-01-017

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 III staff on this date.

**Facility**

Bowser-Morner, Inc.  
Toledo, Ohio  
(Agreement State Licensee)  
License: 31210-58-0003

**Licensee Emergency Classification**

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

SUBJECT: STOLEN MOISTURE-DENSITY GAUGE

DESCRIPTION:

On May 29, 2001, the Ohio Department of Health's Bureau of Radiation Protection reported a Troxler 3401B (serial no. 13442) moisture-density gauge was stolen from the back of a locked truck between 2 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. EDT on May 27, 2001, in Temperance, Michigan. The gauge was chained to the truck bed at an employee's residence. The licensee reported that the chain lock had been sheared to remove the gauge. Several other pieces of equipment also were missing.

The gauge contained sealed sources of approximately 5.6 millicuries (207 megabecquerels) cesium-137 and about 39 millicuries (1.44 gigabecquerels) americium-241/beryllium.

The employee reported the theft to local authorities. The State of Michigan has been notified. The NRC's Incident Assessment Team, Office of State and Tribal Programs and Office of Nuclear Materials Safety and Safeguards have been notified. The NRC's Operations Center was notified of the stolen gauge at 8:30 a.m. CDT, May 29, 2001. This information is current as of 11:30 a.m. CDT, May 29, 2001.

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