

July 5, 2001

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-01-028

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**

Alpha Testing, Inc.  
Dallas, Texas  
License No.: L03411-000  
Texas Agreement State Licensee

**Licensee Emergency Classification**X

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

**SUBJECT: STOLEN PORTABLE GAUGE**

**DESCRIPTION:** On July 5, 2001, the Texas Bureau of Radiation Control (TBRC) notified Region IV by facsimile of a stolen portable gauge. The TBRC was informed on June 25, 2001, by Alpha Testing that a Humboldt Manufacturing Model HS-5001 P (Serial No. 30) containing a 370.0 megabequerel (10 millicurie) source of cesium-137 (Serial No. 4008GF) and a 1.48 gigabequerel (40 millicurie) source of americium-241/beryllium (Serial No. NJ00026) had been stolen. The licensee had informed the TBRC that the gauge was stolen at approximately 6:15 a.m. (CDT) on June 25, 2001, from the back of the company pickup truck while briefly stopped at a convenience store located at 104 Kaufman Street, Rockwall, Texas. The gauge was secured to the truck bed by bungee cords in the locked transportation case. The operator/driver noticed the gauge was missing when he returned to his truck which was parked at the store's front doors. The licensee promptly notified the local police department. As of 3:00 p.m. (CDT) on July 5, 2001, the gauge is still missing.

Region IV received notification of this occurrence by facsimile from the State at 1:20 p.m. (CDT) on July 5, 2001. Region IV has informed OEDO, NMSS, OSTP, IAT, and the Region's SLO and PAO.

This information has been discussed with the State and is current as of 3:00 p.m. (CDT) on July 5, 2001 .

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