

October 22, 2001

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-01-049

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

Louisiana Department of Transportation
and Development
Shreveport, Louisiana
License No.: LA-2467-L01
Louisiana Agreement State Licensee

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

SUBJECT: STOLEN PORTABLE GAUGE

DESCRIPTION:

On October 19, 2001, the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Radiation Surveillance Section (LDEQ) notified Region IV by facsimile of a stolen portable gauge. LDEQ was informed by the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development on October 8, 2001, that a Troxler Model 3440 (Serial No. 14675) portable gauge containing a 333 megabequerel (9 millicurie) cesium-137 source (Serial No. 50-3354) and a 1.63 gigabequerel (44 millicurie) americium-241/beryllium source (Serial No. 47-10030) had been stolen. The licensee informed the LDEQ that the gauge had been stolen from the licensee's storage facility. The gauge was locked and secured in its transportation case. The padlock on the door of the storage shed had been broken off its hasp and the chain link fence surrounding the property had been cut with bolt cutters. The licensee promptly notified the State police.

Region IV received notification of this occurrence by facsimile from the State on October 19, 2001. Region IV has informed the OEDO, IAT, NMSS, and Region IV's SLO and PAO.

This information has been discussed with the State and is current as of 11:00 a.m. (CDT) on October 22, 2001.

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