

November 21, 2001

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE -- PNO-IV-01-050

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**

State of Alaska  
Department of Transportation  
5800 E. Tudor Road  
Anchorage, Alaska 99507-1225

**Licensee Emergency Classification**

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

SUBJECT: POTENTIAL EXPOSURE TO INDIVIDUAL MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC IN EXCESS OF REGULATORY LIMITS

DESCRIPTION: On November 19, 2001, NRC Region IV received written notification from the licensee that an employee may have received a dose in excess of the limits specified in 10 CFR 20.1301, dose limits for individual members of the public. The individual considered by the licensee to be a member of the public rather than a radiation worker.

The licensee is authorized to possess and use portable nuclear gauging devices containing licensed material for the purpose of measuring properties of materials. The gauging devices were stored at the licensee's facility in Anchorage, Alaska. The employee's work area (desk) was located in close proximity to the gauge storage room. Based on an evaluation performed by the licensee's Radiation Safety Officer, the licensee believes that the individual may have exceeded the 100 millirem dose limit during one or more years between 1996 and 2000.

Region IV is currently reviewing the data and assumptions contained in the licensee's written report and plans to conduct a follow-up inspection at the licensee's facility in mid-December.

Region IV has informed NMSS, OEDO, PAO and the State of Alaska.

This information has been discussed with the licensee and is current as of 12N (CT) on November 21, 2001.

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